



# Free Wheeling

Official Newsletter of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club  
Registration No A0002184F

SEPTEMBER 2007



The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc is an affiliated club of the  
Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc (VAFWDC)  
[www.fwdvictoria.org.au](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au)



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President	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President	John Partridge	0428 331 211	<a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a>
Treasurer	Craig Major	0432 876 699	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com">treasurer@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>

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## GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Assistant Secretary	Lesley Peters		<a href="mailto:asstsec@vfwdc.com">asstsec@vfwdc.com</a>
Trip Co-ordinator	John Partridge	0428 331 211	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Training Co-ordinator	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666	<a href="mailto:training@vfwdc.com">training@vfwdc.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Lesley Peters		<a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>

Association Delegate	John Partridge	0428 331 211	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Training Officers	Mark Kochan	0412 544 668	
	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
	John Partridge	0428 331 211	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666	<a href="mailto:training@vfwdc.com">training@vfwdc.com</a>
New Member Contact	Michael Rodger		
Web Manager	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com.au">secretary@vfwdc.com.au</a>
Librarian			

Forward Articles & Photos for the Newsletter to:

[editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)

Please forward all contributions prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month

## CLUB DETAILS

Registered Name: Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc

Registration No: A002184F

All Correspondence: The Secretary  
Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc  
PO Box 778  
Dandenong Vic 3173

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

Meetings: Held first Tuesday of each month excluding January (no meeting).  
The November meeting is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 year of *Free Wheeling*.

Firstly I would like to thank John, Paul, Craig and Michael for their commitment to another committee year, and also to Lesley for accepting the role of Newsletter Editor for the next 12 months. Although it would be good to have one or two new faces on the general committee, we have an excellent team dedicated to ensuring the Club continues looking forward and builds on its success. Remember, if you have any suggestions or feedback, please feel free to contact me to discuss. We are here on behalf of all members.

The AGM dinner was a great night. There was no shortage of food and some of the more experienced people (Aline) they paced themselves waiting for the seafood while others preferred the carnivore platters. There was even time for the ladies to show their dancing prowess. I'm not sure how much of it was traditional Greek or self-choreographed to look like Greek dancing, but it was worth watching. Unfortunately, the music is traditionally very loud which made it too difficult to give speeches and present awards, in particular the annual *Good Onya* award. This will be presented to the lucky recipient at the September meeting. John has organized a slide show with some of the funnier moments over the past year so please don't miss it.

There has been a lot of talk and articles recently regarding Bio Diesel and we thought this would make for an interesting subject for a guest speaker. I am in the midst of trying to find someone who has the knowledge and time to come to a meeting and discuss the processes and benefits, and answer some of our questions. If you know someone or an organisation that would be able to assist, please contact me with the details. It is the intention to have a speaker at the October meeting and all info will be in the next newsletter.

We have set a date for the Christmas Party: Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December. This year we have decided to change the format and have a day event only. In the past it has become a very long day, particularly for the children, not to mention the parents and the catering crew. The planned venue is *Bimbimbie Wildlife Park*. There will be games and a wildlife tour for the children – and adults if they wish to participate! And of course, a visit from Santa. All details will be in the next newsletter, so please keep this date free and join us for what will be a great day.

As you will see, there is a great array of trips in the calendar, so please check them out and reward the trip leaders by making the effort to participate in one or more.

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

*Ashley Martin*  
President

## Minutes of the General Meeting – 7 August 2007 (Incorporating Annual General Meeting 2007)

The meeting was held at Dandenong Library and opened at 8.15pm by President Ashley Martin who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Present:

Ashley Martin, John Partridge, Paul Ryan, Michael & Verryle Rodger, Lesley Peters, Anthony Van Buiten, Derek & Janet Hymas, George Pledger, Brian Martin, Bas Swaart, Julie Capper, James Holden, Ivan Santurini, Gary Smith, Steve Varty, Gary Johnston, Graeme & Sue Lyne, Mark Kochan, Richard Piotrowski, Pat Casey.

### Apologies:

Maxine Ryan, Dave & Rosalie Hughes, Aline Van Buiten, Mark Capper, Paula Johnston, Bryan West, Bill Harwood, Phillip Griffith, Ray & Dawn Brown

Visitors: Nick Johnson.

### Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Accepted: Michael Rodger  
Seconded: Julie Capper

Matters Arising: Nil

### Correspondence in:

Overland Cruising  
Otway Four Wheeler  
LROCV Newsletter  
Cross Country Jeep Club  
Pajero Club  
Coastline  
Eureka Echo  
ARB 4x4 Action  
Southern Cross Canvas – Sale & Open Day 25<sup>th</sup> August  
Association: Minutes & Reports for June General Meeting  
Parks Victoria: Letter of appreciation for assistance with Track Surveys  
Rays Outdoors: 26.5% Off Sale Dandenong  
Dirty Daze Offroad Adventure Store  
Great Victorian Camp Oven Festival

### Correspondence Out:

Newsletter.  
Notice of AGM, AGM minutes and membership renewal reminder.  
Letter of congratulations to Peter Rowe and Andy Merlo on 30 years with the club.

### Treasurer's Report:

Opening Balance:	\$8313.48
Cheque account:	\$2408.04
Term Deposit	\$5905.44
	-----
Receipts	\$846.00
Payments	\$146.31
Closing Balance:	
Cheque account	\$2620.53
Term Deposit	\$5905.44
Petty Cash	\$ 487.00
	-----
	\$9013.17

Accepted: Lesley Peters  
Seconded: Anthony Van Buiten

Tea duties: Verryle and Lesley. Thanks J

### Trip Coordinators Report:

- AGM Dinner: Sat 11 Aug Ashley
- Snow Trip: 24–26 Aug Ashley
- Ozi Follow up night: 28 Aug Paul
- Toolangi Night Run: 31 Aug John
- Nav Rally – Noojee: Sep 2 Anthony
- Narbethong Day Trip: 9 Sep Paul
- Rodney Fountain Car Rally: 2 Sep Anthony
- Proficiency Training:
  - Wed 12 Sep Theory John
  - Sat 15–Sun 16 Practical John
- Pub 2 Pub: 15–16 Sep Dave & Rosalie
- Wine Trip – Whitfield: 13-14 Oct Ashley
- Fishing Trip: 23-25 Nov Ashley

### Trips Reports:

Toolangi Day Trip: Paul gave a quick report on Craig's day trip. Started on Luke Creek No 2 which everyone negotiated without incident, although Craig was decidedly muddier by the time he got back to his car. We then attempted to get through to Murrindindi via Woodmore Range Track. However after the first 8 cars had been through, the track was impassable. We had lunch at Mt Tanglefoot and then headed through to Cheviot Tunnel and eventually aired up and headed home.

### Association Report:

John reported on damage following floods and in particular damage round the Aberfeldy area. Donnelly's Creek was 6m deep during floods.



Some parts of track completely washed away. River crossings washed out and in some places impassable. Numerous trees down and exits to some river crossings blocked. Rope swing tree at Junction crossing is completely gone. More than half mullock heap at Toombon has been washed away. Stumps of old Toombon Hotel exposed. All info has been documented and passed on to the Association; however it hasn't been passed on yet.

#### General Business:

Ashley read a press release about the rebuilding of Craig's Hut. There seems to be some curious decisions regarding the rebuilding e.g. planning, layout, architects etc. Meeting in next couple of weeks to decide where they go next.

We put in a submission regarding the Bushfire enquiry which was picked up by ABC Radio Gippsland. They asked for our comment which unfortunately we were unable to give.

Other Business: Nil.

Meeting Closed: 9.20pm.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 4 September 2007 at 8.00pm at Dandenong Library

## VFWDC MERCHANDISE

### For Sale

Club Polo Shirts	\$25.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece ½ Zip Jumper	\$36.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jumper	\$48.00 ea
Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$42.00 ea
Club Caps	\$15.00 ea
Travel Mugs	\$ 5.00 ea
VFWDC Stickers (long)	\$ 6.00 ea
Stubbie Holders	\$ 6.00 ea



Four Wheel Drive Radio Show – 10am Saturdays

## NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

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



Melbourne Head Office  
42-44 Garden Street, Kilsyth

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

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".

To keep non members out of the group, your membership will need to be approved.

Any problems email:

[alfantz@optusnet.com.au](mailto:alfantz@optusnet.com.au)



In conjunction with the  
Fishing Show & Outdoor Expo

Melbourne Exhibition Centre  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2007  
Times: Thursday 3pm-9pm  
Friday/Saturday 10am-9pm  
Sunday 10am-6pm

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## Camp Kitchen

### Easy Peasy Creamy Bacon Chicken

#### Ingredients

8 chicken tenderloins  
½ cup mixed spring onion and red capsicum, chopped  
2 rashers bacon  
2 cloves garlic  
200ml cream  
1 tbsp butter  
salt and pepper to taste

#### Method

Cook chicken tenderloins in shallow frypan with butter until just cooked. Remove from pan.  
Cook garlic, bacon and capsicum mix until soft.  
Add cream and cooked chicken and simmer over medium-low heat for 10 mins.  
Add salt and pepper and serve with either boiled rice or roast potatoes.

