



Free Wheeling

Official Newsletter of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club

Registration No A0002184F

JULY 2007



The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc is an affiliated club of the
Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc (VAFWDC)

www.vafwdc.org.au

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President	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Vice President	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Treasurer	Craig Major	0432 876 699
Secretary	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Assistant Secretary	Derek Hymas	0438 259 605
Trip Coordinator	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Events Coordinator		
Training Coordinator	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
Newsletter Editor	Julie Capper	0411 530 464
Association Delegate	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Training Officers	Mark Kochan	0412 544 668
	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
	John Partridge	0428 331 211
	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
New Member Contact	Mark Capper	0411 530 484
Web Manager	Anthony Van Buiten	0413 784 074
Librarian		

Forward Articles & Photos for the Newsletter to:-

editor@vfwdc.com

Please forward all contributions prior to the 20th of each month

CLUB DETAILS

Registered Name:	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
Registration No:	A002184F
All Correspondence:	The Secretary VFWDC Inc PO Box 778 Dandenong Vic 3173
Web Site:	www.vfwdc.com
Meetings:	Held first Tuesday of each month excluding January (no meeting). The November meeting is held on the 2 nd Tuesday of the month due to Melbourne Cup public holiday.
Location:	Dandenong Library Stuart Street, Dandenong 3175

The opinions given herein are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Committee of Management, or the Member body of the VFWDC Inc

President's Report

Hello and welcome to another month of *Free Wheeling*.

Winter may be here but the trips keep coming. There is a fantastic array of trips in this month's calendar – from an easy day trip to the more adventurous, social and Paul's GPS/computer navigation setup night. It is great we still see the endeavours of members making the effort to organise the trips, so please support their hard work by attending one or two. There is a proficiency training course organized for the new members and for those who wish to brush up on their driving skills. Final details are being tied up, but all information will be in the newsletter. Anthony has a great navigation day that will put those skills to the test. If you are like me and not familiar with all those fancy electronic devices that tell you are lost, don't worry because you will also be able to use a map!

John has organised a tour of the ARB manufacturing facilities for the November meeting which will be held on the second Tuesday (13th). Due to time constraints, we will be starting the meeting at 7.00pm as the tour starts at 7.30pm and will go for approximately three hours. While the meeting itself is no problem, the tour has a limitation of 35 adults, and children under 16 are not permitted due to safety policies. If you wish to attend, please register your name in the trip book at the meeting or contact John directly.

We are in the midst of updating the website to make it more user friendly. While people have praised the site (thanks to Anthony) it is time to freshen it up. The main areas will be the photo section which will become thumb nails and will be updated on a regular basis. This will enable you to see more photos from past trips, other than those printed in the newsletter. We hope this will be completed by August.

We are still looking for a newsletter editor. Julie has done a fantastic job, but unfortunately due to work commitments she has to step down from the position. If you think you would be interested please call me to discuss. It is not a difficult job and can be very rewarding; you could even add your own flair to it.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the date for the AGM dinner has been changed to August 11th. Please ensure you include your name in the trip attendance book ASAP to help us plan the night. If you are unable to attend a meeting before the night, please call or email me with attendance numbers for your party.

Liz Beaton is currently competing in the World Masters Judo Championships in Brazil and we wish her every success. Liz successfully won medals at the last championships and will no doubt bring home a few more. All the best Liz.

See you on the next trip – or at the next meeting.

Ashley Martin
President

Minutes of the General Meeting – 5 June 2007

The meeting was held at Dandenong Library and opened by President Ashley Martin who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present:

There were 23 members present as per the attendance book.

Apologies:

Phillip Griffiths
Ray & Dawn Brown
Maxine Ryan
Leigh & Anne Pettigrew
David & Rosalie Hughes
Verrille Rodger
Jill Boyle
Lesley Peters
Derek & Janet Hymas
Mark & Julie Capper
Paula Johnston
Annie Simpson
Liz Beaton
Steven Pitcher
Aline Van Buiten.

