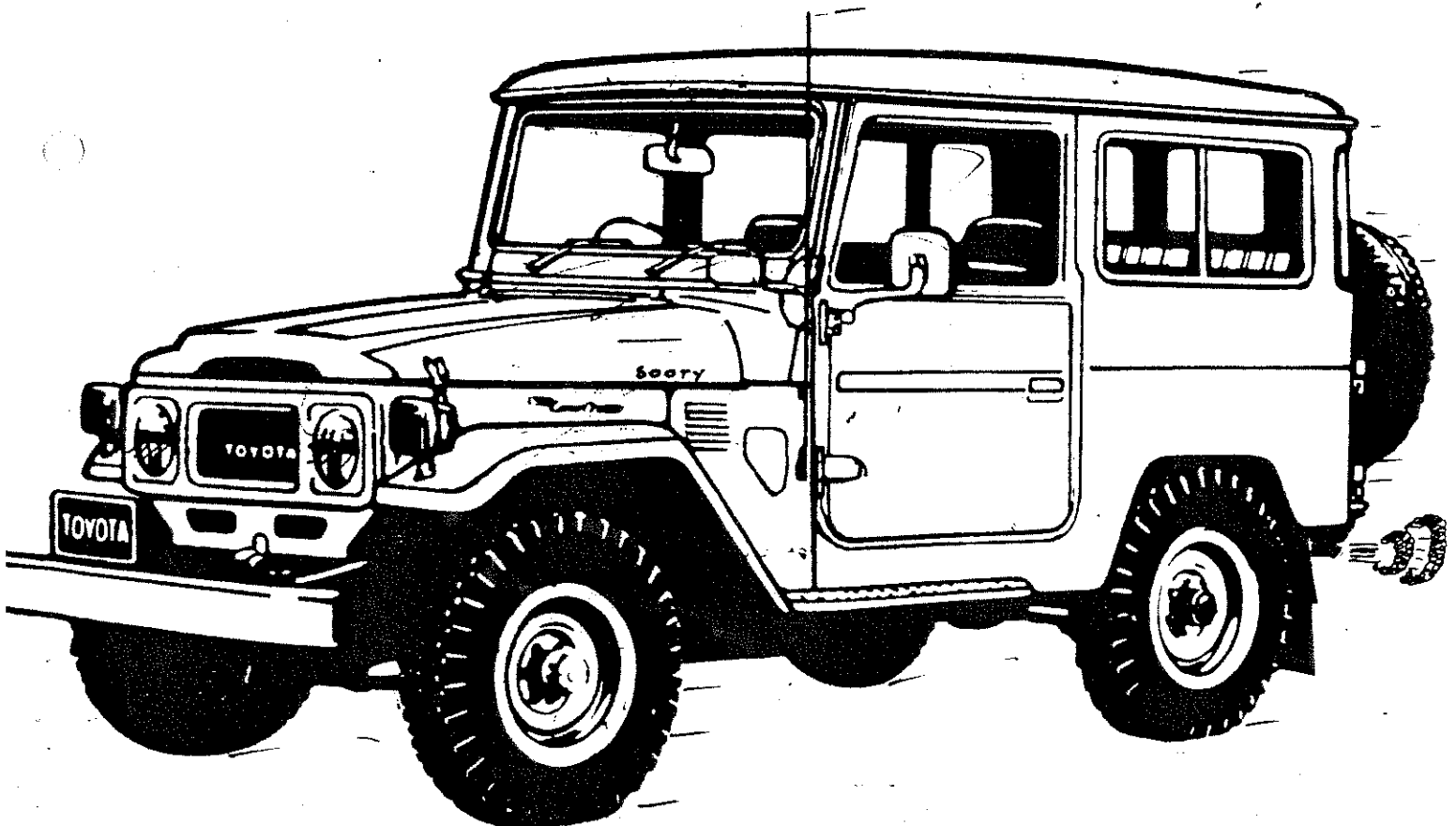


APRIL 1986

FREE



WHEELING



570/100

VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB INC.

