



# FREE

# WHEELING

JULY 2025



Official Newsletter of the  
Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc

Registration No  
A0002184F

Photo by Sally Higgs



## Meeting Details



## VFWDC General Meeting Details & Venue

The club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30PM with the following exceptions:

No meeting at Club Noble in January.

### Club Noble Address

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



**This month's meeting will be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 7.30pm.**

## Club Committee

### 2024 - 2025

President	Neville Van Leeuwen	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President	Ken Kilby	<a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary	Steve Miller	<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	Andy McCarthy	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Magazine Editor	Sushant Aggarwal	<a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
Association Delegate	Dennis Alphonsus	<a href="mailto:delegate@vfwdc.com">delegate@vfwdc.com</a>

### Support Positions to Committee

Web Manager	Ben Whitworth	<a href="mailto:web@vfwdc.com">web@vfwdc.com</a>
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	
Merchandise	Suzy Whitford	<a href="mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com">merchandise@vfwdc.com</a>

### Club Details

Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
Registration Number	A002184F
Correspondence Address	PO Box 778 Dandenong VIC 3175
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,

We just celebrated our Christmas in July (In June 😄), we had a good turnout and had a great albeit cold weekend. Apart from an emergency change of location on Saturday we had an awesome weekend and a massive feed on Saturday night.

Next month we have the St Annes German themed Christmas in July, so check this out. This was a fun event last year!

There are also 2 snow trips that have been planned in August, please let the trip leader or Andy know if you would like to join one of these

At the previous meeting we discussed having a stand and were asking for volunteers for the Melbourne 4X4 show. After some more consideration we have decided to postpone this to plan this better. Several members of the committee will be attending the 4X4 show (most likely on Sunday) to see what the other clubs are doing and get a better understanding of the way we can promote the club in the best way.

As you would have seen from the emails from Dennis, FWDV have stepped up their training courses with regular driver training, chainsaw courses and First Aid courses. If you want to complete one of these courses, please get in touch with them or reach out to Dennis to assist.

In August we will have our annual AGM, please plan to attend this meeting as we need to have a good turnout to ensure we have a quorum to instate the new committee.

We have the position descriptions along with nomination forms further in this magazine.

Just a reminder that the club has managed to get a discount code through Survival First Aid Kits so if you are looking for a new kit check them out and use the code to get a 10% discount. We will share the code at the next meeting as well as via email.

**Neville Van Leeuwen**

VFWDC President

president@vfwdc.com

# Club Calendar

## July

Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	General Meeting	7:30pm Club Noble
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	German Christmas in July	Andy

## August

Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	General meeting & AGM	7:30pm Club Noble
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Snow Trip (Mt Skene)	Niro Liyanage
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Snow Trip	Andre
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	

### **More upcoming trips:**

1. 31/12/2025 Triple New Years at Camerons corner (Bruce Dunlop)
2. Cape York leaving King's birthday, via Birdsville, Weipa (Next Year – 2026), returning August 2026 (Bruce Dunlop)

### **NEW GENERAL MEETING START TIME**

Starting 2025, the general meeting's start time will commence at **7:30PM** at Club Noble.

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

Club membership renewals are due for the upcoming financial year. Membership prices:

**Single - \$87**

**Family/Couple - \$97**

**Silver - \$57**

Payment details are in the membership form below:

[https://www.vfwdc.com/pdf/Membership%20Form%20\[2025\].pdf](https://www.vfwdc.com/pdf/Membership%20Form%20[2025].pdf)

**NOTE:** You must be a paid member to participate in the snow trips

**Discount Offer:** The club is offering a **discount of \$5 off your membership for each trip you have organized** and run since March 1st, 2024, **up to a maximum of \$20 per couple.**

Please mention any trips you have led when you reply.

### **MERCHANDISE**

See the Merchandise section for available merchandise. Please contact Suzy or a committee member for available sizes and price.

We currently have a range of merchandise in stock, and the list of available items can be found on the pages below. If you are interested, please feel free to speak to one of the committee members during the general meeting or email us at [committee@vfwdc.com](mailto:committee@vfwdc.com).

## President

The President's role is a voted committee position and it is the President's responsibility to be fully versed with the Club Rules.