Visitors:

Linda & Warren Coutts
Andy Davis

Minutes of the May meeting:

Accepted: Carl Surtees
Seconded: Tim Axtell

Matters Arising:

Nil

Correspondence in:

Overland Cruising
Otway Four Wheeler
LROCV Newsletter
Cross Country Jeep Club
Pajero Club
Association: Public Liability Insurance Renewal
Trackwatch
Goulburn Valley 4WD Club – Muddakhana
Horsham Rural council – Angry Anderson's Simpson Safari
4WD Escape Tag-along tours 2007 Itinerary
Telstat Communications Radio & Nav club day 22 July.
Coastline Autumn 2007
Network News April 2007
Licola Wilderness Village

Correspondence Out:

Track Survey of Tamboritha/Moroka Area
Letter of apology to Jim Kennedy at Black Spur Inn for cancellation of 1st Aid Course
Membership Renewals

Committee Election Nomination forms
Submission to Inquiry into Impact of Public Land Management on Bushfires in Victoria
Association ENews
Club Newsletter
Notification of EAGM June 2007

Treasurer's Report:

Accepted: Chris Jennings
Seconded: Michael Rodger

The Treasurer's report for the period 1 April to 31 May 2007 was as follows:

Opening Balance:

Cheque account	\$1856.58
Term Deposit	\$5905.44

	\$7762.02

Receipts	\$387.01
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Payments	\$358.27
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Closing Balance:

Cheque account	\$1885.32
Term Deposit	\$5905.44
Petty Cash	\$ 257.20

	\$8047.96

Tea duties:

Steve Boyle & George Pledger
Thank you ☺

Raffle: 1st Prize: Wine won by Gary Smith
2nd Prize: Chair won by Warren Coutts
3rd Prize: Laptop Adapter won by Steve Boyle

Guest Speakers

Trevor Buck, RF Industries.
Many thanks to Trevor who gave a very informative speech about UHF antennas and solar panels.

Trip Coordinators Report

- 11 June: Queens Birthday – Paradise Valley (Paul Ryan) or Murray River (Leigh Pettigrew – Trip Full)
- 24 June: Larbertouche – Tim Axtell will be leading his first trip in this area with the date to be published in the next newsletter. The trip will be of medium standard and hopefully take in some of the sights as he goes.

- 30 June: Mt Disappointment/Tallarook – John advised this trip will be run over a weekend starting at Mt Disappointment. Camping Saturday will most likely be at Mt Dissa and traveling to Tallarook on the Sunday. The trip will take in some good tracks around both areas.
- 10 July: OziExplorer training night – Paul
- 15 July: Toolangi – Medium – Craig Major
- 27-29 July: Strathbogies – Ashley will be leading a trip here in July to explore the tracks further.
- 24-26 August: Snow Trip – Ashley. Probably into the Licola area.

John also reiterated some of the points/etiquette when attending trips such as informing the trip leader of your attendance, turning up on time, submitting trip reports on time etc.

Events Coordinators Report

18 August: AGM Dinner – this will be at Ellinis Greek Restaurant in Oakleigh.

Trips Reports:

Held over until July meeting.

Association Report:

- Nil this month.

General Business:

- Craigs Hut – request for EOI for volunteers to become involved in the Stakeholder group.
- Membership renewals – by July please
- Upcoming elections – please have a think about who you would like to represent the club on the committee
- Library Items – if you have any outstanding library items then can you please hand them in at next meeting.
- Editors Position – Julie is unable to continue in the position due to work commitments. If anyone is interested in taking on the position then can they please let the committee know asap.

Meeting Closed: 10.15pm

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 3rd July 2007 at 8.00pm at Dandenong Library

Minutes of the Extraordinary Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc

Held on Tuesday 5 June 2007 at Dandenong Library

The Extraordinary AGM opened at 10.15pm and was chaired by Ashley Martin, President.

Members Present:

23 as per attendance book.

Apologies:

Phillip Griffiths
Ray & Dawn Brown
Maxine Ryan
Leigh & Anne Pettigrew
David & Rosalie Hughes
Verylle Rodger
Jill Boyle
Lesley Peters
Derek & Janet Hymas
Mark & Julie Capper
Paula Johnston
Annie Simpson
Liz Beaton
Steven Pitcher
Aline Van Buiten.

