

JUNE 1982.

# FREE WHEELING



Registered for posting as a publication

CATEGORY "B"

# VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB



COMMITTEE 1981-82

<b>PRES</b>	<b>TOM BRACHNA</b> 11 Sunnyvale Crt., HAMPTON PARK 799 1998	<b>VICE PRES</b>	<b>ANDREW MERLO</b> 1 Gadd St., OAKLEIGH 3166 579 4119	<b>SEC</b>	<b>BRIAN TUCK</b> 2 Page St., CHELTENHAM. 3192 93 1484
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>DON MONTAGUE</b> 9 Coronation St., MT. WAVERLEY. 3149 288 1200	<b>ASS SEC</b>	<b>PAUL HOWDEN</b> 9/158 Oakleigh Rd. CARNEGIE 3163	<b>SOC SEC</b>	<b>ANDREW GUINEY</b> 4/4 Beddoe Ave. EAST BRIGHTON 592 0857
<b>PUB REL</b>	<b>THELMA MONTAGUE</b> 9 Coronation St. MT WAVERLEY 3149 288 1200	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>GEOFF DOWELL</b> 4 Genoa Crt. FRANKSTON 3199 789 3153	<b>KEVIN MONAGUE</b> 9 Coronation St. MT WAVERLEY 3149	
<b>ASSOCIATION DELEGATES</b>		<b>GEOFF MANN</b> 10 Fernhill St., GLEN WAVERLEY. 3150 233 2229	<b>JOHN THOM</b> 41 Colby Drv. BELGRAVE HEIGHTS 3160 795 3932		

TRIP COMMITTEE: Brian Tuck, Paul Howden, Andrew Merlo.

Contactable on above address. For any enquiries on trips, conditions and potential trip leaders.

## TRIP CLASSIFICATIONS:

'A' Grade: Extensive use of 4WD: Tracks maybe difficult to negotiate — chains should be carried along with towing slings and anchor points: good winter tread pattern tyres are a must. Trip leader has the right to refuse a vehicle if above points are not met. Types of conditions likely to be met include: steep climbs and descents on all surfaces — rocky, muddy etc. mud & snow, deep river crossings and overgrown tracks.

**Max. six vehicles.**

'B' Grade: Virtually same conditions as 'A' Grade but track condition is more favourable. Good tyres are a must as well as necessary recovery gear.

**Max 10 vehicles.**

'C' Grade: Very limited use of 4WD. These trips include car rallys etc. Type of tyres does not matter and recovery gear not essential.

**No maximum number of vehicles.**

In all above cases vehicles should be in sound mechanical condition and carry the basic spare part requirements as listed in previous Newsletters.

The committee would like to express the fact that if in the opinion of the trip leader a vehicle is not suitable for a trip, then that vehicle may be refused permission to partake.

Newsletter Editor: A. Merlo (as above) all copy to be in by 2nd Tuesday of the month.

**RADIO OFFICER GEOFF MANN (AS ABOVE)**

Club has one radio for hire at \$1.00 per day, or free if you are leading a trip. All enquiries must go through the officer regarding purchases, licences etc.

**MEETINGS LAST TUESDAY  
OF THE MONTH AT DANDENONG  
LIBRARY**

**CORRESPONDENCE  
P.O. BOX 778,  
DANDENONG**



PRESIDENTS REPORT

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Hello Again.

The Easter trip went off well with all participants enjoying themselves at Mitchell's Homestead and surrounding tracks. Thanks to Andy Merlo for leading the trip although I would still like to see members from the floor still leading club trips.

The car rally also organized by Andy Merlo, Brian Tuck and Paul Howden went off like clockwork even though weather on the day was lousy. Peter and Debbie Pink came first in their "Land Nibbler" with Bluey Male coming in second in the "L.W.B. Sooty". The day was well attended and everybody found their way to the barbecue at the end, eventually. I won't mention any names but someone became lost again. First prize was an engraved pewter mug and second was a 12 inch shifting spanner; both useful items. Thanks again to the organizers for their time and trouble and a job well done.