- Lead General Meetings making sure they are held in accordance with the requirements as specified in the Constitution.
- Prepare Agenda and lead the meeting, keeping discussion relevant, decision making clear and encouraging member participation when required.
- Appoint General Committee roles and Delegate duties to the Committee Members.
- Prepare agenda and lead Committee Meetings are held in accordance with the requirements as specified in the Club Rules.
- Write monthly President's Report for the newsletter to report relevant information to members.
- Attend relevant Four Wheel Drive Victoria meetings when required.
- Welcoming new members or visitors at General Meetings.
- Before the election of new committee members at an annual general meeting, the President must present to the meeting the annual report of the Committee on the activities of the club during the last financial year.

## Vice President

The Vice President's role is a voted committee position and it is the Vice President's responsibility to be fully versed with the Club Rules.

- To provide support and backup to the President in their relevant duties
- To convene and run orderly meetings in accordance to the Clubs Constitution in the event the President is absent.
- To organise guest speakers or external club visits for selected meetings and be responsible coordinating the attendance of the guest.

## Secretary

The Secretary's role is a voted committee position and it is the Secretary's responsibility to be fully versed with the Club Rules.

- Collect the club mail from the club PO Box (778) at Dandenong Plaza Shopping Centre prior to the General Meeting
- Attend the General Meeting ensuring that the Attendance, Apologies and Visitors books are available for members / visitors to sign in
- Take the minutes of the General Meeting
- Present the incoming and outgoing correspondence at the General Meeting
- Type up the minutes noting number of attendees, apologies and visitors
- Attend the committee meeting
- File correspondence in and minutes of the general meeting
- Attend to any outgoing correspondence as determined by the committee
- Coordinate with treasurer to ensure a register of members is maintained in accordance with the rules.
- Upload magazine to State Library of Victoria
- Liaise with Consumer Affairs Victoria to meet club obligations

## Treasurer

The Treasurer's role is a voted committee position and it is the Treasurer's responsibility to be fully versed with the Club Rules.

- To receive all new member application, and member renewal forms and monies and issue receipts
- Deposit all monies received into the club bank account (from membership fees, club raffles, sales of merchandise etc.
- Keep a record of the accounts—which can be made available by request of any club member
- Prepare a monthly financial status report for the General Meetings
- Prepare the AGM report with full annual financials, which will also include president and trip coordinators reports
- Update 4WD Victoria for membership lists to ensure insurance compliance
- Maintain the membership list



## Trip Coordinator

The Trip Coordinator's role is a voted committee position and it is the Trip Coordinator's responsibility to be fully versed with the Club Rules.

- Ensure attendance to each Club General Meeting fully prepared to present with relevant information of past and upcoming trips.
- If unable to attend it is the Trip Coordinator's duty to ensure another committee member has the up to date trip information for the Club Meeting
- Ensure all trip information is correctly recorded and stored
- Ensure the Trip Information Forms are up to date for each meeting
- Ensure copies of other relevant forms are available if or when needed (Track survey reports, Accident Survey Form, Trip Incident form, Personal Information forms, Trip rating information)
- Ensure all TDF (Trip Data Forms) are filled in correctly and a copy is passed onto the Newsletter Editor
- Liaise with the Newsletter Editor and follow up any trip reports that haven't been submitted.

## Association Representative

The Association Representative's role is a voted committee position and it is the Association Representative's responsibility to be fully versed with the Club Rules.

- To attend all Association meetings, and to report back to committee and also the General meetings with all items pertaining to the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Association.
- Pass on all email correspondence from FWDV and other relevant parties
- External liaison with other affiliated groups.

## General Committee Member

- Attend and contribute to Committee Meetings
- Assist committee in running of club..
- Other Non Voted Roles include
- **Web Manager** - Maintaining the Club web site, email hosting and other relevant IT requirements of the club.
- **Merchandise** - Maintaining accurate records of Inventory purchased & sold. Researching different options when new Merchandise is required. Storing and promoting club Inventory at club meetings.
- **Club Editor** – In charge of creating the monthly magazine, including the Presidents Report, Treasurer's report, Upcoming Trips and Trip Reports.
- **Social Liaison Officer** – Assisting in the organisation & running of club social activities



# Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.

ARBN A002184F PO Box 778 Dandenong Vic 3175

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

## **Nomination for Election to the Committee of Management 2025/2026**

I .....Signed• .....

Nominate ..... for the position of

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Trip Coordinator
- Association Representative

I .....Signed• .....

### **Second the nomination for election to the Committee of Management.**

I ..... Signed• .....

Of.....

