



APRIL 2014

Free Wheeling



Murray River - Australia Day Weekend

Notice Board

VFWDC GENERAL MEETING VENUE

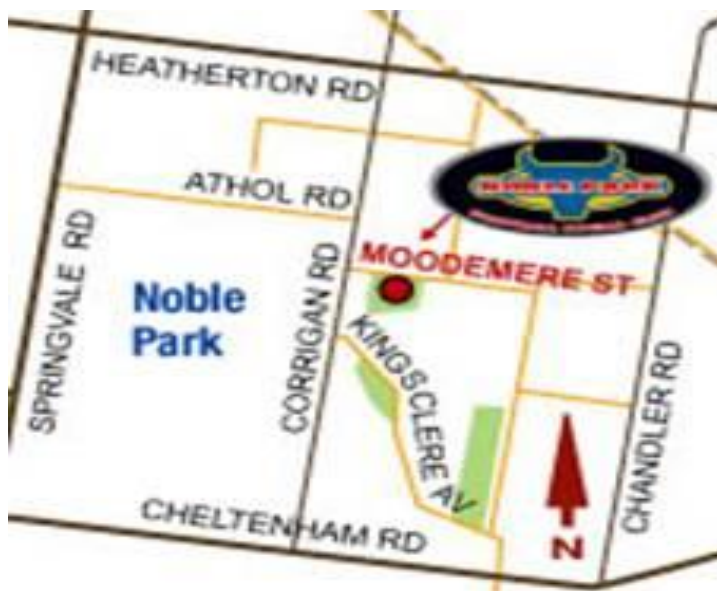
The club meets at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club, 46-56 Moodemere St, Noble Park on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 8.00pm (No meeting in January and November meeting at selected location). Members and Guests are welcome to dine at the Bistro before attending the meeting.

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

Venue:

Bowling Club Rooms (Next to Car Park, down the far end of the car park)

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



FREE WHEELING

Hello and welcome to the April newsletter, April see's the Easter weekend and if you're extra lucky to get a few days off and have a extra long weekend with ANZAC weekend following Easter, there's a few options so check out further into the newsletter for more information.

Catherine

Editor@fwdc.com



COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2013-2014

President	John Partridge	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President	Sally Higgs	vicepres@vfwdc.com
Treasurer	Steve Pitcher	treasurer@vfwdc.com
Secretary	Andre Van Derwalt	secretary@vfwdc.com
GENERAL COMMITTEE		
Assistant Secretary		assist@vfwdc.com
Trip Co-ordinator	c/o David Bruinsma	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	Catherine Felton	editor@vfwdc.com
Web Manager	Ben Whitworth	web@vfwdc.com
Training Officers	Phillip Griffith	
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	delegate@vfwdc.com
Librarian		
Merchandise	Mark Felton	
General Committee		

Club Details	
Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
Registration No	A002184F
Correspondence	PO Box 778 Dandenong Vic 3174
Email	secretary@vfwdc.com
Website	www.vfwdc.com
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 th of each month to editor@vfwdc.com
	The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of the Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc (VAFWDC)



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Anyone wishing to advertise in the
Club Directory, please
contact the Editor at editor@vfwdc.com



CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

2014				
April	Wednesday 2nd	General Meeting		
	5th	Day Trip - Aberfeldy, Mt Useful and surrounds	Stuart & Maree Bowker	Stuart: 0428 539 157 Maree: 0418 539 157
	12th - 25/26th	Flinders Rangers	Max & Sandra	Max: 0403101121 Sandra: 0407949636
	16th	Committee Meeting		
	18th - 26th	Outback NSW	Steve Pitcher	0421 205 529
	17th - 25th	Snowy River Trip	Mick & Sally Harris	Mick: 0424766616 Sally: 0412426129
	18th - 21st	Easter Long Wknd - Gippsland Lakes-Seacombe	Sam Ayoubiee	0414 503 874
	17th - 21st	Easter Long Weekend—McKillops Bridge	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
May	Wednesday 7th	General Meeting		
	17th	Day Trip - Marysville & Surrounds	Stuart & Maree Bowker	Stuart: 0428 539 157 Maree: 0418 539 157
	21th	Committee Meeting		
	30th May - 1st June	Wombat State Forrest – Lerderderg State Park	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
June	Wednesday 4th	General Meeting		
	6th - 9th	Portland Buggy Club - Queens birthday	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	18th	Committee Meeting		
July	Wednesday 2nd	General Meeting		
	4th - 6th	Xmas In July		
	18th - 20th	Snow Trip - Mt Skene	Markncat Felton & Sam Ayoubiee	0439 345 207 0414 503 874
	23rd	Committee Meeting		
August	Wednesday 6th	AGM & General Meeting		
	20th	Committee Meeting		
	23rd	VFWDC 40th Birthday Celebrations		
September	Wednesday 3rd	General Meeting		
	17th	Committee Meeting		
October	Wednesday 1st	General Meeting		
	22nd	Committee Meeting		
November	Wednesday 12th	General Meeting		
	31st Oct - 4th Nov	Knockwood Reserve	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
	19th	Committee Meeting		