COMMITTEE 1985/86



PRES	David Heard 43 Mortimore St Moorabbin 3189 557 5915	VICE PRES	Pat Casey 11 Patterson St Carnegie 3163 5706452	SEC	Tom Brachna 11 Sunnyvale C. Hampton Park 3976 799 1998
TREAS	Rob Ayton 8 Minerva Crs Vermont Sth 3133 232 0378	ASS SEC	Garry Pearl 1419 Mountain Hwy The Basin 3154 762 4013	SOC SEC	Sue Williams 82 Cape St. Heidelberg 458 3573
COMMITTEE		Mark Templeton 13 Alice St. Clayton 3168 543 7196	Peter Handley 5 Wallaroo Ave. Narre Warren 3805 704 6808	Bryan West 164 Monohans Rd. Cranbourne 3977. 059 96 4915	
ASSOCIATION DELEGATES		Mark Templeton 798 6055 (Bus Hrs) 543 7196 (A.H.)			

TRIP CLASSIFICATIONS:

'A' Grade: Extensive use of 4 WD. Tracks may be 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, mud & snow, deep river crossings and overgrown tracks. Max. 6 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 4 WD. These trips include car rallies etc. Type of tyres do no matter and recovery gear not essential. No. Max 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 items to Tom Brachna by General Meetings at the latest.

MEETINGS LAST TUESDAY OF THE
MONTH AT THE DANDENONG LIBRARY

CORRESPONDENCE
P.O. BOX 778
DANDENONG VIC 3175

p r e s i d e n t ' s r e p o r t - a p r i l 1 9 8 6

Yes, the part time Pres is back from our honeymoon. A good place for a club trip, Tassie. Plenty of good tracks but unfortunately we didn't find them until too late, but we know for next time.

Unfortunately we lost the cricket match by 12 runs, so it looks as if we'll have to win the footy. Don't forget to check the club calendar and support the club trips and social functions. We don't want a repeat performance of last year's A.G.M. dinner. If all trips had an attendance like Brian and Murray's day trip last weekend, we would all enjoy what clubs have to offer, a bit more.

On the subject of the Toolangi trip, does anyone have a soft top to suit a red Range Rover? Bad luck for Steve but at least no-one was hurt and they didn't even spill the milk (Steve doesn't drink it). No doubt, entertainment in the very near future will be a video on the aforementioned. Congratulations to Brian and Murray for a good trip. We enjoyed ourselves and I think that goes for everyone, even if Robert Holmes A'Court couldn't afford all the repair bills. We are looking forward to a Nav. Trial in the area.

It was good to see several new members at the last meeting and also on the day trip. I might add they did very well.

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A MEMBER TO HELP MARK TEMPLETON AS AN ASSOCIATION DELEGATE. PLEASE SHOW SOME INTEREST !!
YOU'RE THE ONES WHO BENEFIT.

Don't forget we want magazine articles so bring them to the meeting.

Will see you there (hopefully).

Dave Heard.

c a l e n d a r

1 9 8 6

- MAY 3 & 4 Wine trip to Rutherglen area.
Leaving Friday 2nd 8 p.m. from Yarra
Glen on Yarra River.
Full tank required. Base camp.
- JUNE 15 Annual Football match against Nissan Club.
(tentative)
- JULY 5 & 6 Driver Training weekend.
- JULY 19 A.G.M. Dinner at the Last Laugh.
- AUGUST 2 to Kakadu National Park.
SEPTEMBER 7 Departure: Saturday 2nd August 8 a.m.
at Tom's place.
Fuel required: Heaps. Full tanks
Maps required: N.T. Pastural and Maps
of Vic., N.S.W., S.A. & N.T.
Grade: B & C & S.
Activities: Driving, camping, touring,
F.W.Ding, sightseeing, fishing etc.
- More info. see Tom. (Ph: 799-1998)
- AUGUST 16 & 17 Snow trip. Tamboritha area.
- NOVEMBER 23 LROC field day. Wandin Park.

IF YOU WISH TO LEAD A TRIP PLEASE CONTACT COMMITTEE

As you can see WE STILL NEED TRIP LEADERS!

b l u e r o c k d a m p i n i c d a y M a r c h 2 n d

them who attended: Trip leader Bryan West, Connie and David West, Geoff, Wendy and Michael Dowel, Bruno and Natalia Santarossa, Tom, Liala, Dustin and Lee Brachna and Spike.

We all met at the Hallam Pub on the Sunday Morning at 8 a.m. or thereabouts. A quick greeting and down the highway we went in a convoy of four Hi Lux's.

An hour and a half later we arrived at the intended picnic spot, only to find that a scout troupe was having their annual raft race. So not to be deterred we drove around to the other side of the lake to a more bushy picnic spot, which was almost empty.