**Hereby accept the nomination for election to the Committee of Management of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc. position of .....**

X-----

## VFWDC General Meeting Minutes

Date: 4 June 2025

Time: 7:30pm – 8:32pm

Location: Club Noble

Next Meeting: 7:30pm Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

Topic	Discussion and Outcomes	Speaker
Open Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome to the June club meeting</li> <li>Apologies: Daisy, Sushant, Tristan</li> </ul>	Neville
Minutes from previous months club meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes from previous meeting accepted:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accepted: Andy</li> <li>Seconded: Suzy</li> </ul> </li> <li>Matters arising from previous minutes for meeting on the 02/05/2025: Nil</li> </ul>	Neville
Guests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peter, new member, has a Isuzu MUX 2024, looking forward to learning 4wd</li> </ul>	Neville
Correspondence	<p>Correspondence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drive into the Wild Kenya Tanzania</li> <li>Australia Post</li> <li>FWDV sent out a questionnaire for the committee to complete and return by the 30/06/2025 pertaining to the FWDC's insurance.</li> </ol>	Neville Steven M
Treasurer's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As per written report from Ly Ho – Written report will be in next issue of the club's magazine.</li> <li>Report for May 2025:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closing cash position \$4,593.00</li> <li>Closing consolidated position \$11,091.82</li> <li>Motion to accept May 2025 Treasurer 's Report:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accepted: Andre</li> <li>Seconded: Sally</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Ly to move \$2000 to fixed term deposit when he has opportunity</li> <li>Association fees have gone up \$2.00 for next financial year. This will be passed on in the upcoming renewals and new members.</li> </ul>	Ly
Association News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New chainsaw causes to be held in Pakenham – details to be advised – Dennis to email details to everyone.</li> <li>Mt Skene permits are now available.</li> <li>FWDV 50th Anniversary Trip – see emails</li> </ul>	Dennis

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Topic	Discussion and Outcomes	Speaker
Upcoming Trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7-9/06/2025 - Kings Birthday weekend - 3 week long trip – Leaving from Mildura, Googs track returning Oodnadatta Track – Trip Leader Bruce Dunlop</li> </ul>	Bruce
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4x4 Show ... VFWDC to get further details</li> </ul>	Neville
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10/2025 Peninsular Astronomical Night – Details to be confirmed.</li> </ul>	Suzy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31/12/2025 x3 New Years Eaves at Camerons corner – Trip Leader Bruce Dunlop</li> </ul>	Bruce
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2026 Cape York leaving King’s birthday 2026, returning August 2025</li> </ul>	Bruce
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20-22/06/2025 - Christmas in July (Main event Saturday Night), Saturday night dinner will be catered by the club - Upper Yarra Reservoir near Warburton – full facilities, Secured area at night. Code needed for access at night. Ken to do reconnaissance trip. No firewood at the campground so everyone is requested to bring firewood. Everyone must book their own camp site (Free until July 2025). VFWDC cannot do a mass booking. Flushing Toilets. Andy going up Friday morning. Ken going up Friday afternoon. There are walking tracks and some 4wd tracks nearby. Entry codes will be received a few days before the event. RSVP by 11/06/2025 so food quantities can be finalised.</li> </ul>	Ken
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Annes event is being investigated for later in the year. 25-27/07/2025. German Christmas in July.</li> </ul>	Andy
	<p>MT SKENE SNOW TRIPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Snow trips (Mt Skene) – Club needs people to lead trips and lock in dates. Please note: When booking on VFWD add 10 random names. Names can be changed but cannot be added after initial booking.</li> <li>16/08/2025 – Andre – May go up and over to Licola if no snow.</li> <li>TBA – Nero</li> </ul>	Neville
Intermission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intermission 7:53pm to 8:13pm</li> </ul>	



