



FREE WHEELING

JUNE 1985

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

June 1985

Hi members

As you are all aware we have not had a Newsletter for a couple of months. As we have said in the past, the Club is for everyone and everyone should participate in leading trips and help in trip reports etc. so we can have a Newsletter monthly. We also need photos with name and details on rear of same so they can be returned.

It showed the lack of participation at the last meeting that no-one wanted to lead a trip over the Queens Birthday long week-end and you wonder why there is no Newsletter.

Whilst still on the Newsletter, John Lake offered his services as Editor, so if anyone has anything for the Newsletter please forward to John Ph. Work 798-6634 or by meeting night at the latest.

It is also very disappointing that only a handful of people have put their names down for the Dinner at Hancocks 27th July. If we don't get more names and money by June meeting it will be cancelled. Also we only have a handful of names for the football match with the Nissan Club on 28th July. We would like a lot more names at the June meeting please, for both Hancocks and the Football match.

Don and Thelma attended the last meeting for some time. They are taking to the road and hoping to see some more of Australia. They will be joining the Gulf Country trip at Mt. Isa and will travel with us for about 2 weeks. All the best to you both and thanks for your help and time you have been on the Committee. Patrick Casey will be standing in as Treasurer until A.G.M.

For those people who ordered the Club medalion, they are now available. See Patrick at meetings. Also our new Club sticker is available which is a lot better than the old ones. They are \$2.00. New cloth badges are now in stock also \$2.00 ea.

Last year Geoff Mann lead an 'A' Grade trip and he was the only starter, which wasn't a very nice thing to happen to anyone. Anyway Geoff said he would try again last month to lead another 'A' Grade, but this time Geoff didn't turn up. This time he had a good excuse. His wiring shorted out and caught fire as he was leaving. Anyway, the trip still went ahead and a good time was still had. Third time lucky Geoff.

The trip up to the Pines area, Gough's Bay, Mansfield, went off well. 5 Vehicles went. It was perfect weather. Tom even caught a very nice trout as well as 17 tent pegs. Trip reports following.

If anyone else is interested in the Gulf Country Trip it is now leaving on Sat. 17th August and returning Sat. 14th September to incorporate the Birdsville Races on the way home.

cont.

Pres' report June 1985 cont.

Patrick Casey's trip to the Simpson Desert is leaving on Friday 23rd August returning about 7th September.

Tom Brachna's trip to Fraser Island is leaving on Saturday 24th August and returning about Wednesday 25th September.

The annual Snow trip will be the weekend 3rd and 4th August, camping along the Wellington River out of Licola. Same place as usual. No trip leader required. Just turn up Friday night or Saturday morning.

There will be an Auction of 4 x 4 bits and pieces which you have to bring and auction at Alan and Mary Wades' place at Mt. Ararat Road. "Florence Court" Nar Nar Goon, Sunday 7th July starting at 10 am. BYO grog and meat. BBQ will be supplied plus urn for tea and coffee. Fee for the day will be \$1.00 per head.

Thanks to John Lake for his talk on photography which was very interesting and thanks to John Cribbes last meeting for his talk on the Thompson River Catchment area.

Congratulations to CONNIE & BRYAN WEST on the arrival of a son DAVID.

Don't forget next meeting subs and radio fees are due. Single \$21 Dual \$31 and radio \$35.

Next meeting we will be taking nominations for the 1985/86 Committee. We would like to see as many members as possible at the next meeting as there will be a lot of positions to fill.

Members who have won the raffles at the last couple of meetings are Trevor Nelson and Dave Hocking, Ray Brown, Terry Barry and Bluey Male.

If anyone has changed their address, please let us know so we can alter our records so you then can get your Newsletter.

My hand is getting sore now so I'll go and relieve the pain with a Staminade.

See you at the next meeting on 25th June.

The Pres

P.S. The Club radio is now for sale. Will know price next meeting.