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Little O'Tooles camping ground & surrounds
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	Phil Griffith 0419 865 472 and John Partridge 0428 331 211
DEPARTURE DATE RETURN	Friday 28 th March 6.00PM (Theory session on Tuesday night 25/03/2014) Sunday 30 th March
MEETING PLACE	BP service station on the Pakenham Bypass 5KM passed the Berwick exit
GRADE WET & DRY	Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>This proficiency driving course will be held under the FWDVic guidelines to help drivers become proficient in driving a 4WD off road. You will learn all of the basics including emergency stall recovery, driving steep track up and down hill, water crossings and much more. Certificates will be issued to all successful participants.</p> <p>The theory session and both Sat & Sunday practical sessions is mandatory to pass. It is recommended that all club members attend at least one driver training course and are welcome to attend more than one if they wish.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS MINIMUM MAXIMUM	4 (+ trainers) 8 (+ trainers)
APPROX KMS	180Kms + 4wding and return
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL PETROL DIESEL	Moe Moe (please have full tank of fuel before leaving meeting place)
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Camping gear, food and drink, UHF radio (Ch: 12)
MAPS REQUIRED	<p>Rooftop Walhalla / Woods Point (Maps can be brought to club meeting if require. Prior notice needed)</p>
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12



**Driver
Training**

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Aberfeldy, Mt Useful and surrounds
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Stuart & Maree Bowker MOB: Stuart 0428539157 Maree 0418539157
DATE	Saturday Day Trip - 5/4/14
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Yarragon main street outside the bakery 8:00 am for a 8:30 am departure Bakery should be open for Breaky allow extra time
GRADE <i>Please adhere to new trip classifications</i>	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Idea is to head up past Aberfeldy to O'Keefe Tk, McGuire Tk, S16 Tk, Mt Selma Rd, Sth Rd, to Mt Useful then back via Willouby Spur Tk Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: N/A
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	300-400 klms round trip
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Moe LPG: Moe DIESEL: Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	400 klms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may require. AT or MT tyres
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftop maps Walhalla-Licola
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12 UHF

If your personal details have changed in the last 12 months, could you please send an email through to the committee advising of your new details. This ensures all club members are kept up to date on the latest club news.



UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Flinders Ranges
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Max and Sandra MOB: Sandra 0407949636 Max 0403101121
DATE	12 April till 25/26 April
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: Easy/ Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Destination: Flinders Ranges. The plan is to go to Quorn and Wilpena Pound to explore the Ranges and surrounds for the first week and then come back to Melbourne via Arkaroola, Innamincka, Cameron Corner, Broken Hill and Yanga National Park the second week. The trip is camper trailer friendly and will be a mix of motels, camping grounds and bush camping. Track levels should be easy to moderate but obviously is weather dependent. The aim of the trip is to explore and relax in the Flinders National Park with some 4WD day trips around the area. The first week is just a holiday in the Ranges and the second week is more of an adventure travelling in the outback.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MAXIMUM: 4-5 Vehicles
APPROX KMS	4000 Km
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: TBA DIESEL: TBA
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Varies
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Usual recovery gear, food and equipment for period of trip
MAPS REQUIRED	Flinders Ranges
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	TBA

For Sale

1 ROOF TOP TENT (non branded, but brought through E4WD from Tigers11), I have had the Roof top tent for about 3+1/2 years and have used it on many occasions.

The tent is still in very good condition.

I have upgraded the soft 50mm foam mattress with a dense 50mm foam in the original waterproof cover.

I have the tent set up so it folds out over the rear of the vehicle, but can be changed to fold out over the side of a vehicle.