## VFWDC General Meeting Minutes

Date: 4 June 2025

Time: 7:30pm – 8:32pm

Location: Club Noble

Next Meeting: 7:30pm Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

Topic	Discussion and Outcomes	Speaker
Merchandise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No updates other than looking for 4WD related photos for 2026 calendar.</li> </ul>	Suzy
Magazine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invitation to everyone to submit anything of interest relating to camping/four wheel driving/vehicles</li> </ul>	Neville
Trip Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17-18/05/2025 Driver Training Course – There were 4 participants (2 others were unable to attend). All participants successfully completed the driver training. Everyone enjoyed the training. Thanks to Phil, John and Ashley for providing the instruction and sharing their experience.  Theory night was completed on the Wednesday 12/03/2025 at Club Noble. Camped overnight at Little O’Tooles. Written report in the club’s magazine.</li> </ul>	Adam
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27-29/06/2025 Wild Dog Winch Event at Willowgrove. Sally is now the head Marshall. Starts Friday lunch time and goes through to 4 pm Sunday - 35 stages, 3<sup>rd</sup> event in a series of 6 events. Training will be provided Thursday 6:30pm 19/06/2025</li> </ul>	Sally and Tristan
General Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm meeting starts will now be adopted as a permanent arrangement.</li> </ul>	Neville
	<p><b>DOG POLICY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed existing rule regarding “No dogs allowed” to be amended to allow dogs on trips where trip is declared dog permitted.</li> <li>Dogs – Will be at the trip leader’s absolute discretion.</li> <li>Trip Form will have provision to indicate if trip is dog friendly trip</li> <li>In Vic dogs allowed (On leads) in State Forests except Murrindindi and Stephenson’s Falls.</li> <li>Dogs not allowed in National Parks.</li> <li>Andre recommended wording be “Dogs Permitted” rather than “Dog Friendly”. The onus is on the dog owner to determine if the trip appropriate for their dog.</li> <li>Forms are available on VFWDC website.</li> </ul>	Neville

## VFWDC General Meeting Minutes

Date: 4 June 2025

Time: 7:30pm – 8:32pm

Location: Club Noble

Next Meeting: 7:30pm Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

Topic	Discussion and Outcomes	Speaker
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ben stepping down as web manager. Looking for someone with IT experience to step into the role. Alec has put his hand up as a potential applicant.</li> </ul>	Neville
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking for “On Ya” nominations for August AGM</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AGM is coming up in August</li> </ul>	Neville
Raffle	Prizes Wine and stubbie holder <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$50 Super Cheap Auto Gift Card</li> <li>Beanie and Stubby Holder</li> <li>Select one of either calendar, beanie, and/or stubbie holder</li> </ol>	Neville
Next General Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday 02/07/2025, 7:30pm at Club Noble (Upper floor meeting room)</li> </ul>	Neville
Meeting Close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:32 pm</li> </ul>	Neville

# Treasurer's Report

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc  
www.vfwdc.com

<u>Cheque A/C`</u> Opening Balance as at 01/05/2025	\$4,629.98	
Add: Raffle	\$125.00	
Membership Fees	\$259.00	
Merchandise Sales	\$30.00	
Less: Catering Costs	-\$19.00	
Driver Training	-\$345.98	
Printing	-\$36.00	
Raffle Prize	-\$50.00	
Closing Balance as at 31/05/2025		\$4,593.00
<u>Term Deposit</u> Opening Balance as at 01/05/2025	\$6,465.52	
Closing Balance as at 31/05/2025		\$6,465.52
<u>Petty Cash</u> Opening Balance as at 01/05/2025	\$33.30	
Closing Balance as at 31/05/2025		\$33.30
<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>		<b><u>\$11,091.82</u></b>

## Merchandise

For available sizes and price, please contact Suzy or feel free to speak to one of the committee members during the general meeting or email us at [committee@vfwdc.com](mailto:committee@vfwdc.com)

### 50th Anniversary Jacket



### Reversible Vest



### Drivers Jacket



### Zip up Hoodie



### Scarf / Beanie / Cap / Stubbie





## Club Membership

Please visit our website at [VFWDC.com](http://VFWDC.com) to view all our current membership forms and club policies.

For all new and renewal of memberships, please complete [the online form here](#)

If you are looking for a Temporary Membership, please complete the online form, [which can be found here.](#)

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us via the Club Secretary on [secretary@vfwdc.com](mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com)

### Payments:

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 [treasurer@vfwdc.com](mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com) or you can present it to the Treasurer at any general meeting.

**Thank you for choosing the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club**


If you are interested in joining [Club Noble](#) where we hold our monthly meetings, their application form can be found [here](#).