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# CLUB CALENDER AT A GLANCE

## AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> to Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Toolangi Night Run	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	NavRally	Anthony Van Buiten	0413 784 074
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Day Trip – Narbethong	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Proficiency Training (Theory)	Michael Rodger	0438 600 904
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Proficiency Training (Practical)	Michael Rodger	0438 600 904
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Pub 2 Pub	David Hughes	
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Avoca Weekend	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904

## OCTOBER

Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wine Trip – Whitfield	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Day Trip – Mt Disappointment	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>National 4X4 Show</b>	4WDVic	

## NOVEMBER

Cup Weekend Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> to Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Buffalo River	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	Craig Major	0432 876 699
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Fishing Trip	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904

## DECEMBER

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Christmas Party <i>Bimbimbe Wildlife Park</i>	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> /Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Oxfam Christmas Tree Deliveries</b>	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904



## Forthcoming Trips

Destination	Noojee – NavRally
Trip Leader	Anthony Van Buiten
Contact No	0413 784 074
Date	Sunday 2 September
Meeting Place	Noojee
Time	TBA
Grade	WET: Medium DRY: Medium
Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 4 Teams MAXIMUM: 10 Teams
Approximate Km's	Depends on you
Late Fuel Available	TBC
Equipment Required	Standard recovery gear
Maps Required	Rooftops Maps, Vic Maps and any others you have will be an advantage.
Radio Channel	12
CB/UHF	
Trip Activity Details:	
You can participate on your own or you can team up with another vehicle if you wish. Maximum of two cars per team.	
I will be setting up the event on the Saturday and camping overnight so if anyone wants to come early they are welcome.	

Destination	Narbethong / Toolangi
Trip Leader	Paul Ryan
Contact No	0438 121148
Date	Saturday, 8 September
Meeting Time / Place	8.30am, Lilydale Maccas
Grade	WET: Medium DRY: Easy / Medium
Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
Approximate Km's	
Late Fuel Available	Petrol: Healesville Diesel: Healesville
Equipment Required	Basic Recovery
Maps Required	Rooftops Toolangi Black Range Forest Map
Radio Channel	12
CB/UHF	
Trip Activity Details:	
I am planning on taking a trip out to the Narbethong side of Toolangi State Forest as this is a place we don't often get to. The plan is to take it easy and explore the area so we shouldn't be tackling anything too hard. However, like a lot of the tracks in the area, it can become greasy when wet so please bring basic recovery gear.	

Destination	Proficiency Training Tallarook
Trip Leader	Michael Rodger
Contact No	0412 530 666
Date	Theory: Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September Practical: Saturday 15 to Sunday 16 September
Meeting Time / Place	TBC
Grade	WET: Medium DRY: Medium
Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 10
Late Fuel Available	Moe

Equipment Required	Basic camping gear, basic recovery gear.
Maps Required	No maps required
Radio Channel	12
CB/UHF	
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 roadworthy condition, front and rear recovery points.	

Destination	Mystery Pub-to-Pub
Trip Leader	David & Rosalie Hughes
Contact No	
Date	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> September to Sunday 16 September
Meeting Place	TBA
Time	TBA
Grade	WET: Easy DRY: Easy
Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 12
Approximate Km's	
Late Fuel Available	TBA
Equipment Required	Sense of humour, basic recovery gear and a stubby holder
Maps Required	N/A
Radio Channel	12
CB/UHF	
Trip Activity Details:	
Travelling anywhere to an unknown destination. Just a fun weekend with a few surprises along the way. Morning and afternoon tea provided.	