Asking Price \$500.00 (ready to use)
(purchase price was at least double that)

David Bruinsma 0417 747 860
davidbruinsma@yahoo.com.au



UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Outback NSW
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Steve Pitcher MOB: 0421 205 529
DATE	18 (Good Friday) – 26 (Day After ANZSAC Day) April 2014
MEETING PLACE / TIME A second/later group may depart the following day but this is <u>not</u> assured.	North-bound Service Station near Donnybrook Road intersection, Hume Freeway (Donnybrook – just past Craigeburn) – toilets, fast food and fuel available. Meet at 6:30 am for a 7:00 am departure. It's a 2-day drive so we will be stopping on day 1 at Wodonga for a late breakfast and then at Gundagai (or thereabouts) for lunch. We'll make our way further north to a road-side motel, as the convoy permits.
GRADE	WET: D Grade (Easy) DRY: C Grade (Medium)
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Base Camping for 1 week at Coorongooaba Campground, Wollemi National Park, NSW. About 950 km each way.</p> <p>With children, it takes a 2 days' drive each way so an overnight stop will be required (most likely either Yass or Goulbourn on the way up and at the Fiesta in Wodonga on the return leg – you will need to book this yourselves).</p> <p>Travelling to Capertee in NSW where we will spend 1 night at the local pub. Overnight options include either camping or a hotel room at the pub where we will stay overnight. Prices and facilities are quite modest – it's a country pub.</p> <p>From there, we plan (on the Sunday morning) to make our way to the campsite (about 1 hour's drive). It is a new site (only established in 2009) with very basic facilities on the banks of the Capertee River. Consequently, there are still no drop/bush toilets but the upside of this is that there will be few other campers.</p> <p>We will spend 1-2 days exploring Gardens of Stone National Park (no camping permitted there so a day trip or two will be required to see it properly). For those that are interested, we will also head over to Louee Station at the nearby township of Lue for a day. For anyone that is into off-road riding, this outback station has 5 world-class tracks of varying degrees of difficulty (at a daily cost of \$50 per adult and \$30 per child) but it also has other facilities for those that wish just to explore the area.</p> <p>I will also conduct a couple of day tours to explore the area around Wollemi NP and to do some proper 4WDing. We will also get to see a couple of ghost towns such as Glen Davis.</p> <p>Being on the Capertee river, people can enjoy a bit of fresh water fishing. Other possible activities include kayaking or canoeing, bush-walking, bike riding (BYO push-bike – my children will be), camp cooking and bird-watching. Dogs are not permitted in the National Parks.</p> <p>This trip is purposefully designed to be more around camping, fishing and having fun rather than 4WDing per se. While there will be some 4WDing (and some excellent tracks at that), it is not the main focus of the trip. Anyone wishing to do more in terms of exploring and 4WDing around the area is more than welcome to do so – just let me know and I will build it in to the itinerary. Wollemi is the largest NP in the country so there is plenty of opportunity for those that want to be more active in a 4WD sense. I will, of course, be happy to assist anyone wanting to explore further afield.</p>

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS cont	<p>For those that are interested in the trip but either don't have children and/or who are not so enthused about the hotel/motel costs, I am quite happy to meet up with members either at Capertee Hotel or at the campsite itself.</p> <p>Access to the campsite is 2WD all the way unless there is severe rainfall immediately prior to the trip. Camper trailers are welcome so come along, bed down and enjoy!</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	<p>MINIMUM: 1</p> <p>MAXIMUM: 10</p>
APPROX KMS (Meeting place to destination)	2,000 Kms (return trip)
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	<p>PETROL: Capertee, NSW (Lidsdale is the 2nd nearest)</p> <p>DIESEL: Capertee, NSW (Lidsdale is the 2nd nearest)</p>
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	40 kms (approx) back to Capertee from camp
<p>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</p> <p>In case of an emergency (eg. Traffic Accident, Bushfire, etc), completed Personal Information Forms / Visitor Forms are required for this trip.</p>	All equipment and supplies required to be self-sufficient for 7+ days and to cater for simple vehicle break-downs (eg. Basic tools and spares for your vehicle/trailer) and 4WD recoveries (front and rear but winches are not essential). Quality A/T tyres and spare/s – please remember keys for any spare tyre locks or tow hitch locks.
MAPS REQUIRED	While not essential, all participants are encouraged to have a reasonably new map of the area.
<p>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</p> <p>I do have a Flying Doctor Radio but it will be for absolute emergencies only.</p>	Channel 12 UHF (given the length of the trip, we may pick a sub-channel (CTSS) if radio traffic is excessive).