JOHN

00

HANCOCK'S

V.F.W.D.C. NIGHT OUT

JULY 27TH 1985

00

7.15 P.M.

B.Y.O.

202, BEACH RD.
HAMPTON

NOT TO BE
MISSED

DINNER
+
SHOW
\$25.00 P. HEAD

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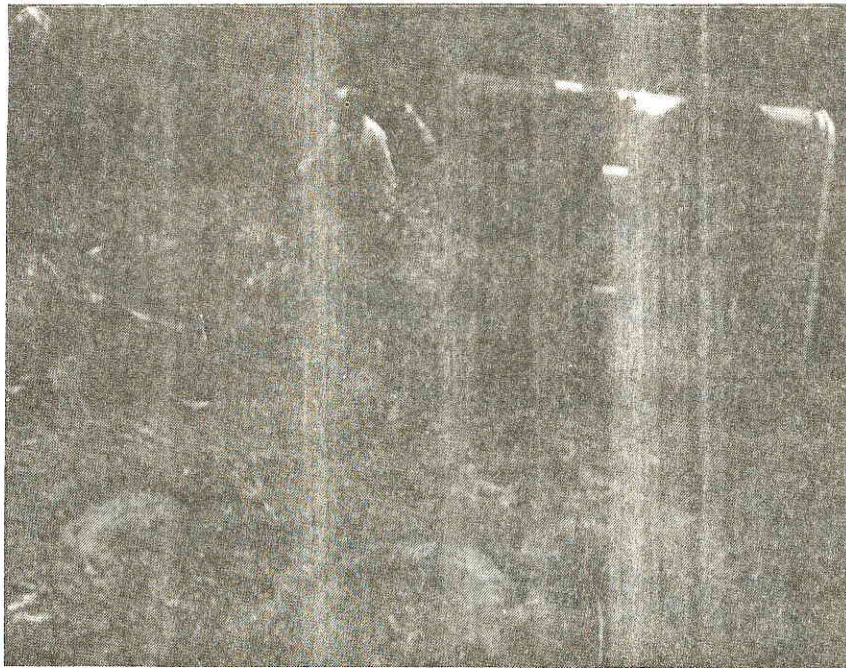
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OUTGOING MAIL:-

Bairnsdale 4 Wheel Drive Club.

'A' GRADE TRIP Jamieson Area - 18 & 19th May

Trip Leader:- Geoff Mann
Peter Rowe
Alan Wade

Saturday 18th the phone rang at 6 a.m. at Peter's place, it was Geoff saying the trip was off. Why was asked. Geoff said he had just had his head light switch burn out and some wiring caught fire. Peter then rang me to say it was off. I said that's a blow, seeing we have the vehicles packed and we are ready to go. Why don't we still go somewhere. The reply was yes. We said we would meet at John Hughan's place at Cockatoo at 7.30 a.m.

Peter had some things for John who had gone to work and Jo-Ann asked us in for a coffee which we did. About 8.45 a.m. we left and headed off towards Warburton. Just coming into Woor-Yallock I said to Peter fancy another coffee-the answer was yes. Peter said we'll pull over in a minute. I then gave Peter directions to friends of ours' house. Much to their surprise 2, 4x4s pulled into the drive at 9.00 a.m. When they saw me, they welcomed us in and the billy was on for a cup of tea. After about 1½ hours there, we said our farewells. Out of doors we were greeted by light drizzle.