## Track Classification

[Four Wheel Drive Victoria](#) have a track grading classification scale which has been developed to assist in advising Trip Leaders and participants on 4WD trips of the type of tracks that they can expect to encounter. On most trips participants can expect that a variety of tracks will be traversed each with an appropriate rating. Trip Leaders should advise participants of the range of track ratings expected to be encountered on the planned route. The following classifications will assist in determining an overall Trip Rating:

Considerations	Easy	Medium	Difficult	Very Difficult
<b>Overall Description</b>	All Wheel Drive and High Range 4WD. Novice Drivers	Mainly High range 4WD but Low range required. Some 4WD experience recommended.	Significant Low range 4WD with standard 4WD ground clearance. Should have 4WD driver training.	Low range 4WD with High ground clearance. Experienced Drivers
<b>Advisory Sign</b>				
<b>Expected terrain and track conditions</b>	Mostly unsealed roads with no obstacles and minor gradients.	Tracks with some steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. May have shallow water crossings.	Tracks with frequent steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. Possible water crossings.	Tracks with frequent very steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. May have difficult river crossings.
<b>Vehicle suitability</b>	All wheel Drive and High Range 4WD. Can be low clearance with single range and road tyres.	Suitable for medium clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain or road tyres.	Suitable for medium to high clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain tyres.	Suitable for high clearance vehicles with dual range and tyres suitable for the terrain. (Mud Terrain tyres).
<b>Recovery equipment</b>			Recovery equipment required.	Winch / Recovery equipment required.
<b>Driver Training / Experience</b>	Suitable for novice drivers.	Recommended that drivers have experience or 4WD training. Recommended to be done in groups of vehicles.	Recommended for drivers with reasonable experience or 4WD training. To be done in groups of vehicles.	Drivers with extensive experience and advanced training should only attempt as there are several technical challenges. Recommended to be done in groups of four or more vehicles.
<b>Weather</b>	May be difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.

## PROPOSED CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	ST ANNE'S
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Andy McCarthy TEL: MOB: 0414 332 322
DATE	25 <sup>th</sup> July to 27 <sup>th</sup> July 2025
MEETING PLACE / TIME	64 Garrards Lane, MYRNIONG
GRADE <i>Please adhere to new trip classifications</i>	WET: n/a DRY:
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>St Anne's has invited our club to join in the festivities of their German Christmas in July and allowed us to again camp on the grounds. Come for the day or camp for the weekend.</p>  <p>You must be self-sufficient with your own food and camping gear.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: n/a MAXIMUM:
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	100 kms from Noble Club to St Anne's
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Western Fwy DIESEL: Western Fwy
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All your own food, drink and camping gear
DOGS ALLOWED?	Yes
RADIO CHANNEL CB/UHF	12



## PROPOSED CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	MT SKENE SNOW TRIP
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Niro Liyanage TEL: MOB: 0432280635
DATE	9 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Jamieson General Store : 8:00 am - 8:30 am departure
GRADE <i>Please adhere to new trip classifications</i>	WET: Hard DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p><b>8:30 AM</b> – Start climb via Jamieson–Licola Rd</p> <p><b>11:30 AM</b> – Arrive Mt Skene summit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Snow play, photos, hot drinks</li> </ul> <p><b>12:30 PM</b> – Begin descent</p> <p><b>3:30 PM</b> – Return to Jamieson/Mansfield</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air up, optional pub stop (Kevington)</li> </ul>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	70 kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Mansfield DIESEL: Mansfield
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	34 kms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	UHF Recovery Gear
DOGS ALLOWED?	Yes
RADIO CHANNEL CB/UHF	15

### PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED:

1. Plan your trip. In particular: meeting point destination, trip grading, trip details, fuel information, camping arrangements. If a trip is classified as Dog Friendly, it is the responsibility of the Trip Leader to ensure the trip does not enter areas that do not allow dogs.
2. Complete a “PROPOSED CLUB TRIP” form.
3. Pass the form on to the President or Events Coordinator, either in hard copy format or electronically, for approval at the next Committee Meeting. When approved, the Trip Leader will be notified, and the trip included in the Club Calendar. Also ensure copy passed to Newsletter Editor for inclusion in calendar and Forthcoming Trip Section.



## Trip Report – Googs 2025

### Report By – Bruce Dunlop

1. Bruce in Ford Everest,
2. Brett and Nicki in Toyota LC 300 and
3. Ian and Audery in Y62



Following are a few words, often not wise or witty,

On the SA expedition that was Googs Track.

Our adventurous trio gathered at the Ramon DEED veterans retreat near sunny Mildura,

Just as the weather went from dry and sunny to wet and windy, the departure to Burra was uneventful, until the LC 300 had a flat battery at stop one, lucky MacDonaldis has coffee,

Anyhoot one jump pack later we are Burra bound, again the coldest and wettest week of weather they have had, fire was even extinguished by rain at one stage,

Spear Creek campground, a vegetarian's worst location as they sell home grown lamb packs, no fire issues here,

Ceduna next, Beach Front Caravan Park, outstanding they tell me, I'll google that.