Minutes of AGM Meeting 2 August 2005

A copy of the minutes which were not available at the August 2006 AGM were distributed prior to the meeting.

Accepted: Michael Rodger
Seconded: Ian Webber

Matters Arising:

Nil

Treasurer's Report

Accepted: Michael Rodger
Seconded: Tim Axtell

The following report was given for consideration by the members:

STATEMENT OF TRANSACTIONS THROUGH BENDIGO CLUB CHEQUE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 01.07.2005 to 30.06.2006

Balance as at 01.07.2005	\$1,562.58
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Add deposits:

Advertising	\$100.00
Donation Ritchies Community Benefits	\$142.23
Membership	\$3,860.00
Raffles	\$508.50
Sales	\$237.00
Social	\$1,476.00
	\$6,323.73

Deduct Payments:

Association Fees	\$1,156.00
Audit Fees	\$660.00
Bank Charges	\$42.90
Insurance	\$562.50
Petty Cash inc. Postage	\$681.70
PO Box Fee	\$95.00
Raffle Prizes	\$55.00
Rent – Dandenong Library	\$594.00
Social	\$1,908.74
Toner	\$366.30
Uniforms	\$117.35
	\$6,240.09

Balance as at 30.06.2006 \$1,646.22

Term Deposit balance as at 01.07.2005 \$5452.83

Term Deposit balance as at 30.06.2006 \$5670.47

Matters Arising:

Nil

Appointment of Auditor:

Mr. Roger Baird was appointed as Auditor for the 2006/07 Financial Year.

Meeting Closed:

10.20pm

VFWDC MERHCANDISE

For Sale

New Club Polo Shirts	\$25.00 ea
Polar Fleece ½ Zip Jumper	\$36.00 ea
Polar Fleece Full Zip Jumper	\$48.00 ea
Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$42.00 ea
New Club Caps	\$15.00 ea
30 th Anniversary Travel Mugs	\$15.00 ea
Flags	\$15.00 ea
VFWDC Stickers (long)	\$ 6.00 ea
Stubbie Holders	\$ 6.00 ea

Sign yourself up as a Yahoo User at

<http://groups.yahoo.com>

(There is no charge for this service)



Then go to

<http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/vfwdc>

Click on “Join this group”.

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Contact Mark Kochan on 0412 544 668

Wanted

Newsletter Editor



If you are interested in taking on the role of Newsletter Editor, please contact

Ashley Martin (president@vfwdc.com)
or Julie Capper (editor@vfwdc.com)

Full assistance will be given during the hand over.

NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

The November Club meeting will be held at the ARB factory on Tuesday 13th of November.

We will be taken on a full tour of the ARB factory. Due to the size of the factory the tour will start at 7.15PM sharp.

Please ensure you arrive by 7.00PM

We are restricted to 35 members only, 16 years and above. It will be first in best dressed.

A form will be available at the next few meetings for members to put their name on.