We then headed to Warby up the Reefton Spur, down to Big River camp and along Big River road where we saw maybe 2 or 3 dozen blokes at various spots with Walkie talkies. Some had guns and it didn't take long to wake up that they were deer shooters.

cont'd

'A' Grade trip Jamieson area cont'd

We got to the turn off into Enoch Point. Peter said he had never been there so in we went. We had only gone but a few yards and we were into 1st low with a very steep drop down to the river which looked very nice. By this time the drizzle had stopped and it was starting to fine up. We had lunch along the river then headed off again. We then went up Danes Spur track to Mt. Terrible where the weather was very bleak. Someone must have stayed in the hut over night as there were still embers in the fireplace. From there we came down the Terrible Track to Polletti Track where we turned right. It was a bit mean in places but we made it to the bottom O.K. We then turned left and headed into Jamieson where I had never been before. Peter remembered he knew a bloke in Jamieson. We had a look around then went to the Store for directions to John's place which we found easily about 3.30 p.m. He was surpris'd to see us. He then offered us a cuppa or a tinnie saying he was having a tinnie himself so we joined him in having a few. By now time was marching on and we said we had better go. John asked where we were going to camp the/ . John then said that we might as well stay at his place and leave early in the morning. Peter and I agreed so before it got dark we arked up the BBQ and then had a couple more tinnies when tea was cooked. We moved inside and ate it by the Pot Belly Stove.

After tea Peter and I went and got our sleeping gear and set it up in the lounge near the stove and then settled into some serious Port drinking and Port talking. By 9.30 p.m. I was asleep and Peter and John went on till 10.30 p.m. when they gave it away. We were awoken about 8 a.m. Sunday morning by John lighting up the P.B.S. We waited until it had warmed up before we got up. We then had breakfast and loaded the gear back into the vehicles and said our goodbyes. It was about 10 a.m. when we left in very clear and sunny weather.

We headed towards Mansfield then up the Eildon Road to the scenic area and took some photos of the d&ed up lake area. Just before this I had a puncture on the bitumen. Must have picked up a nail at John's place. We then continued up the Eildon Road to Fryer Creek Track which was in good order. We were going to come down Bald Spur Track to the Big River Road but there was no track off to the right. According to the map Fryer Creek Track should come into Danes Spur Track but it doesn't. It comes into Terrible Track, so we doubled back about 1 km to Ryans Track and took it. After about 9 km Peter thought we should be coming out somewhere by now. Then just around a bend was this bloody big hill. It took 1½ hours to winch the both of us up it only to find ourselves back on Terrible Track not many kms up the road from where we came out before. By this time it was getting close to eating time so we headed towards Danes Track again. Half way down we stopped to take in the sights of the Big River Arm and Peter was looking about his tyres etc. He saw the tube poking its ugly nose out of one front tyre. We then made it to Danes and Newman Track junction for lunch where Peter changed the tyre and I stoked up a fire. While we were having lunch we heard a woman talking on the Cyril Backster. By the conversation it sounded like someone was in trouble. I suggested to Peter to cut in and see what was going on. He did and a chap named David was bogged on Taylor Creek Track and Scott Track. After talking to Peter we said we would go and help. It took about 1½ hours to get to where

cont'd

'A' Grade trip Jamieson area cont'd

this David and wife Chris were. They were 15 kms in from the main road on a closed road. It was very muddy and sticky. Someone is putting a new 2 x 2 track into the Big River arm for fishing and camping. Anyway this couple had a new Five Runner that was bogged out of sight.

This is a case our Club has mentioned before about going away on your own with "no" recovery gear. Rowie sized up the situation and said he would snatchem out which he did on the second attempt. By now it was getting dark so we moved off and got back onto the main road and took our hubs out and David offered us a tinnie which we accepted. We then headed towards a home direction stopping at Thornton to ring Mary saying we would be late. David followed us as far as Healesville where we said good-bye. We took of through Cockatoo down to Pakenham and were home by 9 pm.

Thanks to a partner in crime for a very enjoyable and different weekend. A total of about 500 k.m.s travelled for the duration.