We parked our vehicles and surveyed the barbecue facilities which were sufficient for our numbers so the first job was done - we lit the fire. While we collected firewood, the kids had a game of cricket and football with some of the more energetic adults of which I was not one. After everything was organized we cooked and ate our lunches.

When everybody had finished and cleared away their mess, we grabbed our fishing gear and walked down to the lake to try our luck. On reaching the water the interested parties spread out to search for the magic bait, whatever it was. Between us we scrounged up about five worms, 2 frogs and 1 sick looking cricket. The rods were rigged, the bait carefully placed on the hooks and each one cast into a likely looking spot. While we waited for the elusive finned creatures to attack our baits, I noticed that my wonder dog, Spike, had decided to roll in some rather fresh cow dung. Unfortunately for my furry friend I do not appreciate that certain fragrance within the confines of my vehicle so it was time for canine flying lessons.

Spike, luckily is lacking a touch in the brains department and came straight to me when called only to find himself being picked up and hurled into the water. As he swam back to shore he reminded me of a rather large river rat. Anyway now he was clean.

The kids were having fun playing on the shore while the ladies sat on the grass, or was the thistles, and datted. The men were busy trying to catch enough fish to feed their respective families. The fish however, were upset at not having been invited to dinner earlier and decided to stay away from the invitation cards in the water, except for one stray Monster that latched itself onto Michael Dowel's game fishing outfit.

Michael knew the fish was on and he was in for a fight so he flexed his muscles as he began the duel with his adversary. As the fight continued the beads of sweat began rolling from his forehead and just when I thought he was going to give up, he gave one last mighty heave and out came a decent sized fish.

As I watched the creature flapping on the bank, I thought to myself, not a bad effort for a four year old.

As all this excitement was happening the wonder dog's enthusiasm got the better of him and he rolled in another of those green slimey pies. I was so impressed by his persistence that I thought I would shout him another canine flying lesson. Again he came over to me when called and this time I think he made a special effort and flew even further than his previous attempt. After his second bath he remained clean for the remainder of the day. Who said he was silly?

The day was now getting on so after a quick Pow wow we packed up and ascended to the car park, with Michael dragging the quarry.

We all packed our belongings and families into our cars, said our goodbyes and headed off for our homes.

It was a great day for all and I think we should have more of them with maybe a few more members attending.

Thanks to Bryan for leading the trip and thanks to the others who made it enjoyable.

Tom.

it's and bits

it's and bits

it's and bits

FOR SALE: Diesel Engine: 1984 3B Toyota Landcruiser Diesel engine with Schwitzer Turbo Charger (under warranty) sell complete fan to clutch. Has been fastidiously maintained, genuine 20,000 kms. Full service records available for inspection. Hear running in vehicle. Replacement cost \$8200, Sell \$3950.

BH: 783 3355 AH: 787 2790 Ask for Richard.

REWARD: A vehicle was stolen on Tuesday 12 December 1985 in the early hours of the morning.

Description: 1969 TOYOTA LAND CRUISER
LIGHT BLUE, WHITE SOFT TOP, CHECQUER PLATE
GUARDS. REG. NO KGS 865

Anyone sighting the vehicle please contact the Glen Waverley Police Station on 566 1555 (03).

Thank you!!!

*****TRIP REPORT*****

DARGO/TALBOTVILLE TRIP.

TRIP LEADER...DAVE HOCKING.

TRIP REPORT from 26th Dec to 31st Dec by JOHN SCOTT.

THURSDAY 26th.

We all met at the Beaconsfield hotel around 10am, give or take twenty minutes and surprise, surprise Dave is holding a raffle and guess whose name is drawn out of the hat. Mine ! So I says to Dave "What have I won mate" and he very kindly tells me that it was for the trip report. The only raffle that I've won.

We left the beaconsfield hotel at 1030 Hrs. to stop at Yarragon at 1115hrs. for the loo and the post. office (I think Lutz forgot to put his tatts tickets on and sent them by mail) and of course to have a chat!! We again proceeded along the Princes Highway and Stopped for lunch, fuel and another chat at 1245 hrs. just outside Sale. Again we proceeded turning off the Highway at Stratford heading north towards Dargo.