## Trip Report

Googs Track starts the next day, a week or so of rain has packed the sand just right and its 40kph High 4 and crack on, googs Lake is reached in record time, however the wind, called Mariah for those of you who are into musical westerns, fire pits, few beers look at lake, rain most of the night puts a few litres of water in and its looking fuller in the morning.



Day Two on Googs has the softer sand with deeper ruts on hand, many of the drivers have to have more than one go at getting over said sand dunes, not your intrepid author in case the worry was deafening. Anyhoot its Mt Finke night two, the young lads in the group in front have gotten phone reception from the top, they have a fuel leak issue so its putty the tank and next stop Kingoonya. Not before they mention they heard a wheel bearing squealing from afar. So, wheel off banana skins and fingers crossed its repacked. (did make it to Port Augusta)



Day Three is a doodle, cross the Railway a few times, saw a goods train 1km plus in length, arrive Glendambo Track done



## Trip Report



Day Four has the trio going own ways, said bearing replacement etc.

We head North to Coober Pedy, Marla and a trip South full length of the Oodnadatta Track, stopover in William Creek for flight over a very full Lake Eyre, stops at Farina Bakery, Cradock Hotel( free camping if you buy a beer, I'm ok for two weeks!)

All in all great trip, doing Farina again next year, just book it in.

# Trip Report





## Trip Report – Exploring the Eyre Peninsula - Lynton’s Farewell Tour – PART I

### Report By – Sally Higgs

1. Sally and Tristan - Patrol
2. Lynton - TJ
3. Steve - Pajero
4. Daisy - Prado
5. Vernon - Lexus
6. Jacqui and Dan - 80 Series
7. Adam - Patrol



The Thursday before Easter we met at Calder Park Service Centre all ready for our big adventure for the next 11 days for Exploring the Eyre Peninsula. The first 2 days of the trip were really transit days, so we were all about making up the km's. Our first stop when heading this direction is to stop at the Wycheproof Bakery. Once we had fueled up there, we headed through to Red Cliffs to see Big Lizzie the giant tractor. We then headed for camp which was going to be on the banks of the Murray River. A voice then piped up going ah are we going to a supermarket in Mildura.. Oops I had completely forgotten that I had said we are going to do a supplies stop before heading to camp. Day 1 and our first U-turn!



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We got all stocked up and then it was off to Lock 9 and to find a spot on the river. We found a nice spot with a great view for the night. We got the fire going and a line was thrown in the river. No fish were biting which may have been a theme for the trip

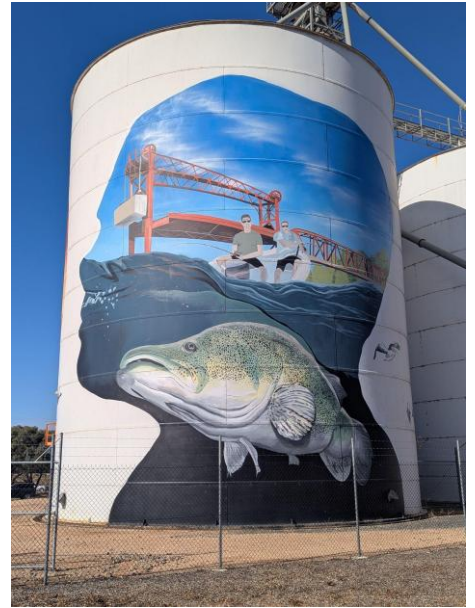


The goal for today was to get to Kimba or close to it. We awoke to a beautiful day and first had to make sure that we did not have any fruit or vegetables that we were not allowed to take across the border. Once we got that sorted, we headed to Lock 9 to check that out before getting on the road. There were so many pelicans around it was a beautiful sight to see in the morning light.



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We got to the border crossing and as we had our camper trailer on we were directed into one line for checking and everyone else was queued into a separate line for vehicles only. We got checked for fruit and vegetables from our glove box to our fridges, draw sets, center console, camper trailer. We got the all clear so headed over to get some fuel while the rest of the group finished. As is typical with our trips we do like to check out any silo art that we can find. We found one as we were heading into Renmark. This silo art is all about different local people and their favourite activities.