Alan Wade

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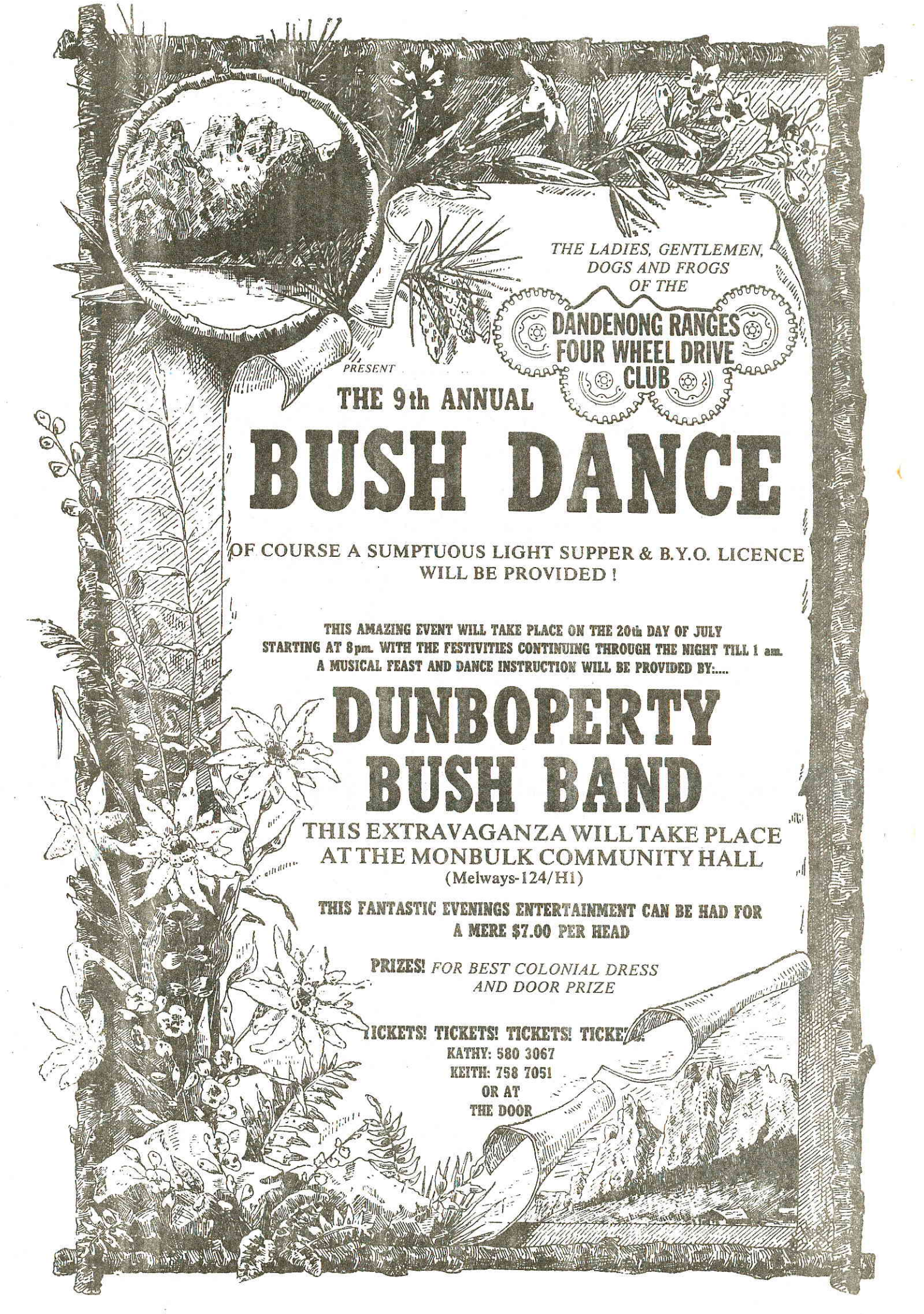
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VFWDC Annual Bush Dance, March 2nd - 3rd.

The band Bobsy Di was great, the weather was good for ducks, however a great time was had by all. Especially for the hardy few who hung on till the small hours, toasting left over sandwiches, who shall remain nameless, mainly because I was in the land of nod by then.

The Committee was busy from early afternoon erecting tarps and preparing the goodies for supper, a special thanks should go to them.