News of new laws for travelling the Simpson Desert in regards to sand flags.

The SA Government District Manager Outback, has issued mandatory Flag requirements for Simpson Desert Travellers.

Relevant portions of the Press Release are below:

Safety Flag requirements for all vehicles by March 16 2014:

All vehicles must be fitted with a Safety flag as detailed below when travelling in the Simpson Desert Conservation Park, or Simpson Desert Regional Reserve.

Flag Specifications: Minimum 300mm wide by 290mm high. Made of Fluorescent materials, Red-Orange or Lime-Yellow in colour.

Motorbikes: Rear mounted flag pole, with top of the flag a minimum 3.5 metres from the ground.

All Other Vehicles: With Front Bullbar - Flag pole attached to the bullbar, with top of the flag a minimum 3.5 metres from the ground. Without Front Bullbar - Flag pole attached via bracket at the front of the vehicle, with top of the flag a minimum 3.5 metres from the ground; alternatively flag pole attached to the front of the roof rack, with top of the flag a minimum 2 metres from the roof of vehicle.

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Snowy River trip
LEADER/ CONTACT NO.	NAME: Mick and Sally Harris TEL: Mick 0424766616 TEL: Sally 0412426129
DATE	17 th April to 25 th April
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Longwarry at 10.30 for a 11.00 departure
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: mod DRY: easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Base camping at pinch river camping grounds trailers welcome. Long drops, river for water supplies and swimming. Kid friendly, day drives some track driving. Day drive to Jindabyne for shopping and fuel. A visit to Wild brumby schnapps and wineries. Bring your bikes as well.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	500 kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Bairnsdale DIESEL: Bairnsdale. Buchan sometime has fuel
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Fuel and shopping in Jindabyne 140 kms around trip
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Recovery . food . the normal things you take away
MAPS REQUIRED	Snowy - Kosciuszko
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

DESTINATION	McKillops Bridge - Snowy River
LEADER/ CONTACT NO.	NAME: Markncat Felton MOB: 0439 345 207
DATE	Thursday 17th - 21st April
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Longwarry BP - 7pm
GRADE	Dry: EASY Wet: MEDIUM
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Were taking advantage of the long weekend and heading up to far East Victoria.</p> <p>We had to miss this area at Easter, so with another long weekend, we'll try again.</p> <p>We'll take a look around the local area, checking out McKillops bridge, Gelantipy, Little River & Raymond Creek Falls. Travelling over Mt Deddick & Mt Brown.</p> <p>There are some rocky roads and numerous water crossings in an isolate part of the state.</p> <p>We'll be covering a large number of kilometers. This will be a pick up and travel trip, consistently moving, no stay in camp & sorry no trailers.</p>
VEHICLE LIM- ITS	MINIMUM:2 MAXIMUM:8
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	1000 - 1500 kms round trip
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Self sufficient
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	Orbost
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftop Snowy Mountains
RADIO CHANNEL /UHF	UHF 12

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Gippsland Lakes - Seacombe
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Sam Ayoubee MOB: 0414503874
DATE	Friday 18th - Monday 21st April
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Leaving Friday and returning Monday. Will be camping beside lake. It's family friendly, camper trailer friendly. Great for fishing, good area for kids to ride their bikes, etc. Plan to do some driving around area plus fishing.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: n/a
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	400kms approx
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Rosedale DIESEL: Rosedale
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Approx. 50km
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Light trip. Recovery not necessary for this trip
MAPS REQUIRED	Leader will have maps
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

DESTINATION	Marysville and surrounds
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Stuart & Maree Bowker MOB: Stuart 0428539157 Maree 0418539157
DATE	17/5/14
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Marysville main street outside the bakery 9:am for a 9:30 am departure. Bakery should be open for Breaky allow extra time
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	This is a repeat of the trip from 11/1/14 we thought on the day it maybe more fun if there was a bit of mud about. The trip will go to Keppel hut, MacFadyen Tk Quartz Crk Rd, Bull Fight Rd, Royston Range Tk to the Rubicon Power Station and maybe stop for dinner at the Buxton Hotel if anyone is interested. Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: N/A
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	300-400 klms round trip
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL & DIESEL: Marysville credit card sales only best to fuel at Healesville NO LPG
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	400 klms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may require. AT or MT tyres
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftop maps Marysville-Lake Eildon or Big River Rubicon
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12 UHF