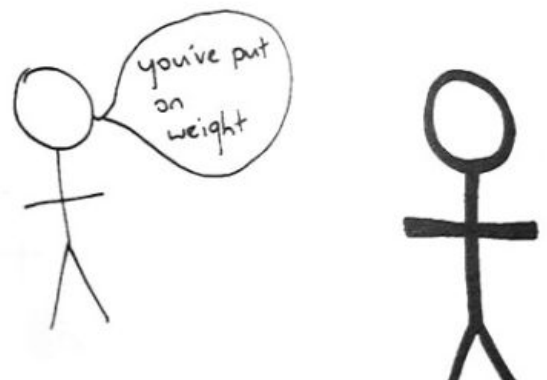
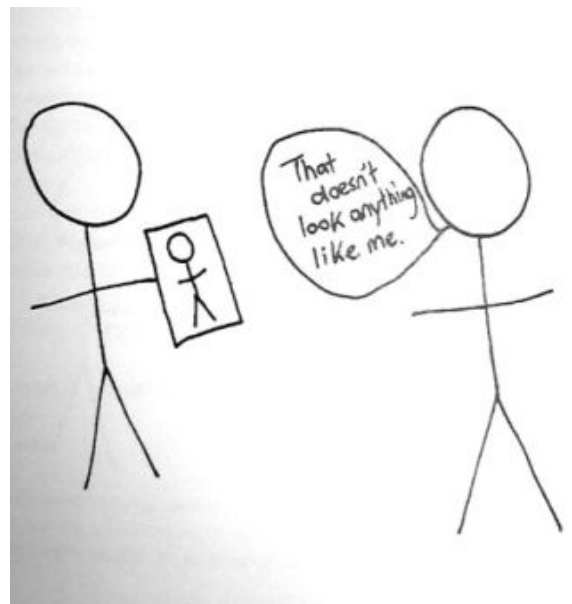
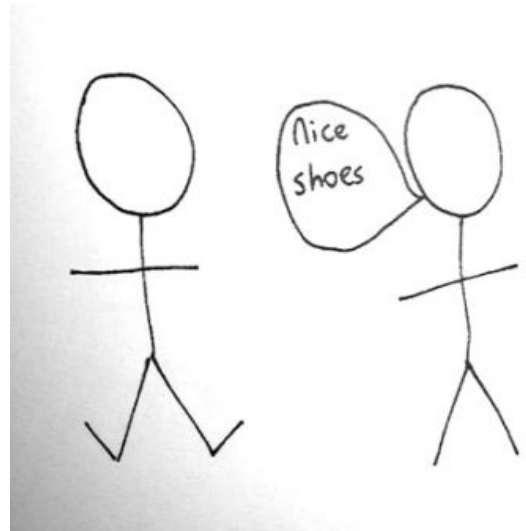


John Partridge
Trip Coordinator

Stick Humour



Aw C'mon... SMILE!





CLUB CALENDER AT A GLANCE

JULY

Tuesday 3 rd	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 10 th	OziExplorer, Laptop & GPS Setup (Proposed)	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148
Sunday 15 th	Toolangi Day Trip	Craig Major	0432 876 699
Tuesday 17 th	Committee Meeting	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
Friday 27 th to Sunday 29 th	Strathbogies	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904

AUGUST

Tuesday 7 th	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Saturday 11 th	AGM Dinner	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Friday 24 th to Sunday 26 th	Annual Snow Trip – Licola & beyond	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 21 st	Committee Meeting	TBA	TBA
Friday 31 st	Aberfeldy Night Run	John Partridge	0428 331 211

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 4 th	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Wednesday 12 th	Proficiency Training (Theory)	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
Saturday 15 th to Sunday 16 th	Proficiency Training (Practical)	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
Tuesday 18 th	Committee Meeting	TBA	TBA

OCTOBER

Tuesday 2 nd	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 16 th	Committee Meeting	TBA	TBA

The Cooks Corner



Beef Stew

- 1kg stew beef
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 4 tablespoons oil
- 1 can cream of celery soup
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 2 cups water
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce

Cut stew beef into cubes

Combine flour, salt, pepper, paprika & onion powder.

Coat beef cubes with flour mixture.

Brown beef in 4 tablespoons oil & place in camp oven.

Pour the remaining ingredients over beef in camp oven. Stir. Cook slowly until ready.

NOTICE

Club Library

It has come to notice that we are missing books and DVDs from the Club's Library. Most of the items have been gratefully donated by members, companies or purchased by the Club. These items are there for the benefit of all members, but because they have not been returned, members are missing out.

Could you therefore please search for any items you may have in your possession and return them ASAP. If you do have any library items and are unable to make it to a meeting, please contact one of the committee members and we will arrange for them to be collected.

Thanks you for your co-operation

Ashley Martin

Forthcoming Trips

Destination	OziExplorer, Laptop & GPS Setup (Proposed)
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Trip Leader	Paul Ryan
Contact No	0438 121 148
Date	Tuesday 10 th July
Meeting Place	Valcor, Notting Hill
Time	TBA
Grade	WET: N/A DRY: N/A

Trip Activity Details

Hopefully we can run through individual setups, getting the whole thing to work with moving maps and a few tips on how to use the basics in OziExplorer. You'll need to bring your own laptop, GPS, means of connecting the two together and whatever other stuff you may have. You may also need a notebook and pen.

Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
Approximate Km's	N/A
Late Fuel Available	PETROL: N/A DIESEL: N/A
Equipment Required	Laptop running Windows 95 or greater with CD / DVD ROM, GPS with necessary cable connection, patience
Maps Required	N/A
Radio Channel CB/UHF	N/A

Destination	Toolangi
-------------	----------

Trip Leader	Craig Major
Contact No	0432 876 699
Date	Sunday 15 th July
Meeting Place	Lilydale McDonalds
Time	8.30am
Grade	WET: Medium DRY: Medium

Trip Activity Details

We will be looking at a variety of medium tracks around Toolangi. I hope to make it up to Cheviot Railway Tunnel and make a few scenic stops along the way. A good set of all-terrains would be recommended.

Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 10
Approximate Km's	100
Late Fuel Available	Lilydale
Equipment Required	Basic recovery gear
Maps Required	TBA
Radio Channel CB/UHF	12

Destination	Strathbogies
-------------	--------------

Trip Leader	Ashley Martin
Contact No	0438 600 904
Date	Friday 27 th - Sunday 29 th July
Meeting Place	Lilydale McDonalds
Time	6.30pm Friday
Grade	WET: Medium DRY: Easy/Medium

Trip Activity Details

As it will no doubt be a cold weekend this will be one for the brave hearts. The plan is to drive and reccy as many of the tracks as possible. I am not sure what we will come across but there will no doubt be an array of different terrain to cover. Camping will be at James Camping Reserve which is an easy 45 minutes from Bonnie Doon.

Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 10
Approximate Km's	150
Late Fuel Available	PETROL: Bonnie Doon DIESEL: Bonnie Doon
Equipment Required	Basic recover equipment
Maps Required	N/A
Radio Channel CB/UHF	12

Destination	Annual Snow Trip – Licola & beyond
-------------	------------------------------------

Trip Leader	Ashley Martin
Contact No	0438 600 904
Date	Friday 24 th – Sunday 26 th August
Meeting Place	Officer Weight Bridge
Time	TBA
Grade	WET: Medium DRY: Easy

Trip Activity Details

With a disappointing snow season last year we will be hoping for a bumper this year. The early falls of snow is an encouraging sign and hopefully this will continue through winter.

Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: N/A MAXIMUM: N/A
Approximate Km's	150
Late Fuel Available	PETROL: Licola DIESEL:
Equipment Required	Basic recover equipment. Warm clothes essential
Maps Required	N/A
Radio Channel CB/UHF	12

Destination	Aberfeldy Night Run
-------------	---------------------

Trip Leader	John Partridge
Contact No	0428 331 211
Date	Friday 31 st August
Meeting Place	Officer Weigh Bridge
Time	6.00pm Sharp
Grade	WET: Very Hard DRY: Hard

Trip Activity Details

This will be an "A Grade" standard night run tackling the hardest tracks available to us in the Aberfeldy area making camp in the early hours in the morning where ever we end up. Likely Merringtons camping ground.
This trip is only available the members with suitable vehicles and the experience to match. This will be to the discretion of the trip leader. Mud terrain type tyres with adequate tread depth mandatory.
There may be seats available for passengers. Contact me for further details.

Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 6
Approximate Km's	150km's
Late Fuel Available	Moe
Equipment Required	All recovery gear, diff locks and winches. Basic camping gear
Maps Required	TBA
Radio Channel CB/UHF	12

Destination	Proficiency Training Merringtons
-------------	-------------------------------------

Trip Leader	Michael Rodger
Contact No	0412 530 666
Date	Theory: Wednesday 12 September Practical: Saturday 15 th to Sunday 16 th September
Meeting Place	TBA
Time	TBA
Grade	WET: Medium DRY: Medium

Trip Activity Details

This is a must do course for anyone wanting to learn to safely use their 4WD.
The theory night will cover all of the basic driving techniques and recovery. The practical will put all of this in place and cover various terrains including steep hills, rocks and river crossings. Expect possible cold and wet weather, bring appropriate clothing. Vehicles must be in satisfactory road worthy condition, front and rear recovery points.

Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 10
Approximate Km's	150km's
Late Fuel Available	Moe
Equipment Required	Basic camping gear, basic recovery gear
Maps Required	No maps required
Radio Channel CB/UHF	12

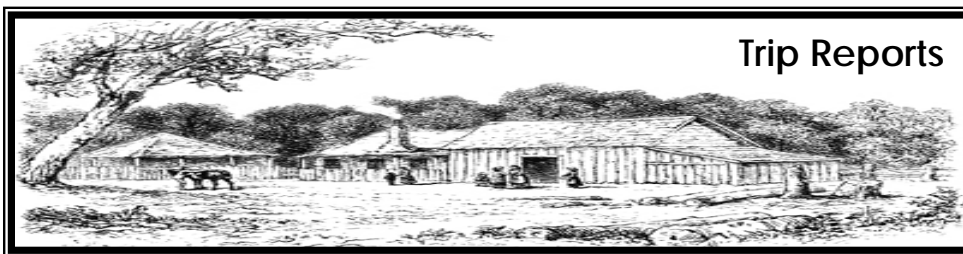
Trip Guidelines for VFWDC Inc

- A completed Trip Data Form needs to be forward onto the Trip Coordinator as early as possible.
 - This needs to be done for recce trips and all club trips.
 - Forms can be emailed to trips@vfwdc.com
- Trip Data Forms need to be approved by the Trip Coordinator for a trip to be an official club trip and to be covered by the clubs insurance.
- It is the responsibility of the trip participant to contact the trip leader to confirm their attendance and time of departure a week before the trip.
- Every participant should ensure that their vehicle is prepared for the trip they are attending and that they have a full tank of fuel.
- At the start of the trip, the trip leader must appoint a **tail end charlie** and a **trip scribe**.
- Once the trip as been completed their trip leader must email the Trip Coordinator, the Newsletter Editor and the trip scribe; a list of attendees, and notification on who will be writing the trip report.
- Trip report is to be completed and submitted to the newsletter editors within two weeks. Trip reports can be emailed to editor@vfwdc.com

We have endeavoured to keeps this down to a few simple rules to ensure every one is clear on what is expected of them and the smooth running of club trips.



Trip Coordinator John Partridge
--



Trip Reports

Noojee

Sunday 3 June

Participants:

John Partridge & Rudi Polleti	GQ Patrol
Carl & Bethany Surtees, Andy	GQ Patrol
Paul Ryan	80 Series
Mark Kochan	60 Series
Steve & Michael Boyle	80 Series
Ashley Martin	GU Patrol

It wasn't too early a start to the day, meeting at Pakenham Maccas at 8.30am. John had Rudi on board and as he knows the area very well he was going to take us to some of the tracks used during his NavRun events.

We were on the road and with a little encouragement, the banter had started; as usual it was Carl and Steve in the middle of it. With the recent work done to Carl's injector pump resulting in a lack of soot this was the main focus of the banter. This continued for a little while before Paul's dry humour stepped in with "there may be not soot but the smell of bull**** is still the same". That hit the nail right on the head.

We reached the first track and took the time to air down before continuing. Everyone seemed to admire the new bling bits Steve has on the front end. It was brighter under the vehicle than the lights at the MCG. The first few tracks were no problem thanks to the recent dozing in the area. We came to the first challenge of the day. The track split into two with the right side rutted with a few holes along the way, the left section was reasonably good but wet with a couple of tree roots protruding. John was on the left section having problems with traction but after a little persistence made it up. Carl being Carl had several attempts on the RHS but eventually resorted to the easier side only to have problems here. The X Terrains did not have the grip in the wet but with assistance from the new power machine he eventually made it up. John was also having problems ahead but managed to get over this. Next was Mark who made it over the worst of it before coming to a sudden stop courtesy of a tree. Thankfully the bullbar took the impact and it was only slightly bent! Carl was having problems on the second section and eventually required winching. Steve and I made it through ok and joined up with the group.