As the Afternoon wore on, more and more members arrived and many set up camp, contemplating the night ahead. The rain came and went time after time and we started tea.

As darkness fell the band arrived and the music started. It took a little while but the members finally found their dancing shoes. The rain still came and went but it didn't dampen the fun atmosphere of the night.

The band wound up at about 12 and that's the last I remember as I went to bed. Next morning saw a few sore heads and people busy cleaning up the mess.

TERRY BARRY.

PROPOSED WEEKEND TRIP - LICOLA AREA

Date 15-16th June

A-B Grade

Map: Macalister River Watershed.

Trip length: 74 miles approximately

Meet at Glenmaggie Milk Bar (just before bridge)

Time: 9.00 am (Diesel from Heyfield, Petrol only at Glenmaggie.

Anyone interested can come up to my place just out of Sale on Friday night and leave from there at about 8.30 am on Saturday. There are plenty of places to pitch a tent or you can sleep on the floor in the house. All welcome. We will not be able to get fuel from Licola.

The Saturday night camp should be on the North Wellington River, however the planned route may be changed on the day, due to track conditions. I haven't toured the area. We will be passing within one mile of Lake Tali Karng and we will see snow if it's about so bring chains. Please let Dave Hocking know if you are coming and if you want to come up on Friday night.

How to get to my place: Head out of Sale on highway and turn right at Clydebank signpost (easy to see) about 5kms from Sale, continue ahead for about 5kms and turn into driveway on left after school sign I live in school house on your right.

The trip I have planned on the map goes as follows, turn off Licola road approximately 32 km from Heyfield, to Mc Millans lookout, follow track near Ben Cruachan creek towards Mt Hump(4000'). Follow track along Millers spur across Round Hill (3420') up to Millers Gap, across Mt Wellington (5363') past Millers hut and Tali Karng, down to North Wellington river for camp (a few river crossings) Sunday: Down track to Chromite mine, along towards Mt Ronald then follow unnamed track back to Mc Millans lookout.

A GRAND

AUCTION

OF 4WD. PARAPHANALIA

IS TO BE HELD AT THE
HOME OF ALAN + MARY WADE
ON THE 7TH OF JULY 1985
o o ? o o ? o o ? o o ? o o ? o o

BRING ALL YOUR OLD, NEW,
LOVED, UNLOVED, PAE LOVED OR
UNWANTED BITS + PIECES, WHEELS
TYRES + DIESEL ENGINES ETC.

TIME :- 10 A.M START

PLACE :- FLORENCE COURT, MT ARARAT RD
NAR NAR GOON

AUCTIONEER :- STEVE
AIDER

The Pines Trip 25th & 26th June

Trip Leader:- Peter Rowe
Roll Call:- John & Margaret Smith
Peter & Debbie Pink
Tom & Dustin Brachna
Ray Brown.

Five vehicles left Coldstream about 7.10 am. in light fog. From Yarra Glen on, fog was very thick. Quick stop at Mansfield. Arrived at The Pines, fog still thick on the weir and couldn't see much. We stopped for coffee and to get our bearings, then backtracked to a fishermen's camp, asked if they knew where the ruined homesteads were and they directed us back the way we'd come. By now it was a lovely, sunny day.

We found one, not much to see, only thing still standing was a domed concrete well. Then we continued on to the second homestead. There was no house, only fencing, gates and frame of a shed half submerged in water.

After driving off the weir floor we saw a track straight up a mountain. Peter Rowe thought the view at the top would be worth seeing, so we all trundled up in Low 4. Arriving, the view of the weir and mountains was magnificent. We continued next hill - Rowie was so busy admiring views and watching kangaroos, he nearly disappeared forever from our sight off the track and down the mountain. Tom Brachna came to the rescue and helped Peter back to the track. We all needed a tinnie to recover.