Social Secretary's position is now vacant due to Andrew Guiney's resignation. Andrew had too many work commitments and was unable to continue his role. As there is only 2 months left of the present committee the position will remain vacant until the next committee is due.

Members should be starting to look towards who they wish to have on their committee next year. A couple of Association delegates will be necessary as Geoff and John are standing down.

We have an excellent turnout to see "The Man from Snowy River" on June 3rd at the Waverley Gardens cinema. This should be an excellent evening and hope to see you there.

There will be an evening at the Admiral Bebow again in July as from past performances I don't think we will be short of members attending and they certainly won't be disappointed about their moneys worth. More later.

The film night at the Limburger Kangaroo Club is in June and should be a good night for all who are attending.

Well thats about all for now except that I hope John Lake is enjoying his vacation in America.

See you next meeting,

The Pres.

Tom

THINGS TO COME!

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JUNE 16TH

Len Beadell speaking at Powerhouse. Courtesy of Toyota Landcruiser Club. Cost \$4.00 per head, contact Brian Tuck for further details.

JUNE 25TH

Social nite at The Cardinia Pub. A get together nite has been arranged for this Friday nite at 6.00 p.m. onwards, all costs are to be paid by members attending.  
The Pub is situated on the Beaconsfield-Emerald Road (approx. 3 miles off Princes Highway) Contact Paul Howden for further details  
Phone 557 8609

JUNE 29TH

Club Meeting - Nominations for elections.

JULY 16TH

Limburger Club (Film Nite) 7.30 p.m. This nite is definitely on, so members with films are invited to bring them along. Costs include supper and hall hire. More details June Meeting:  
Cost \$5.50 - Bar service available

JULY 27TH

A.C.M. Election nite all please attend.

JULY 24TH

Admiral Benbow. Usual arrangements, bus departs Library 6.00 p.m.

AUGUST 7- 8TH

Tentative date for annual club Snow trip. Trip Leader: Geoff Dowell.

AUGUST 21ST

Don & Thelma's Central Australia trip. Contact (288 1200) for further details.

OCTOBER 16 - 17TH

Wine trip

APRIL MEETING

Trip report of Mitchell's Homestead given by Paul also report of Club Car Rally given. Entertainment was provided by Andy Bruce with a video cassette recording of the Club 1980 Cape York Trip. Southern Comfort raffle was won by Thelma.

LAST MEETING - MAY

Entertainment was a film of the "Pinzgauer" courtesy Keith Brown.  
The raffle of a set of Stanley screwdrivers was won by Heinz Schaeffer.



Sorry about no newsletter in May, but there was no material to warrant one.

Most important next month (June) nominations for committee positions come up, these are most important for the function of our club. Please be prepared for them.

Annual Car Rally drew a good response from members (despite some over-night rain) Brian turned up late thinking that we started at 9.30 not 9.00. One section was dropped because of conditions but other than that all had a good time until the rain really came down. Our president had a good tour of Powelltown which no-one else visited. Stefan had no front drive, but managed a clear result.

1st P. Pink, Land Rover - Engraved Mug  
2nd B. Male, Toyota LWB - 8" Shifter

Whilst on a good note congratulations to Paul Howden on the announcement of his engagement to Sue.

An update on some new mobile numbers:

Gerard Lavery	12
Patrick Casey	21
Kevin Montague	2
Gary Pearl	11

#### FOR SALE

Club Radio 10W Willis \$270 Contact Lindsay Wells (059) 853206

John Lake is now back from the U.S. and all went well.

Ross Ferguson has bought a Rangy which is undergoing surgery, about 600 B.H.P. worth.

Steve Alders Rangy has completed surgery. Ramsey winch and "wide floaties".

Kim Ferrier (new member) who purchased my old Nissan has just launched his 302 Ford with 4 speed top loader (Lookout Warby).

More Caps and T-Shirts will soon be available at Club Meetings - See Thelma.

Fees and radio licences are due July!