Our leader Dave told us over the CB radio that we were stopping. It seemed a strange place to stop as there was nothing spectacular to look at on the road and there were no other people to have a chat with ! After a few seconds of stopping our leader's passenger door flew open , was Val getting out in a hurry ? Wait no , A little black doggy was held out and parrachuted to the ground. Apparently their wee doggy was shaking so Dave suggested to Val that she hold the dog tightly but alas when you hold a wee doggy tightly whilst nature is calling you are courting disaster. Val decended from the truck not looking too happy and one could say not exactly smelling like a bed of roses. After a wash down and photos to remind you we were on our way again.

We arrived in Dargo at 1545 hrs. (3-45pm.) to top up with fuel, ice cream but did'nt tally in the local hotel. On departing Dargo at 1625 hrs. we turned left on to McMillans Track up to Grant then turned right down the Bulltown Spur, Definitely into Four Wheel Country now.

Then the adventures of crossing the Crooked River about seventeen times or so (I lost count in the end.) The first four crossings, easy, nothing to this I thought then on the fifth river crossing our leader hopped across followed by the Pajero. But Alas I must have dropped the anchor for the Pajero could not get out the other side not to mention the strange angles in it's attempts.

*****DARGO/TALBOTVILLE TRIP REPORT*****

SATURDAY 28th. December.

We departed camp at 0830 hrs along the Crooked River track across nine river crossings (towards Naarun-Bulltown Site) and stopped to walk up to have a look at the Good Hope Mine site where there is still a stone crusher and a boiler-steam engine which was used to drive the crusher. It would have taken us a good twenty minutes to climb up to the stone crusher, SOME of us had to be carried up not mentioning any names, did you say something Sharon?. The men and the bullocks that pulled up that machinery must have been tough. After returning down the mountain back to the cars, stopping for a drink we then proceeded across two more river crossings when Lutz's YELLOW BANANA (Nissan 720) decided to stop for a drink in the middle of the river and for some reason diesel engines don't take to water in their air intakes. After getting a TUG to tow him out and removing the gold fish from the air filter we removed the fuel injectors to ensure that there was no water in the cylinders. Whilst this was happening a sudden lunch stop was proclaimed and the snags were put on the bar-b-que. After lunch it was found that we did not have a bucket to carry water to douse the fire but one of our bush experts filled his ten gallon hat and did the job. (Fine work Gary) We proceeded up the Bulltown spur with many eyes on the inclinometer, then along Collingwood Spur (not to be confused with a footy club) which had some MAGIC views and a very interesting exit. Along to Talbotville and met up with other W.P. Club members, Saw the remains of the Talbotville graveyard, then back to camp at 1500hrs (3 pm) Not bad for a short morning trip!

SUNDAY 29th. December.

Depart 0700 hrs to Talbotville, then to Pioneer racecourse via a six foot deep (Well it seemed like that) river crossing and all got through, left along Station track, then right along Jeep track to Mount Cynthia and the start of the Wonnagatta-Moroka National park. After admiring more MAGIC views we proceeded to Wombat Spur But wait there is a delay, our tail ender has got a puncture so the wheel was changed. (New set of tyres maybe Gary ?) Whilst travelling on Wombat spur Peter ,a keen gardener started growing instant tree branches from his Toyota's roof, inside that is. After we passed Sugar

Daves snatchum strep did the trick. Then Peter's Toyota crossed and made it look easy. Our guest, Tom from the Victorian 4 W Club thought he would show us how it was done but with much bashing and ado he had to eat humble pie and be pulled out. Also so did the rest of the convoy.

We stopped to look for a camp site but were not impressed so the vote was to move on until a more suitable site was found, At the fourteenth river crossing (old hat by now) Dave made the crossing and warned the Pajero to keep to the right as there was a big rock in the middle. Guess who should have hogged the right bank, The Pajero at one stage was crossing quite happily when it appeared to be bodily lifted, turned and ended up facing down stream stuck firmly to what turned out to be a great big log resting ~~3/4~~ ^{3/4} across the crossing exit. A squeaky voice came across the C.B. calling "HELP" Now my wife Iris suggested that she get out so that the vehicle had less weight on the low side, I don't suppose that a foot of water inside had anything to do with the offer! We were towed back and backed out from whence we came. Now some of you may not believe this but the reason I stopped in the middle of the river was to find a camp site which turned out to be a nice spot 30 metres before the crossing. (Thanks Paul) We pitched camp, Had dinner and there weren't too many stayers that night.


FRIDAY 27th. December.