Our next stop was the Midnight Oil House. This house appeared on the Diesel and Dust Album that Midnight Oil released in 1987. It is one of the most photographed ruins in the country. We stopped in Burra to use the facilities, and the timing was perfect for a bite to eat so we had lunch in the park and then continued our trip north to find the house. It was amazing and the photos just don't do it justice



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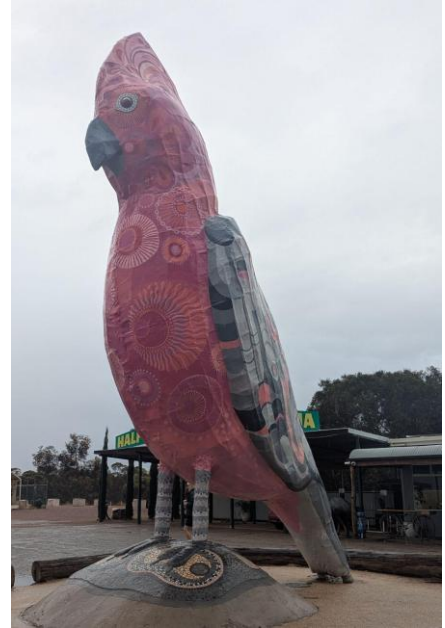
Once we captured the sights at this ruin it was back on the road to eat up the KM's. The wind turbines started popping up and got thicker as we got closer to Port Augusta. We did another rest stop here and then it was onto camp. The massive road trains started appearing on the road and were very cool to see. I spotted another town that I thought looked interesting, Iron Knob. It was an old mining town, unfortunately we were too late in the day to do the mine tour so we will have to wait until the next visit. We had a look at the town's donation camp and its facilities. An oasis in a sad town that has been left since the mine closed. It is sad to see.

I had found a free camp at Lake Gillies so we turned off the main highway just before Kimba and crossed fingers that it was not full being a long weekend. And good news it wasn't! We got set up for the night and got a fire going. It was the most stunning sunset, so it was wonderful to be part of it. I went to the bush facilities just after sunset and came back to sit down and enjoy the fire. I scratched myself on a bush or so I thought and when I got back to the fire, I was itchy by my knee and said damn the mozzies are out tonight... I was wrong.



Day 3 was our first day of starting to explore the Eyre Peninsula. I woke up this morning to a very swollen leg that was quite sore. I don't think it was a mozzie! I had some antihistamines from Daisy's wonderful pharmacy in her car to see if that would help. Then we got on the road. First on the list was Kimba, half way across Australia. We found the obligatory sign and all lined up for the photos. As the rain started to come down. We also found the Big Galah nearby looking out over all the travelers.





We topped up with fuel, coffee and snacks to prepare us for the day of exploring and adventure. We found another silo art that was beautiful in its detail and so large. We could even see it from the town lookout. The town lookout at Whites Knob had two large sculptures celebrating the relationship that Edward Eyre had with local Aboriginal men in the exploration of the peninsula



As we left the lookout we noticed the local golf club had black sand for the green's. We had to stop and have a look at them as we had seen a few of them as we travelled around.

The next stop was Darke Peak. This is the second highest peak on the Eyre Peninsula and the fun part is that it has a 4 Wheel Drive track across the top of it. I learned about it from an episode of 4WD247 Off Grid. There is not a lot of information on the track so we were flying blind on it. I had managed to find what I thought was the entry point to the track so I popped the coordinates into google and off we went to see what we could find.





We arrived at a gate to a farmer's field. It definitely did not look like the entry to a four-wheel drive track. The good news was there was already a group of 4-wheel drives at the gate, and they were going through as we arrived. There was a lady about to close the gate, so I went up to her and explained who we were and what we wanted to do. She was ok, that's cool, follow the guys and when you get to the water tank, she gave me the name of the person leading their group to ask them.

She let us through the gate and off we went. It looked like a work team, so we still did not know what was going to happen. We got to a huge water tank and a group of vehicles. I hopped out and found the guy I had been directed to and told him our story. He was a bit unsure of us at first and said the drive is really scratchy looking at the Patrol and we said, its all scratched already and then he asked about our camper trailer, and we said, that's ok it will follow us. He took us up the track to show us what it was like and to make sure we knew what we were doing.

They were a group of local farmers out for a fun day driving so we said we will head along after them. They left and showed us the way to go and then we started airing down and admiring the amazing view to give them a bit of time and space on the track.