The next hill was a 30° hill and Peter Rowe decided to give it a try. It looked like a success till three quarters of the way up he struck a small ledge and stopped. He couldn't move without sliding dangerously, so with John's and Tom's (and a small tree's) assistance he was winched back. After this we returned to the now empty fishermen's camp to make camp and have lunch. Then we set forth for the Delatite Winery. Peter Rowe and myself went with Peter and Debbie Pink followed by John and Margaret Smith. Tom and Dustin went fishing but no luck.

We enjoyed our wine-tasting and wine buying was popular. On the way back Peter Rowe persuaded us to crack a bottle which we did to please him. After tea we enjoyed three bottles of port and a bottle of wine around a roaring fire, then bed.

Sunday morning was lovely and sunny. We loafed around the camp except for Peter Pink and Tom who went fishing. Tom arrived back with a fair sized trout. After lunch packed up camp and followed another track up the mountain. The views were spectacular. On the way home we inspected bridge, which is usually submerged.

Good journey home - great weekend!

Ray Brown

ASSOCIATION REPORT

Transcontinental Safari: Wynn's Safari:-

To be run between Melbourne and Darwin 24-29th August, 1985.

The event will be run over 6000km, including sections of Rallying, Trialling and "Off Roading", (Off Roading is a No No.) No. of competitors - will accept 250. Fees \$600 per vehicle, plus \$20 per person, plus Cams Licence \$20. All competitors will require a "Road Event Licence" from Cams (\$20).

Hans Tholstrop is trying to start a "Special FWDC" affiliated with Cams to overcome some of the Cams regulations?

The course is across existing tracks and roads, no support vehicles or outside servicing to Competitors vehicles allowed. Anyone over 18 years old can enter. FWD category will cater for stock standard and modified vehicles. FWD's require Roll Bars, First Aid Kit, Fire Extinguisher, Emergency Rations and Two Way Radio.

There will be overnight camps in the bush for each night of the event. There is an 8 hour late time limit to arrive at these check-in points each night. Average driving time is 12 hours per day.

The event is virtually two events in one, Rally cars and Touring. The event is definitely not for the 4WD Family Tourer - though it is being promoted as such. The event is programmed to become an Annual event, not just a one off as originally thought. The original criticisms of the event raised by this meeting are still valid and will be conveyed to the Aust. National FWD Council.

Track Reports:

The Toyota Club advised of activities in Wonnangatta Valley over Cup Day long weekend. They had to tow out several vehicles that had no recovery gear with them. Wombat Spur track was very cut up. Another vehicle was seen to tackle the Widow Maker Hill, with the result that it slid back down (without rolling). Of concern to all users of the Valley was that fishing line had been placed across one track at head height to cause damage to Trail Bike users, and lead weights were suspended at windscreen height for Vehicles.

"Fry's Hut"- it is noted that this hut had been vandalised, with railings used for fire wood, the Suzuki FWDC are considering repairing it.

The Victorian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs has put in a submission to the Soil Conservation Authority re: discussion paper on proposed land uses for the Thompson Reservoir Catchment, a 23 page report has been sent to them in December, 1984. Mark Templeton has a copy of this submission if anyone wishes to take a look.

Items covered are:-

Summary of conclusions & recommendations.

Introduction.

Four Wheel Drive touring and the concept of multiple use in Thompson Reservoir Catchment.

