



FEBRUARY 2011

# Free Wheeling



*Wallace Hut*

# Notice Board

## VFWDC GENERAL MEETING VENUE

The club meets at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club, 46-56 Moodemere St., Noble Park on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month at 8.00pm (No meeting January). Members and Guests are welcome to dine at the Bistro before attending the meeting.

First **WEDNESDAY** of each month 8.00PM Start

### Venue:

Bowling Club Rooms (Next to Car Park)

Noble Park Football Club  
46-56 Moodemere Street  
Noble Park  
Melways ref: 89 D4



## FREE WHEELING

Hello and welcome to the February newsletter. And welcome to a new year, hope you all enjoyed your Christmas break relaxing and travelling far and wide around this vast country of ours.

Content is a little thin again this month, as no trip reports have been received for the last few trips in December. However we have a few exciting trips coming up in the near future.

Cheers,

Catherine

Editor@fwdc.com




**VFWDC**


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 contact the Editor at [editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)

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## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2010-2011

President	Bruce Cremonesi	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a> 0400 425 296
Vice President	Mark Kochan	<a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a> 0412 544 668
Treasurer	Phil Griffith	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com">treasurer@vfwdc.com</a> 0419 865 472
Secretary	David Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>

## GENERAL COMMITTEE

Assistant Secretary		<a href="mailto:assist@vfwdc.com">assist@vfwdc.com</a>
Trip Co-ordinator	Daniel Robinson	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Catherine Felton	<a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
Association Delegate	Ashley Martin	
Training Officers	Ashley Martin	John Partridge
	Michael Rodger	Mark Kochan
General Committee	Luke Teunissen	
Web Manager	Paul Ryan	<a href="mailto:web@vfwdc.com">web@vfwdc.com</a>

## Club Details

Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
Registration No	A002184F
Correspondence	PO Box 778 Dandenong Vic 3174
Email	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.vfwdc.com">www.vfwdc.com</a>
Meetings	Held 8pm, first Wednesday of each month, excluding January (no meeting).
Location	Noble Park Football Club (Bowling club near car park) 46-56 Moodemere Street Noble Park Melways ref: 89 D4
Newsletter	All articles and photographs to be submitted prior to 20 <sup>th</sup> of each month to <a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
	The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of the Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc (VAFWDC)

## Minutes of General Meeting December 2010

Apologies as there is no minutes of the general meeting for this month.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To all,

Well another year has begun, and let us hope everyone had a safe Xmas and holiday period. The Xmas party was run and won and the 5 people that turned up had a great time, plenty of space in the building designed for 120 people. We had a row of tables to each family.

What a strange time we are going through weather wise across Australia. Floods not long after fires and one of the longest drought periods in recent history. There are so many people out there with nothing left - basically what they are standing in. This is pretty much for some people across parts of Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic and parts of WA. It's an event we all need to do what we can to help these people and it doesn't mean only money. We went through and cleaned out all our rooms at home and came out with 15 garbage bag of clothes, toys and other goods, which we have donated. Let's hope someone finds a good use for them. It isn't hard to do and it helps other people out.

Luckily some of the areas we drive are still open and some of the areas that were ravaged by fires are still struggling to get back on their feet. I was up at Marysville today, and it is still very quite in town. I wasn't expecting a bustling town but talking to some of the business that are not in the main street, they are really doing it tough. If you have time on a weekend, take a drive up there. Have lunch and spend a few dollars in the shops to help them out.

On top of that on the weekend Marysville had a large fund raiser for the Flood victims - in the words of some locals, to help others out in return for others helping them out in their time of need - true Aussie Spirit there. Great to see. Shame it wasn't advertised a bit more.

We are seeing a large downturn in trips (downturn = none) and just any real interest in the club. Meeting attendance numbers are dropping (better odds on winning the raffle though), trips numbers are dropping and when they are run they are very

poorly supported with many being cancelled due to no attendance - very disappointing for those new members (some who are very, very experienced trip leaders from other clubs in the past) out there who have put their hands up to run trips. We are all in the club for the love of travelling, 4wding, challenging ourselves and seeing new places, etc. We should get out and support these people. Maybe even share some hints and tips with them if you see them going to an area you know quite well. You can be assured they won't bite your head off and may even buy you a drink!