Destination	Whitfield – Winery Weekend
Trip Leader	Ashley Martin
Contact No	0438 600904
Date	Friday 12 October to Sunday 14 October
Time	6.30pm Friday
Meeting Place	McKenzie Reserve, Yarra Glen
Grade	WET: Easy DRY: Easy
Vehicle Limits	N/A
Approximate Km's	150kms
Late Fuel Available	Petrol: Mansfield Diesel: Mansfield
Equipment Required	Headache tablets
Maps Required	N/A
Radio Channel	12
CB/UHF	
Trip Activity Details:	
Another year gone by and time for another winery tour! This year, we've decided to revisit Whitfield. We were there four years ago and at that time didn't get to see all the great wineries in the area. We plan to leave Melbourne on the Friday night, but if you choose to come up on Saturday morning it's an easy drive and depending on numbers, I can arrange a meeting time and place. We will be camping in the Valley View Caravan Park	

which has both powered and unpowered sites, onsite caravans and of course a full amenities block. Designated fire areas are available in case it gets chilly. If you are contemplating an onsite van, let me know asap to ensure availability. No guarantees if you leave it til the last week.

Like last year's wine trip, dinner will be an all-in affair. I will arrange a few portable BBQs. When numbers are confirmed, we can sort out who is bringing what. Depending on numbers, I will cater for breakfast and divide the cost between the group. Prices: To be advised.

Destination	Mt Disappointment
Trip Leader	Paul Ryan
Contact No	0438 121148
Date	Sunday, 21 October 2007
Meeting Time/Place	9.00am, Shell Servo Bunker Hill (Cnr Mickleham Rd & Hume Hwy)
Grade	WET: Medium DRY: Medium
Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
Approximate Km's	
Late Fuel Available	Petrol: Clonbinane Diesel: Clonbinane
Equipment Required	Basic recovery gear
Maps Required	Rooftops Mt Disappointment Forest Activities Map
Radio Channel	12

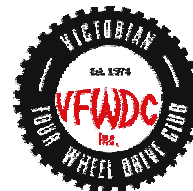
#### Trip Activity Details:

Day trip to Mt Disappointment to take in some of the tracks we drove in the recent NavRun. Some of these tracks may provide a little bit of a challenge so a decent set of muddies wouldn't go astray. There are also quite a few bog holes through the area so we may get a bit muddy depending on the weather between now and then.

Function	Christmas Party
Trip Leader	Ashley Martin
Contact No	0438 600904
Date	Saturday, 1 December 2007
Time/Place	1200-1700hrs Bimbimie Wildlife Park, Mount Burnett
Vehicle Limits	NIL
Equipment Required	Food, seating/eating equipment
Maps Required	Melway - Map Ref 313 4K
Radio Channel	12

#### Trip Activity Details:

Lunch, and games, and a wildlife tour for the children - and adults if they wish to participate! And of course, a visit from Santa. All details, including prices, will be in the next newsletter.



## Trip Guidelines for VFWDC Inc

- A completed Trip Data Form needs to be forwarded on to the Trip Coordinator as early as possible.
  - This needs to be done for all club trips, including recce trips.
  - Forms can be emailed to [trips@vfwdc.com](mailto: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 Club's 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 has been completed, the 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 reports are to be completed and submitted to the Newsletter Editor within two weeks. Trip reports can be emailed to [editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)

We have endeavoured to keep this down to a few simple rules to ensure everyone is clear on what is expected of them for the smooth running of club trips.

*John Partridge*  
Trip Co-ordinator



## Trip Reports

*Walhalla (Snow Trip Recce)  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2007*

Participants:	Ashley Martin
	GU Patrol
John Partridge & Tina	GQ
Patrol	
Paul, Robert & Madeline Ryan	80
Series	
Gary Smith	GU
Patrol	

This trip was originally planned for Strathbogie's, but two things changed my mind:

1. The usual annual snow trip destination was inaccessible so we needed to find an alternative.
2. The participants were happy to use this as a recce for the upcoming snow trip.

So with all that sorted, the grand plan was to camp at Walhalla and venture into the hills until we came across Mt Skene. After consulting the map we determined the travelling time from Walhalla wasn't going to be too bad (miscalculated a bit).

John had left Melbourne a tad earlier than Paul and I, so we met at the Walhalla Pub for a counter attack. The meal was good and enjoyed by all but it was going to be hard to set up camp after the warm comforts (and no smoke) of the Pub. Luckily I had a brainwave just after leaving home and decided to get some ready cut and split wood from Moe to save us the hassle of trying to find some in the dark. Camp was set up and after some time the fire was going. Well the cold wasn't as bad as first thought, although a few beverages probably helped that. Not before long we were all in bed (not together though). Saturday morning arrived (again) and it wasn't long before Gary arrived. We were on the road around 9.30 and heading towards Mt Useful via Binns Rd. Driving along McEvoys Rd we came across a number of trucks and dozers conducting maintenance on the road. After listening on channel 22, John advised they were complaining that the road is closed and we shouldn't be there. We had not come across any signs stating such, so continued along. I came across the ranger and the conversation went something like this:

*R - Do you have a permit to be on this road?*

*A - No.*

*R - It's closed due to maintenance.*

*A - We haven't come across any signs.*

*R - Where have you come from?*

*A - Binns Road.*

*R - We didn't put signs along there.*

*A - Can we continue?*

*R - Yes.*

We did have to wonder why they didn't put a sign at McEvoys/Binns Rd intersection.