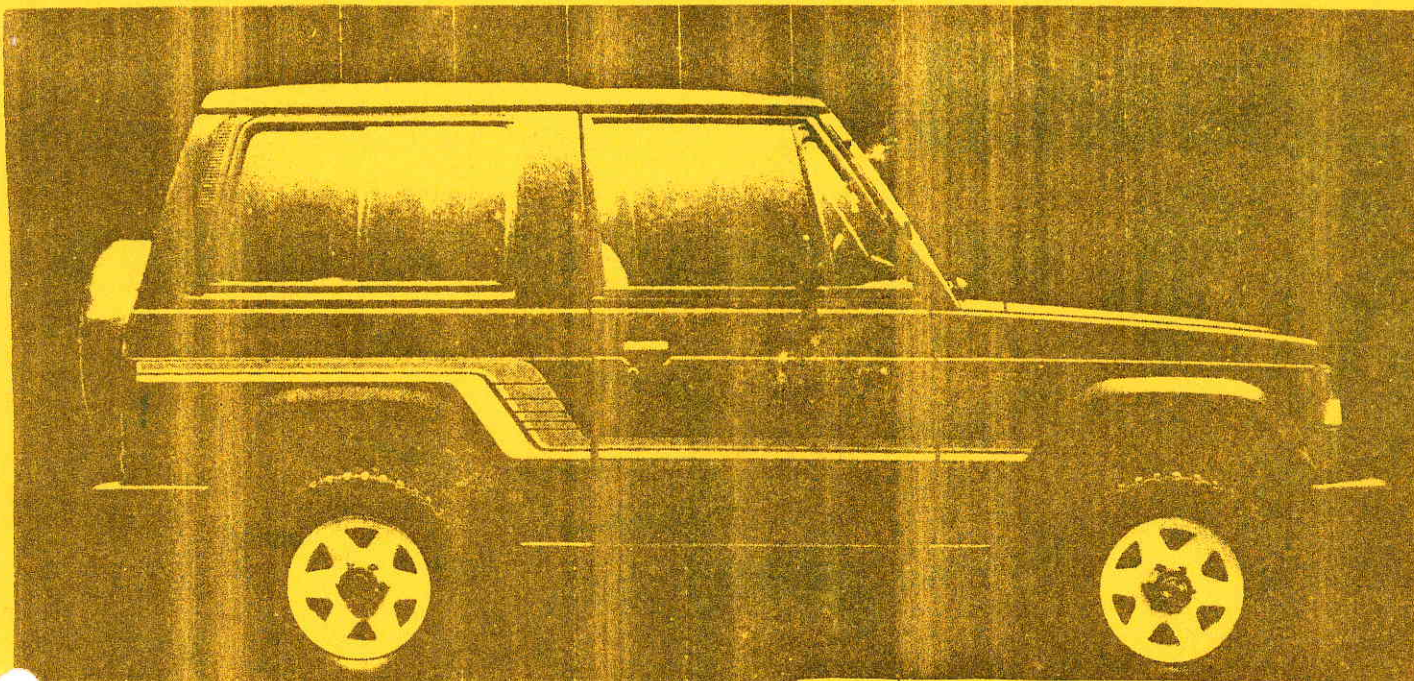
Requirement of Four Wheel Drive land use of outer Catchment area.

Inconsistencies of discussion document.