I feel one of the issues is we have a large number of new members over the last 3-4yrs and most of the longer term members finding other interests, or changes in life situations causing them to not have as much time as they used to. Most of the committee are newer members to the club which is great to see. Having said that, very poor form to hear some older members complaining about it. Don't complain about it come along meet these people. Have a coffee or a drink round a campfire one night. Maybe put your hand up to help out and run some trips with them, or a social event. Most older members wouldn't know the new members if they tripped over them. If we are not careful we will lose these people to our sport, or to other clubs. I know of several that have showed up to meetings to join, run trips and we have never seen them again. I don't know what the answer is, maybe the next president will have more luck.

One of the other issues that has popped up in the last week, is that some members don't even realise who their committee members are. Do you?

Finally, a little birdy that works for a large 4wd insurance company has told me there are some big changes coming in with 4wd insurance over the year to come, so keep an eye on the fine print on your policy. It's almost getting to the point where there's no large print, only the fine print!

Anyway, that's enough for this month. Remember it's your club, you only get out of it what you put in.

Let's make 2011 a year to move the club forward, not close the doors.

Regards  
Bruce Cremonesi.  
President.

# EVERYTHING 4WD

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## CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

2011				
	26th January	Marysville & Surrounds Sightseeing Tour	Bruce	0400 425 296
February	Wednesday 2nd	General Meeting	Bruce	0400 425 296
March	Wednesday 2nd	General Meeting	Bruce	0400 425 296
	12th - 14th	Labour Day Weekend	Dan & Phil	0419 865 472
April	Wednesday 5th	General Meeting	Bruce	0400 425 296
	22nd - 26th	Pink Lakes, Border Track & More No Trailers Trip	Bruce	0400 425 296
	22nd - 26th	Hattah Kulkyne Easter / ANZAC Day	Anthony	0413 784 074
	TBA	Trip Leaders Theory Training	Bruce	0400 425 296
	TBA	Trip Leaders Practical Training	Bruce	0400 425 296

Hello all,

The King River Hut Re-Build is ready to commence, apart from the access problems associated with the recent weather problems.

It is envisaged that the two weekends prior to Easter this year will be used to prepare and make ready for stumps to be placed and secured. Then weather and road conditions permitting, the actual build will start in earnest at the Easter break. Gavin Powell is the Project Manager and he will lead his group of tradesman in overseeing the entire construction. What they are asking us to help with is willing bodies that have either trade backgrounds or a sound leaning in this field, to assist in all areas.

We will be assisted in the accommodation area by the PV and DSE guys setting aside a camping area for us or if you so desire you may journey back to Mansfield for the nights.

Catering will be taken care of by a band of willing ladies once we through in a few dollars to cover the food costs.

Please think about this request as a chance to be involved in a worthwhile cause whilst having a good time with like minded people.

I look forward to some positive responses.

Regards,



*Wayne Hevey*

Projects & Events Manager

Four Wheel Drive Victoria

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Marysville &amp; Surrounds Sightseeing tour</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Bruce Cremonesi TEL: 0400 42 52 96 Email: President@vfwdc.com
DATE	<b>Wednesday Jan 26<sup>th</sup> – Australia Day.</b>
MEETING PLACE / TIME	McDonalds Lillydale 8:30am
GRADE	WET & DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	An easy drive around Marysville area with an opportunity to get out and go for a walk and look around. The Waterfalls are now open and lets hope the water is still around then. Also taking in the trestle bridge and power station. An easy family day.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 12
APPROX KMS	Not far at all
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL & DIESEL: Marysville
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic recovery gear Warm dry clothes Camera and chair J BYO lunch and drinks.
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftops – Marysville Lake Eildon
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	12

Happy New Year to you all,

We are seeking the help of those who can spare some time to help us put together 1,000 show bags for the upcoming LROCV Wandin 4x4 show.