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We started the climb which followed the ridgeline all the way along the peak. It had a few scrambles and some decent climbs. We would catch up with the farmers and we got to the highest point where we spoke to them. Between them they owned most of the land around Darke Peak. It was interesting chatting. There was a rain storm and a dust storm heading towards us so it was very windy and to see such a large dust storm was incredible to watch. After the top there is an even bigger climb and descent that was quite tricky that required some spotting for everyone to get down. Tristan got the camper trailer on some angles that it had not been on before and had to concentrate on the climbs so was in his element.

The final descent to the completion of the track was steep and tricky in spots so everyone was having to concentrate on getting down without any issues.

Vernon was on his first tricky track so was focusing hard on what he was doing.



We got to the bottom of the track and were looking for a spot to have some lunch. Daisy got to the bottom of the track and the next thing we hear is that she had a flat tyre. We got to the tyre and it was a Vernon flat, it was full of holes. So the crew got going and pulled off her spare, she got her new jack out of the box, it was primed and next thing the car was in the air and the tyres were switched over.



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It was a fantastic adventure and a track well worth doing. As a typical trip for me I had packed a lot into a day so next stop was Pildappa Rock. This is South Australia's answer to wave rock. We made our way across the very flat land and the next thing this rock appeared out of the ground. We did a drive all the way around it and then found a spot where we could climb up, so out of the cars we went and scrambled our way to the top to have a look around.



Now we had scaled 2 peaks of the Eyre Peninsula it was time to get moving to Streaky Bay and our camp for the night at Tractor beach. Another top up of supplies in Streaky Bay and then out to our camp.

Arriving at camp I had booked 7 sites and it was a late arrival so I was hoping not to have other people in any of our sites. Well sadly it was the case. They had a full caravan set up, swags, gazebos, everything all out and I had to say I am really sorry but this site is booked and it was right in the middle of our whole group and I had booked it months ago. He knew he did not have a booking as he said he tried but it did not work. The booking of these sites is challenging and quite uncomfortable to deal with late in the day when we are tired. Another one of our sites also had a boat, tent and fire going on the site. We managed to make it work for them and us and settled in for a night around the fire.

The beach was beautiful but there was too much weed for the fisho's in the group so just having a look was all we did at this beach.



### Tractor Beach to Coodlie Park

We got up and headed back into Streaky Day to begin our day of exploring the area. First we topped up with supplies, fuel and coffee along with checking out the local jetty. The Eyre Peninsula is renowned for its seafood and I had found a self-serve seafood place around the coast a bit so we thought we would go and have a look. It was a small container on a property with a couple of dogs. The idea is that you go into the container and he has a freezer full of all sorts of fish and then you take what you want, pay by eftpos or cash and head on your way. There was a guy who talked to us about fishing in the area and helped us out. We were hoping for oysters but he had sold out. They had sold 80 Dozen Oysters in 2 days! In saying that they had prawns and other fish so a few of us bought some prawns and fish for a meal later on.

The plan was now to explore as much of the coast as we could along with dropping in on a couple of points of interest on our short travel day through to Coodlie Park Eco Resort. First stop was Scaale Bay. We did a drive through and then headed onto Point Labatt. I saw a sign that talked about Sea Lions so that is where we headed to see if we could see any.





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Murphy's Haystacks are not piles of hay but inselberg rock formations. They are made of granite and quartz and are similar to Pildappa Rock. They are spread out over a paddock and are in all sorts of shapes. Just amazing how they tower out of the ground. The rain came in again so we went back to the car. At the entry they were selling honey so Jacqui and Dan bought some honey to take with them.

We were starting to get hungry so Venus Bay was to be our lunch spot. They had a great general store that sold burgers, chips and other food so we had lunch there and enjoyed a break from driving. 2 Police 4 wheel drives pulled in and one looked like it had seen some distance. Tristan asked the Police Officer how many km's the car had travelled and she said it was 10 months old and had done 80,000km! Now that is a lot of roads to drive! Once lunch was done we went down to the jetty to have a look at the local fishing boats and the view.



Our next stop for 2 nights was Coodlie Park Eco Resort. Once we checked in we were directed via mud map out to their camping area. There were still quite a few people staying as it was Easter. They were all spread out so we drove around looking for a good spot and settled on being quite close to the centre of the camp ground.

***To Be Continued...Part II in next month's magazine!***



# **We need your help on and off the tracks**



**If you have some spare time  
please consider joining the committee.  
Your club needs you— do it for your club!**

**Contact your Committee...**