Today Dave and Gary set off for Talbotville and Winchester to erect Westernport 4.W. club signs so that members arriving could find the camp site. The rest of the day was spent erecting the DIP-STICK and the O-RING Dunne's, Great engineering feats, also great fun was had explaining the derivations of Dip-Stick and O-RING! Then came the "Fait Au Complaiss" The bush shower with hot running water (Well we had to run and fetch the hot water). Just as good as home sweet home. By the time we had cut up fire wood, made the fire place and erected the hot water boiler, dried out the Pajero from yesterdays swim it was tea time and a pleasant time around the fire. At around 8-30 P.M. we hear a call for the W.P. 4 wheel club on the C.B. It was Paul with his family and camper trailer at Talbotville. Hang on five minutes and we'll be with you was the reply! Paul was escorted across the four river crossings, it was probably as well it was dark or Paul might not have been as brave in day light!

*****Dargo-Talbotville trip report*****

TUESDAY 31st. December

Much activity in camp this morning, assembling the spit with ingenious tensioning devices for the 12 volt belt driven motor and many experienced chefs on hand.

Whilst all this activity was going on yours truly led a trip to Dargo for sight seeing and to get some stores. We departed at 1100 hrs across the four river crossings to Talbotville, up McMillans Track to Grant and joined the main road to Dargo. Called in at the main Milk bar, then on to the caravan park store (well worth a visit) which is shaded by a magnificent walnut tree. Inside there are photos displayed of a past era when men were men and ladies didn't have dishwashers and microwave cookers! It's a lot easier by 4 Wheel drive than by bullock train. The store it turned out was run by as Iris Scott which also happens to be my wife's name so Val had great delight in introducing the two Iris Scott's. Then on to the Dargo cemetery where my wife nearly trod on a broken tree branch. Shreek ! The branch moved, it turned out to be a six foot (and that's not exaggerating) snake and what's more the cheeky snake went into my grave, Well it was the grave of a John Scott. I told my wife I definitely don't want to be buried with snakes to keep me company. Val was ready to run at fifty feet away, I'm not sure which way. P.S. We all were. 

After Dargo we headed towards London Stores Corner to meet Paul who had been to get some mechanical stores, then back via the Crooked River road. More MAGIC and MAGIC VALUE Views! Whilst parking for a look at one of these views a certain Toyota parked his vehicle with one wheel in a hole. It looks funny to see a Toyota parked at an angle of 25° on the side of the road Paul. With a few able bodies on the high side he got himself clear.

We called in to a Worm farm which also had some pigs (sty: type) and a lot of land, then back across some more river crossings (Some deepish ones) and home at 1730 hrs to the smell of succulent lamb on the spit.

Whilst we had been away enjoying ourselves the lads back at camp had been busy cooking the lamb, chopping wood, erecting lights and setting up generators. In other words put in a lot of hard work to make New Years Eve a success which it certainly was. The lamb was very tasty and was followed by dancing, drinks and much frivolity, in other words a great evening.

*****Dargo-Talbotville Trip Report*****

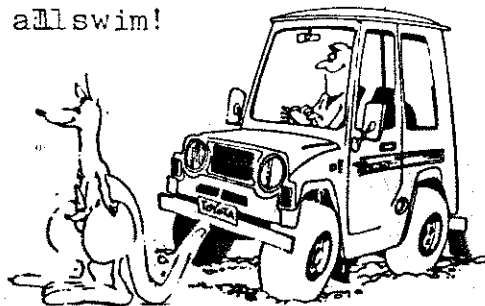
loaf Track we stopped for smoko at 1030 hrs. When we arrived at the top of Wombat and Herne Spurs it was like Burke Street. Four wheel drives and trail bikes everywhere! On the way towards Wonnagatta we arrived at the bog holes(may be I should have said mud holes) At the first one I had visions of the Pajero sinking never to be seen again. Still we all managed to get through even if the Pajero required a couple of tries at getting out. A bit futher on our leader, Dave is caught by a small but deceptively deep bog hole and for a while was precariously balanced at 35° (with photos to prove it) and eventually managed to winch himself out.

Peter's Toyota was the next casualty trapped in another bog hole. Peter was in his element here, He loved playing in the mud! A few more got stuck including the Pajero I suppose I must admit. We arrived at Wonnagatta, had a look at where the homestead used to be. Also at the memorial to the young couple killed on the Widow maker hill. It certainly looked dangerous. It appears that earth walls have been bulldozed across the tracks which should deter the foolhardy.