We would like to be packing these show bags between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> February, as the show is on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

Your assistance with this task would be much appreciated if at all possible.

Morning tea shall be organized and perhaps lunch if required.  
(We have some of the world's best scone makers in our office!)

I look forward to your positive response,

Regards,



*Wayne Hevey*

Projects & Events Manager

Four Wheel Drive Victoria

## UPCOMING TRIPS CONTINUED

DESTINATION	<b>TBA</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Dan Robinson / Phil Griffith TEL: <b>XXXXXX</b> / 0419 865 472
DATE	Labour Day Weekend 12/3/2011 – 14/3/2011
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE <b>Please adhere to new trip classifications</b>	WET: Medium / Hard DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	We are running a Camper Trailer Trip. We plan on doing some tracks and getting the vehicles in to low range whilst towing. We'll be pointing out tips and techniques for safe 4wding with a Camper Trailer. We will be moving camp grounds each day, however don't expect the trip to be too taxing. Anyone is welcome to come for a drive (without trailers). We will set a max of 6 vehicles with trailers which will take into account camping grounds. If we have a lot of response, we may need to break up in to a couple of groups.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS	TBA
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: DIESEL:
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Camper Trailer Low Range Gearing A/T tyres or better UHF radio Be self sufficient (food and supplies)





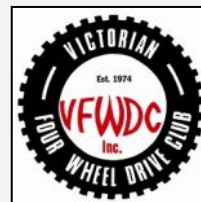
## UPCOMING TRIPS CONTINUED

DESTINATION	<b>Pink Lakes, Border Track and more.</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Bruce Cremonesi TEL: 0400 42 52 96
DATE	22 <sup>nd</sup> April – 26 <sup>th</sup> April
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE <span style="color: red;">Please adhere to new trip classifications</span>	WET: Medium/Hard DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Basic Trip Plan at this stage. *Subject to change depending on weather and me looking at maps*</p> <p>Plan at this stage is head to Murray Sunset, and camp the night. Drive around sightseeing taking in some sites like Pink Lakes (maybe Becking, Crosbie, Kenyuon, or Hardy Lakes), the abandoned Salt Mines, Rocket Lake, Mopoke Hut Out-station, Last Hope Tank, taking photos, while heading towards the Shearers Hut/Quarters on the west side of the park to the start of the track.</p> <p>Check out <a href="http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au/resources05/05_0402.pdf">http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au/resources05/05_0402.pdf</a></p> <p>Then head into Big Desert and down. Plenty to see and loads of wildlife out this way. Bearded Dragons, Emu's, Roos, Rainbow Bee Eaters, and maybe a few rare blue tits</p> <p>May try and work in with the Bordertown 4wd Club, get them to show us some secret locations J</p> <p><b>No Trailers.</b></p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 5
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	Melb - Ouyen – Approx 500klms Melb – Pinaroo – 625klms Pinaroo – Bordertown – 140klms Bordertown – Mel – 510klms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Around Ouyen DIESEL: Around Ouyen
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Your own Full Recovery Equipment Camping gear Food and cooking gear Camera and chair
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	12

## UPCOMING TRIPS CONTINUED

DESTINATION	<b>Hattah Kulkyne Easter / ANZAC Day</b>
LEADER/ CONTACT NO.	Anthony Van Buiten - 0413 784 074
DATE	22nd - 26 <sup>th</sup> April
MEETING	TBA
GRADE	DRY: Easy WET: Easy
<p style="text-align: center;">TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</p> <p>Relax on the sandbar, swim in the river. Maybe a trip to Mildura. Lunch at the local pub one day.</p>	
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 0 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS	600 kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Ouyen DIESEL: Ouyen
EQUIPMENT RE- QUIRED	
MAPS REQUIRED	
RADIO UHF	12

**Lots of  
Trips!**



## CLUB MERCHANDISE For Sale

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VFWD Sticker (long)	\$ 6.00 ea

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo Shirt.

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