#### ASSOCIATION CLEAN UP - LAKE COBBLER

Roll Call: Geoff Mann, John Thom, Don, Thelma & Kevin Montague, Bluey Male, Vin Handley, Ray, Trevor, Peter Rowe, Keith, Peter Pink & Tom.

The meeting place was Mansfield, at the toilet block, 9 p.m. sharp on Friday 26th March.

9 p.m. Sharp turned into 9 p.m. blunt so we eventually left for Lake Cobbler at approx. 10.30 p.m. only to be stopped around the corner because Geoff Mann decided to stop and talk to his friends in "Blue" who insisted he blow into a small green bag, after which, Geoff went green from exertion, but he was cleared and we proceeded on our way.

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From here, the trip was quite uneventful until we made the turn off from "Telephone Box Junction", approximately 6 km down the road we noticed that Peter Rowe and Keith Brown who were stationed together in the "Short Sooty" were made conspicuous by their absence. The rest of the convoy came to a grinding halt as Geoff and John formed a one vehicle search party and went searching. Forty five minutes later the search vehicles returned with news of vague radio contact with Peter.

Satisfied the "Short Sooty's" occupants were safe and well the convoy proceeded onward only to meet up with the missing party 10 minutes down the road at an intersection. After a quick discussion on the sight seeing tours that had been undertaken, we proceeded onward.

We bounced our way toward Gobbler and on the last stretch down toward the Lake Don's right hand front tyre bit a branch in sheer anger and almost instantly deflated its ego and Don's.

The convoy came to a halt again as Don's flat was repaired. As Don opened the rear doors of the "Long Sooty" he discovered that three of the eggs in his vehicle did not bounce as they spread around the rear exit.

By this time it was 2.30 a.m. and we made it to the Lake with only a few minor distractions thanks to Vin's guidance as Vin & Bluey were already camped at the Lake.

Everybody reluctantly made bed by 4.00 a.m. and enthusiastically arose at about 7.00 a.m.

A good breakfast was had by all as we huddled around the fire in the crisp morning air discussing the battle tactics for the clean up which was the purpose of our presence. After breakfast some wood was cut and bodies organized and off we went in three vehicles; Peter's Sooty, my Landy and Kevin's Toyota. Each vehicle was laden with various implements of destruction such as chain saws, axes, mattocks, shovels and other nasty devices to make life more pleasant.

Once down the track a bit, we met some members of the Landrover Owner's Club who also were preparing themselves for the onslaught of the track clearing. It was decided that our club was to begin at the far end of the track and work our way back whilst LROC did the opposite.

Our club began the task a few miles back from the bridge of which I do not recall the name and made our way towards it.

We started work. The pace was staggering and the enthusiasm unbelievable as sticks, logs, leaves and soil flew in every direction off the track. Bluey and Geoff's chain saws were screaming and smoking complaining of the work which was expected of them.

Thanks to everybody's stamina and determination our section of track was cleared of all foreign objects and culverts cleared by approximately 2 p.m. By the way, we realized that Peter's sooty had a nasty temper when confronted by an extremely stubborn large log. After numerous kicks and bashes the log refused to move so Peter's sooty sat on it. A few photos were taken and we had a tinnie stop at the creek.

After this break back to camp it was for lunch and believe me there were some nasty stomachs around by the growling that was going on.



Once back at camp everybody had lunch and got themselves organized for a good evening but unfortunately halfway through tea the rain hit and boy did it rain. Luckily, some members had erected tarps, so, although it was raining, that same guts and determination was still there and we had a good time anyway. Under the tarps were VFWDC members in force sampling numerous bottles of port of which a couple of members had a few too many samples. LROC a few more domineering members joined our group and had a thoroughly good time and even four soggy bush walkers joined our group.

At approximately 11 p.m. we all went to bed fatigued from the days work.

Sunday morning everyone made there way home in small groups. Last to leave were the Montague's, the Rowe's and Brown's and Tom & Peter who got caught in one of the best bush rainstorms I have ever seen.

Thanks to all who attended. A marvelous job done by all. I think all had a good time, see you next clean up.

Tom Brachna

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