Carl discovered he had busted a front CV joint which required attending to. To his luck, John had just bought a spare which he had on board. After a little bargaining, Carl stripped the hub down and replaced the joint. While this was happening we had lunch and watched.



Back on the tack we came to the next obstacle – a bog hole in which John appeared to be stuck. The mud was deep and thick with no alternative but to winch him out. As Carl was behind him with the winch, we recovered him out backwards. John took the diversion track but Carl decided to enter the bog hole and winch himself out. Mark also took the alternative track only to make friends with another tree; fortunately this time no damage was done. A little winching later Mark was clear of the section. Paul and Steve winched themselves through the bog hole while I took the alternative track. The exit of the alternative track was very slippery and we had no alternative but to exit in the wrong direction and reverse to a clearing to turn around. Oh, did I mention Mark meeting with another tree at this point. I seem to recall that song while watching this, "George, George, George of the jungle watch out for that **TREE**".



Continuing on, Paul came over the radio and announced that Steve had coolant pouring from the radiator. The fan had somehow put a large hole in the radiator and after a patch up they met up with the main group. As time was getting on we decided to make our way out.

Returning to the main road we stopped to air up. Steve still had problems with the radiator so he decided to head home. As the rest of the group made its way along we thought we had come across Puffing Billy – no, sorry it was Steve with the bonnet up and steam billowing from the engine bay. Carl decided to stop and follow Steve home. After seven stops he finally made it home.

Although we didn't cover a huge area, we all enjoyed the day and will no doubt explore this region more. Many thanks to John for leading the trip and Rudi for navigating.

Ashley

Paradise Valley, Queen's Birthday Weekend 9 – 11 June

Participants:

Paul, Maxine, Robert, Madeliene & Hamish	80 Series
Ashley & Lesley	GU Patrol
Craig & Marijke	Suzuki
Ashley, Kate, Tex, Nick & Maggie	Voyager

Saturday 9th

Having two Ashley's on a trip can be a bit confusing, some might even say "a nightmare" but all in all it wasn't too bad, even if they are both Collingwood supporters. Anyway for the purposes of this trip report the part of Ashley will be played by Ashley Martin, Ebay scammer and sometime spinster of this parish. The part of Ash' will be played by a friend of mine who was too drunk to say "no" when I asked him if he wanted to come away camping with us over the long weekend.

It was a late-ish start on Saturday morning for some of us as we had been to a footy club trivia night the night before, however it wasn't a long journey and we arrived at Paradise Valley just after lunchtime on Saturday. Ashley & Lesley and Craig & Marijke were already there having left earlier that morning. There really wasn't much to do apart from set up before the rain set in and get ready to gather some firewood. With a stern injunction to the kids to stay away from the river, which at the time was looking like a Bolivian mud slide carrying whole villages before it, the boys went off to gather something that stood a chance of burning. Luckily it's a fairly short trip to the designated area and it wasn't too long before we had cut enough to at least get us through the evening. When we got back to camp Max was wearing a look that normally precedes the fall of empires (generally accompanied by much wailing and gnashing of teeth). As we rounded the tent I began to understand why. Robert isn't normally black from the shoulders down, but on this occasion he was. Seems like our advice re the river had penetrated about as far as a custard bullet. The next hour or so was spent trying to clean a child whilst everyone else got on with drinks. Anyway the evening wore on in the usual fashion and Ashley and I eventually called it a day in the small hours of Sunday morning.

Sunday 10th

The plan was to go for a bit of a drive on Sunday, hopefully taking in Cheyne's Bridge Track and then exploring up towards McEvoy's. Anyone that didn't want to go for a drive was welcome to keep themselves entertained back at camp. I suppose we should have been forewarned by the radio traffic the previous day that seemed to indicate that the tracks might be a bit slippery. Anyway we aired down at Cheyne's Bridge (nice spot to camp if you like motor bikes 24/7) and headed up the track. Like most of the tracks in the area this track has been dozed following the summer bushfires. The result is a fairly thick layer of dust which has been turned into slop following all the recent rain. Anyway about 2/3 of the way up progress went from forwards to sideways.