As time kept whistling by, we turned onto Jamieson/Licola Rd but was stopped just after McMillan's T-junction by a road closed sign. After several minutes of what will we do, the decision was made to turn around and head towards Mt Selma.

The snow was very patchy at Mt Selma, but we managed to stop at a reasonable patch for the kids (big and small) to have a play. Mental note to oneself, pretend your camera is working and this will avoid any snowballs coming your way.



*Madeline and Paul...action shot*

After some time we stopped at Aberfeldy for lunch and discussed what to do next. It was decided that we take a look at the destruction caused by the recent floods.

We made our way to the river junction at Merringtons crossing and were amazed at the damage. You would not recognise the river which will require a lot of work from Parks Vic to fix the damage. From there we made our way to the dam wall and aired up. Paul and Gary made their way back to Melbourne while John, Tina and I headed back to camp.

Along the way we needed to cut firewood as it was going to be another cold night. I would not be able to write what occurred next and do it justice, so John has added his comments...

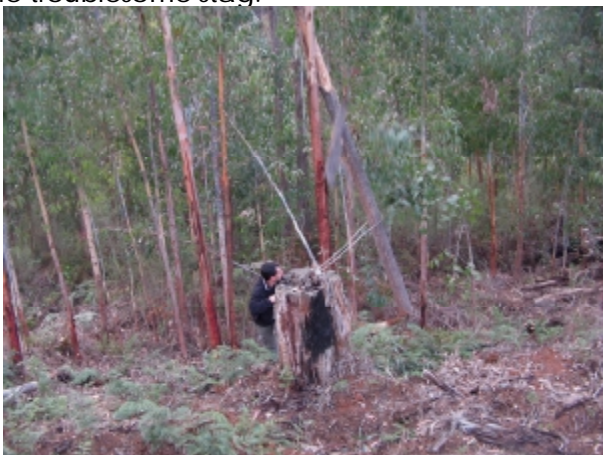


'Good on 'ya' nomination: Ashley Martin (yes again!)

As the weather has been very cold of late we needed a bit of wood to see us through the night. We spotted the perfect specimen, nice and dry dead stag (tree). Just a bit of a snip and off we go... Well, so we thought. The tree was cut, but it didn't make the ground. Unbelievably, it got itself wedged in the crook of a young sapling. No worries, we'll just snip a bit off the bottom.



Now the tree, just like a see saw, pivoted up and over, still wedged in the sapling but now the top of the tree is on the ground. Tina and I are now in fits of laughter. Off goes the top of the tree with the chainsaw and... Now tears are streaming down our cheeks. Not to be deterred, Ashley goes to the back of the truck and come back with some rope. After a couple of attempts he manages to lasso and tame the troublesome stag.



It's very hard to carry and chop timber with your sides split from such hilarity. Good on ya Ashley for another memorable moment and another great trip.  
*John Partridge*

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Back at camp and it wasn't long before the fire was roaring and we were relaxing. Dinner was had and the rest of the night was filled with the usual 4wd talk. It does make me wonder how many times we can talk about the same subject but enjoy it every time.

Sunday was a very leisurely start and by 11ish we were on the road to have a look at Coopers Creek. The flood damage was just as severe here and it is unrecognisable in places. To Lesley's astonishment I was home around 2.30 which I'm not sure if she was that pleased about (something to do with reality TV I suppose). Although we didn't reach Mt Skene it was still a good weekend. Hopefully after many years of thinking of new and innovative ideas and putting those scenarios in place (which is difficult to do), it appears I might finally win the highly regarded VFWDC GOODONYA award!  
*Ashley*

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AGM DINNER – ELLINIS GREEK RESTAURANT – Saturday, 11 July

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*Smiles all round from the gang who enjoyed the night of festivities, particularly AntMan who definitely thought the night was moving along nicely after checking out Aline on the dance floor !*