We found a nice spot to camp by the Wonnagatta river about 1700 hrs. (5 pm.)

Next morning we were up at six and departed at 0800 hrs. We turned right to Myrtleford up Z track, right along Rileys Track and stopped before Water Spur for a brake reline or was it a brake adjustment Peter? After passing over Water Spur I realised why the brake adjustment was necessary.

Then along Sarah Spur Track to Guy's hut where we stopped for lunch and more MAGIC views. Down Ti Tree Spur to Pioneer Racecourse and back to camp again. Whilst we were away Bernd who stayed behind to look after camp and entertain John who came up for the weekend had erected the canvas awning which was much appreciated as we had Melbourne weather for that one night when it poured down. That same evening Dave, and Gary went to Dargo to get the lamb for the New years eve spit and arrived back at about 0230 next morning. That night I found that the Pajero was not the only thing to leak, the tent did the same, Still we can allswim!



*****DARGO/TALBOTVILLE TRIP REPORT*****

Like Cinderella my report must finish at midnight as Peter would never forgive me if I pinched some of his report time! I think I can speak for everyone that we had a great time and personally I found the trip very educational four wheel driving wise. As Dave mentioned on New Year's Eve everyone had mucked in to help and it was very pleasing to see our younger members (Not old cronies like me) being so helpful and well mannered. Last but not least thanks to Dave for a MAGIC trip, and to Gary whose help and equipment were invaluable.

VEHICLES ON TRIP INCLUDING THE PEOPLE WHO DRIVE THEM

DAVE & VAL HOCKING.....Toyota Tray
 BERND GAEDICKE.....Nissan Patrol
 LUTZ, INGE GAEDICKE with son ANDREW & friend SHARON...Datsun 720
 PAUL & MARGARET MATTOCK with KIDS.....Landcruiser
 GARY NASH.....Toyota S.W.B.
 JOHN & IRIS SCOTT & son DANNY.....Pajero
 PETER (jnr) VLASVELD & CRAIG.....Toyota S.W.B.
 PETER'S friend PAUL & MICHAEL.....Toyota S.W.B.

Also from the Victorian Four Wheel Club

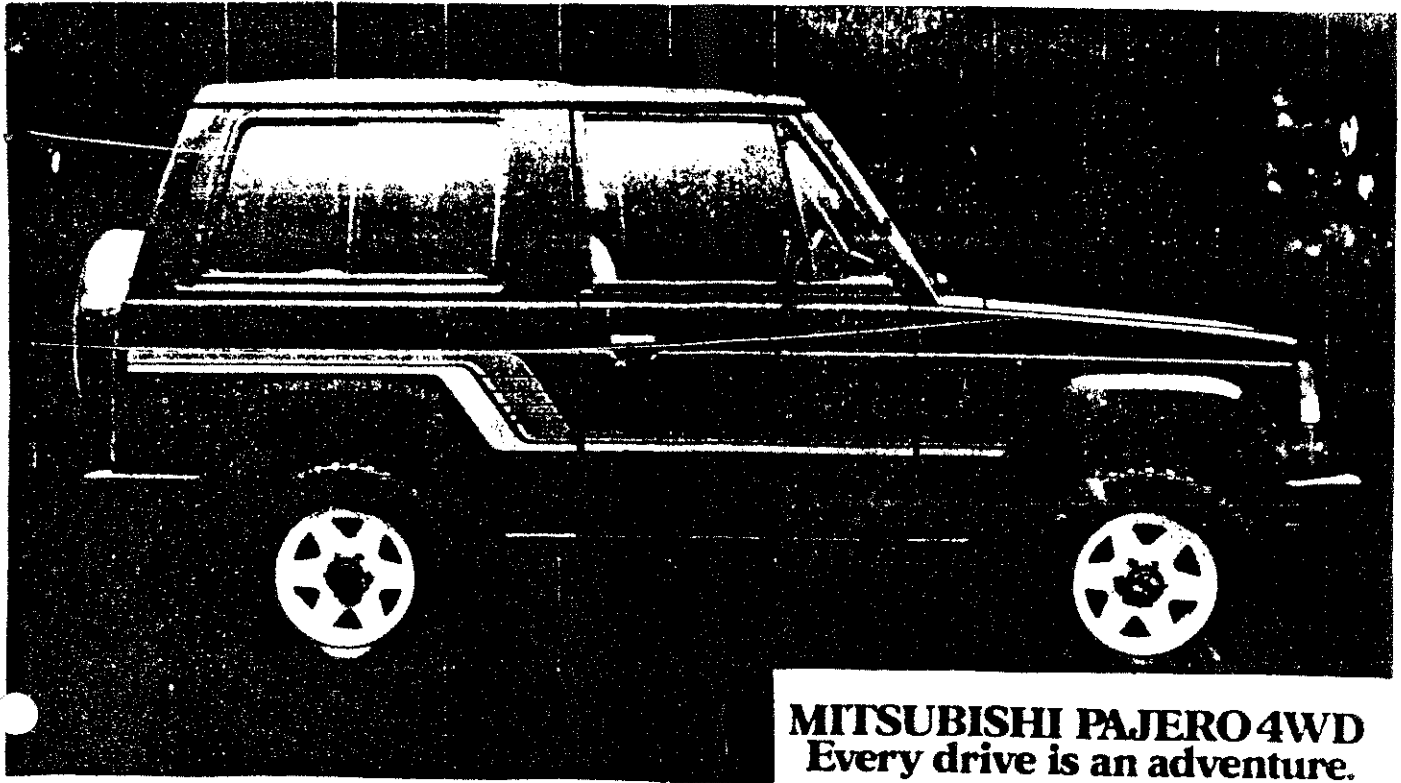
TOM BRACKNELL & FAMILY.....Red HiLux
 PETER PINK & FAMILY.....Blue HiLux
 BRIAN TUCK & FAMILY.....Yellow HiLux