Ashley had to get the string out to get me back into a position to reverse down the track (rather than the side of the hill) and although it didn't take long to get sorted out the extra 2 inches of tread on the tyres convinced us that things weren't likely to get any better.



So we retraced our steps and made our way back to the main road. Not having much else to do (and most other tracks still being closed) we decided to head into Licola for an Ice Cream before heading back to camp and an early cocktail hour. Fortunately the weather was reasonably good and we had managed to collect plenty of decent firewood while we were out on the track. Sunday night was a virtual repeat of Saturday although everyone was in bed a lot earlier.

Monday 11th

Not much to tell really. The rain set in early and looked like it was staying for the long haul. As there was no way it was going to clear, certainly not long enough to dry things out, we decided to pack up early and head home.

Thanks to everyone who came along and made it a very enjoyable, if slightly damp trip. Sorry there wasn't much driving, but under the circumstances it may have been for the best.

Paul



CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	<i>Toolangi</i>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Craig Major MOB: 0432876699
DATE	Sunday 15th July
MEETING PLACE TIME	Lilydale McDonalds 8.30am
GRADE <i>Please adhere to new trip classifications</i>	WET: Medium DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	We will be looking at a variety of medium tracks around Toolangi. I hope to make it upto Cheviot railway tunnel and make a few scenic stops along the way. A good set of all-terrains would be recommended.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	100
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Lilydale DIESEL: Lilydale
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic recovery gear
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12



CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

Aberfeldy Night Run

DESTINATION	Merringtons Camping Ground
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	John Partridge
DEPARTURE DATE	Friday 31 st August
RETURN	Saturday afternoon
MEETING PLACE	Officer Weigh Bridge
TIME	6.00PM sharp
GRADE	WET Very Hard DRY Hard
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	This will be an "A Grade" standard night run tackling the hardest tracks available to us in the Aberfeldy area making camp in the early hours in the morning where ever we end up. Likely Merringtons camping ground.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM 3 MAXIMUM 6
APPROX KMS (Meeting place to destination)	150Kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL Moe DIESEL Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	150km's max.
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All recovery gear, diff locks and winches. Basic camping gear.
MAPS REQUIRED	TBA
RADIO CHANNEL	CB / UHF 12
Further information	This trip is only available the members with suitable vehicles and the experience to match. This will be to the discretion of the trip leader. Mud terrain type tyres with adequate tread depth mandatory. There may be seats available for passengers. Contact me for further details.



CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

Proficiency Driver Training

DESTINATION	Merringtons Camping Ground
LEADER	Michael Rodger
CONTACT NO.	0412 530 666
DATE	Theory : Wednesday 12 th September
DEPARTURE	Practical : Saturday 15 th September
RETURN	Sunday 16 th September
MEETING PLACE	TBA
GRADE	WET Medium DRY Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	This is a must do course for anyone wanting to learn to safely use their 4WD. The theory night will cover all of the basic driving techniques and recovery. The practical will put all of this in place and covering various terrains including steep hills, rocks and river crossings.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM 4 MAXIMUM 10
APPROX KMS (Meeting place to destination)	150 Km's
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL Moe DIESEL Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	150Kms max.
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic camping gear, basic recovery gear
MAPS REQUIRED	No maps required
RADIO CHANNEL	CB / UHF 12
FURTHER INFORMATION	Expect possible cold and wet weather, bring appropriate clothing. Vehicles must be in satisfactory road worthy condition, front and rear recovery points.



Annual AGM Dinner

Venue

Ellinis Greek Taverna

66 Portman Street, Oakleigh

Date

7.30 pm, Saturday 11 August

Cost

\$40.00 Per Head



This year it's time to put on your traditional Greek costume and join us for a great night of food, wine, and dancing. The menu consists of 6 courses ranging from dips, seafood, meat and dessert. The added bonus is all wine and beer is BYO.



For further information please contact
Ashley Martin on 0438 600 904