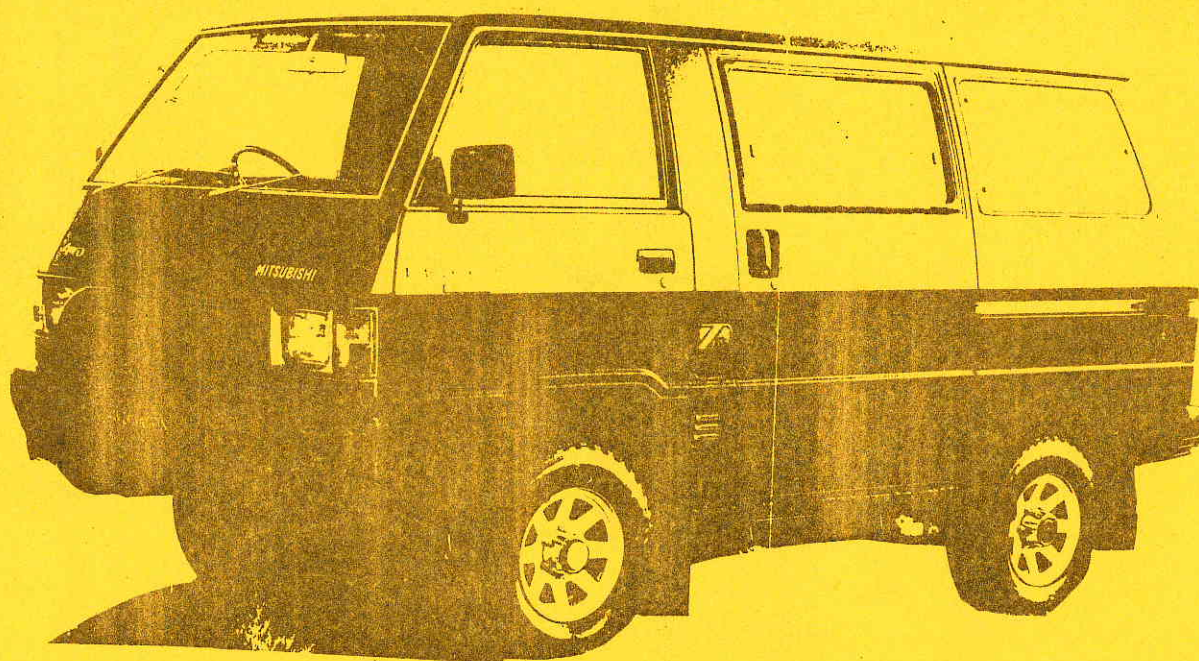
Comments re: Thompson River Catchment Policy.

MARK TEMPLETON

MONTH	TRIP DATE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	TRIP LOCATION	DEPARTURE TIME AND LOCATION	TRIP LEADER	CLASS	SOCIAL FUNCTION TRIP DETAILS
MAY	2 weeks	Simpson Desert		Gerry Lavery	C	Sand Duning
JUNE	15th & 16th	Licola Area	Terry's place Cobains Via Sale	Terry Barry	B	Sight seeing and driving
JULY	7th	Nar Nar Goon	10 am	Alan & Mary Wade	Soc	Auction-Swap meeting
	20th	Monbulk Comm. Hall	Monbulk	Dandenong Rangers	Soc	\$7 per head BYO
	27th	Hancocks - Hampton	7 pm	AGM Dinner	Soc	\$25 per head BYO
	28th	Mentone Grammar	10 am	Football match	Soc	<u>MORE PLAYERS NEEDED</u>
AUGUST	3rd	Mt. Tamboritha area	Meet last bridge over Wellington River	Everybody attending	B-C	Snow driving
	Aug 27th to Sept 14 4 weeks	The Gulf Country	7 am. Donvale - RESERVE CAR PARK MITCHAM RD. DONVALE.	Peter Rowe	C	Exploring the Top End
	School holidays 23 rd TO 7 th SEPT.	Simpson Desert	LEAVING FRIDAY NIGHT 23 rd AUGUST.	Patrick Casey	C	East-West Sand Dunes
	24th 4 weeks	Fraser Island	AM Tom's place	Tom Brachna	C	Duning, beaching and fishing
OCT	Navigation Trial	Wombat Forest	To be fixed	Patrick Casey	B	Dancing, driving & watching
	25th, 26th & 27th	Myra Park Farm	Bo Ho South	Goulburn Valley FNDC	Soc	



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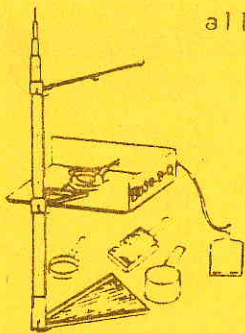
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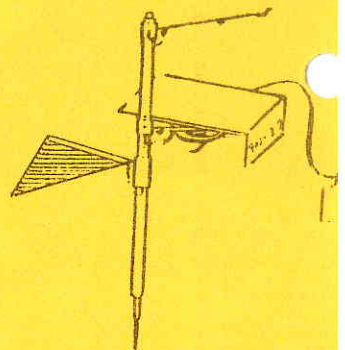
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