And of course not forgetting our friend and good samaritan who brought up those lovely fresh food goodies when he came up for the weekend:-

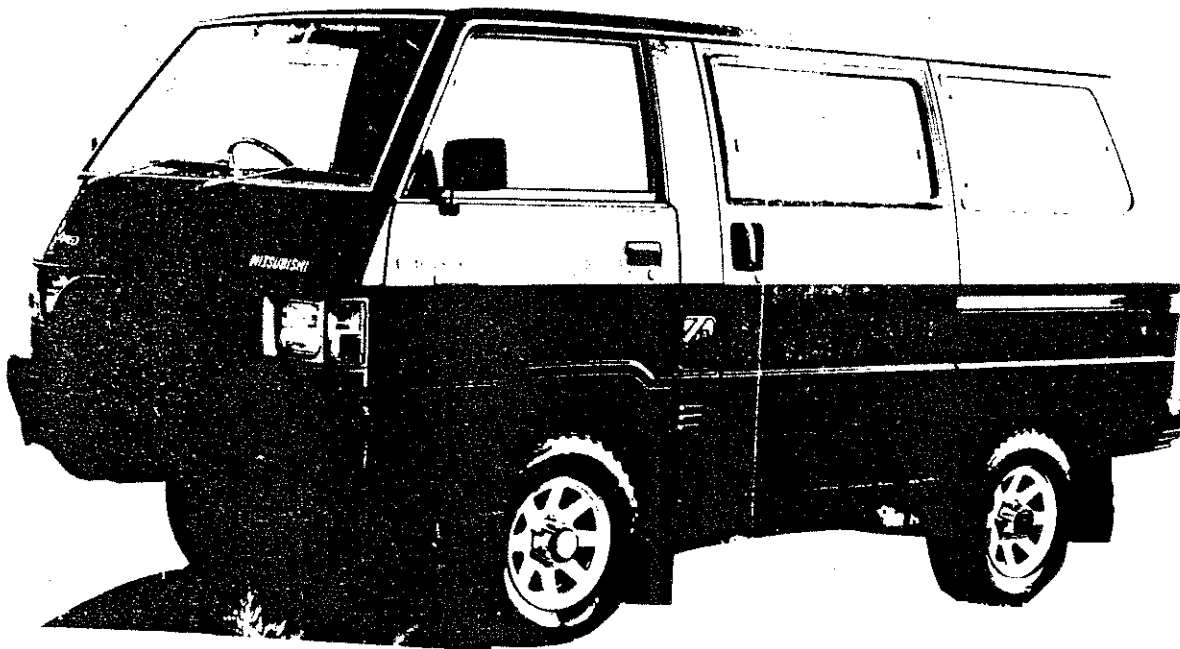
JOHN JACKEL.....Toyota HiLux.

I hope I hav'nt missed anything or anybody out ; JOHN F SCOTT.





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Campbellfield, 3061
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