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	WOMBAT STATE FORREST – Lerderderg State Park
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma TEL: 0417 747 860
DATE	Weekend Friday 30th May to Sunday 1st June
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: easy DRY: easier
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>The idea is to head up the Western Freeway through to Bacchus Marsh and bush base camp in the local state forest.</p> <p>Saturday will be a WINE TASTING at St. Anne's Vineyards just west of Bacchus Marsh @ 10am (can be a meeting point for people coming up on Saturday).</p> <p>After sampling the wines (and having morning tea somewhere nearby) we will head back into the local state forest and try to fully explore the area. I have not done ANY driving there yet at all, so I'm going to do heaps of exploring and don't be surprised if there is the obliquity U turn or 3 on the day.</p> <p>Sunday will be a slow get up, and gradually clear up camp for departing after lunch. Since we are so close to the city we don't need to leave super early to get back.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 5
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	Less then 100km from city Meeting place TBA
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Bacchus Marsh also at Ballan DIESEL: Bacchus Marsh also at Ballan
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Bacchus Marsh
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All camping equipment, safety and recovery equipment for campers. And money for the winery.
MAPS REQUIRED	TBA
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Portland Buggy Club
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Bruce Cremonesi MOB: 0400 42 52 96
DATE	June Long Weekend
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BP Service Station on East Link SOUTHBOUND
GRADE Dry or Wet:	Easy - Hard
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Wheeling in the sand dunes of Portland Buggy Club. This 1800 ha area of mainly tall bare dunes is a mecca for off-road enthusiasts. More Info at the club meeting
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 10
KMS Meeting place to destination	420klms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	Portland has 4 service stations open 7 days Shell Percy Street 24 hour service BP Percy Street Caltex Tyers Street Shell Henty Highway
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Plenty on the way
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Must have: ALL CARS MUST HAVE A FLAG AND FLAG POLE TO ENTER BUGGY CLUB. EVERYONE WITH FULL RECOVERY GEAR RATED RECOVERY POINTS FRONT AND REAR. Tyre Pressure gauges + Compressor Should have: Shovel/Spade/Digging tool CAMERAS!
MAPS REQUIRED	TBA – As far as I know there are none for the buggy club
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12 or TBA

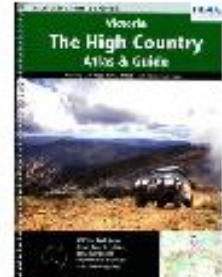
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more.*

Most of this we have in stock ready to go.



Minutes of General Meeting March 2014

General Meeting 5 March 2014

The meeting was held at Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.00pm by Club President John.

Present: members present as per the Attendance book

Apologies: members present as per the Apologies book

Visitors: Visitors as listed in the Visitors Book

(Two Guest speakers - Peter Pink as old club member
- Rudi Paoletti - Aberfeldy track project)

Minutes of previous General Meeting

Accepted : David Bruinsma
Seconded : Sally Harris

Matters arising:
NIL

Correspondence in
Land rover Review
CCJC
Overland Cruiser

Correspondence out
Club magazine

Treasurer's report

Term Deposit	\$ 7220.02
Cheque A/C opening	
balance	\$ 6298.20
Money In	\$ 365.00
Moneys Out	\$ 29.90
Cheque A/C	
Closing balance	\$ 6557.00
Petty Cash	\$ 150.00
Consolidation balance	\$ 13996.32

Accepted: David Bruinsma
Joe Spicuzza

Association Report
Nil

Trip coordinators report

Type	When	Where	Trip Leader
Touring	12 April till 25/26 April	Flinders Ranges	Max and Sandra
Camping	18th - 21st April	McKillops Bridge - Snowy River	Markncat Felton
Base Camping	18 (Good Friday) - 26 (Day After ANZAC Day) April 2014	Outback NSW	Steve Pitcher
Base Camp	17 - 25 April	Snowy River	Sally & Mick
Daytrip/	7 March	Aberfeldy	
Intro to Area	21 March	Aberfeldy	John
Trip leaders	22 March	TBA	Mark & Bruce
Driver Training	25 and 29 March	Aberfeldy	Phil

Trip reports

Sam's hard trip. Deep creek 4 was good and challenging.

Events Report

NIL

General business

Club turns 40, celebrations later this year more information will be provided at a later date!!!

Other Business

Nil

Raffle

Winner	Item
Marie	Gloves
Sally	Book
Carolyn	Gloves
Craig	BBQ set

Meeting Closed: 9:50 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 8.00pm 2nd of April at Noble Park Bowls club.

Trip Reports

Australia Day 2014

Markncat Felton
Ly & Dana

The long weekend didn't have a good start for us as we headed to Shepp early on Friday to attend a funeral which Mark attended and I got a few last things then headed out to the Murray River through a huge storm that I couldn't see 5 metres in front of me. I took a wrong turn and ended up on a dry weather road only slipping and sliding around everywhere. I turned around and came across Steve at the intersection, where we headed to Long beach together. It had been very wet and therefore very slippery getting to the beach, it wasn't going to be easy having 2 wheel drive cars getting in here, so we told our friends to hold up and we'll come and get them. We got to long beach and it was relative empty so we pulled up at a spot and discovered I had a slow leaking tyre and it was only a few months old, not good. Steve & I set up tents and took some space for the others that were coming along and then some other guys rocked up and helped us with a tyre change. We headed back to collect our friends and came across another friend that had got herself stuck against a huge red river gum, we tried to help her but it was in vain so Steve stayed with Anna and I headed back to collect the others. By the time I got to them they were merry we grabbed all their stuff and headed back out to the Murray. We met Steve and Anna and got Anna's car unstuck and headed back to camp. The others set up camp, we had dinner and got a fire started on the beach, which was now packed



full of people who were also coming up for the long weekend. We sat around trying to get in contact with Ly as it was getting quite late and we hadn't heard from him as it's very hard to find phone reception along the Murray, but Ly sent a SMS to Mark advising they have set up camp for the night and they would find us in

the morning. We headed off to bed while others partied on till the early hours of the morning.

Saturday

We woke up to the sound of cockatoos and other birds welcoming the new day, it was quite this morning, the sun was shining through the trees and the sky was blue, it was going to be a great day. We got breakfast sorted and some finished setting up camp and then a few headed into Cobram, where Mark was going to get our tyre fixed and others to

get supplies. While some sat around camp and soaked up the sun and Murray River, some even ventured into the Murray itself for a swim. The others returned from Cobram with success with the tyre and Ly finding us, so they set up camp and then joined us on the beach.

Lewis and Ariana (sorry about the



spelling) had managed to come up again this weekend as had been agreed upon last year, when they first came up last year and fell in love with the place, turning up to camp in the darkness of the night and wake up to the sun shining in the clear blue sky, on a sandy beach on the Murray with the red river gums and the Murray flowing past.



It was really great to see them both again, some of us then headed off on a wood run as tonight's meal was the much loved pot roast. The fire was stoked and the meats were put on to start cooking, while everyone brought out their treats for happy hour (thanks Ly for the nacho's in a camp oven, you've got to try it). Pot roast dinner was shared and consumed by all that attended and enjoyed by all. We sat around the camp fire chatting away till the early hours of the morning.

Sunday

Everyone was aroused early and the kettle was boiled as it was a bit too early for some. We arranged for everyone to go in three cars and then we headed to Strawberry farm for breakfast. Most chose the strawberry big breakfast, which consisted of strawberry pancakes, strawberry ice cream and strawberry sauce, with cream. We were well satisfied after breakfast/lunch some ventured outside and picked their own strawberries and some even a few had a go at the wines and brought some items from the shop.

On the way to camp we stopped off at the shops and got a few more supplies and then stopped off at Monichino's winery and gave a few wines ago and we had the variety bash fundraising for supporting cancer, which was good to see some vehicles and great supporters. Even some of our members managed to try all of the Monichino's wines; some brought a variety of wines.

We were all ready to head back to the Murray and have a swim and sit along the beach, which we did for the rest of the afternoon with Lewis, Ariana and friends, the enjoyed happy hour and before pulling all of our leftover food together and having a big cook up on the BBQ, (this was good because we all

had less food to take home and some had their meal cooked for them). We had another late night sitting up around the camp fire having a lot of laughs.

Monday

There wasn't a really rush for a lot to get up and pack up for the trip home, Ly said thanks and headed off mid morning, we managed to have everything packed by lunch time, however it was going to be another warm one and we really felt like another swim in the Murray. We said our goodbyes to Steve and some of our friends who were staying on longer, we should have done the same thing as the beach cleared out and they were one of the last three left on the beach, it's an idea for next year to extend the long weekend for a little longer. We arrived home safe and well, thanks to all who attended we had a ball, next year we'll be heading there again for the third year in a row, come along and join us next year as it's becoming an annual event.



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Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00 ea
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Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$44.00 ea
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