

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers  
Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive  
Club Inc.

# Free wheeling

**VFWDC**

**October 2014**

# 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 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

**NOTE: The November meeting will be on the  
Second Wednesday (12th) at the new  
TJM Store at 1 Brett Dr, Carrum Downs**

### **Venue:**

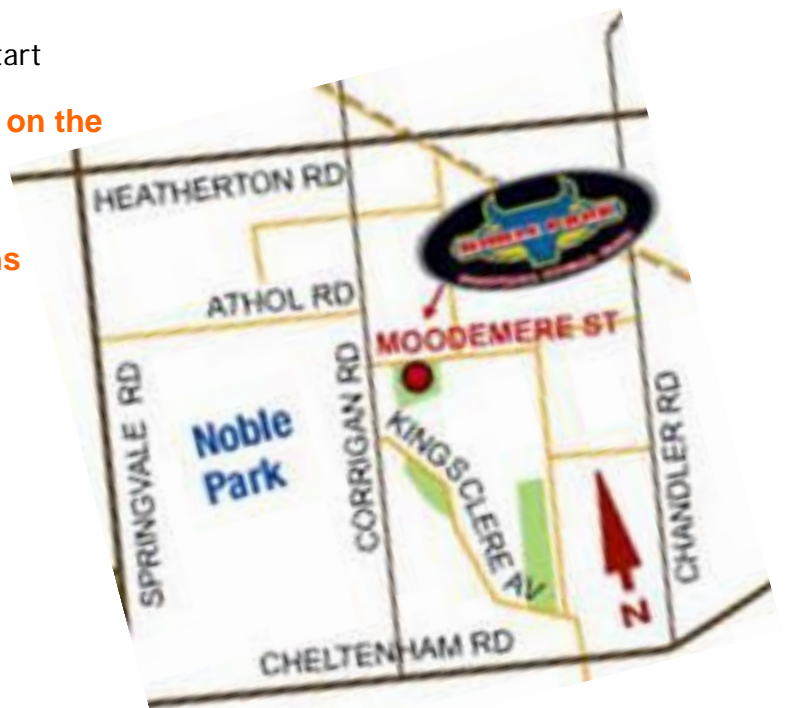
Bowling Club Rooms (Next to Car Park,  
down the far end of the car park)

Noble Park Football Club

46-56 Moodemere Street

Noble Park

Melways ref: 89 D4



Aberfeldy Track managed by West Gippsland Inc

[www.westgippslandinc.com.au](http://www.westgippslandinc.com.au)

## ***FREE WHEELING***

Hello and welcome to the October newsletter, this month's issue has our clubs 40th Birthday celebration report and photos. Please check out the newsletter for the new bush recipes.

Amanda

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

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT****2013-2014**

President	David Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President		
Treasurer	Steve Pitcher (acting)	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com">treasurer@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary	Tony Barbera	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
GENERAL COMMITTEE		
Assistant Secretary	Lisa Barbera	<a href="mailto:assist@vfwdc.com">assist@vfwdc.com</a>
Trip Co-Ordinator	Stuart Bowker	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Mandie Lehmann	<a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
Associations Delegate	David Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:delegate@vfwdc.com">delegate@vfwdc.com</a>
General Committee	Mick Harris	-
SUPPORT POSITIONS TO COMMITTEE		
Web manager	Ben Whitworth	<a href="mailto:web@vfwdc.com">web@vfwdc.com</a>
Training officers	Phillip Griffith	<a href="mailto:training@vfwdc.com">training@vfwdc.com</a>
Librarian		
Merchandise	Carolyn Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com">merchandise@vfwdc.com</a>

**VFWDC  
ADVERTISING  
DIRECTORY**

1B, 280 South Gippsland Highway,

Cranbourne, 3977

P: 03 59955055

E: [sales@everything4wd.com.au](mailto:sales@everything4wd.com.au)W: [www.everything4wd.com.au](http://www.everything4wd.com.au)

David Jackson



0408 333 313

Anyone wishing to advertise  
in the Club Directory,  
Please contact the Editor at  
[editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)

**CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**

Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00 ea	Club Polar Fleece ½ Zip Jumper	\$38.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$48.00 ea	Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$44.00 ea
Club Caps	\$15.00 ea	Club Bucket Hat	\$16.00 ea
Club Wide Brim Hat	\$18.00 ea	Club Beanie	\$12.00 ea
Club Drivers Jacket (Coat)	\$80.00 ea	VFWDC Windscreen stickers (small) \$6.00 (large) \$8.00	

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo Shirt.

Email your order to [committee@vfwdc.com](mailto:committee@vfwdc.com). Please ensure you advise size required.



# CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

4

<b>2014</b>				
<b>OCTOBER</b>	1st	General Meeting		
	11th	Yarra Valley Wineries	Sally Harris	0412 464 129
	18th	Aberfeldy Area maintenance	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	22nd	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	25th- 26th	Track Classification (\$100 fee applies)	Wayne Hevey	0437 911 356
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	12th	General Meeting / visiting TJM at Currum Downs	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	31st-4th	Knockwood Reserve	MarknCat Felton	0439 345 207
	31st-4th	Otways	Sally Higgs	0418 539 157
	31st-4th	Haunted Stream	Mick Harris	0424 766 616
	31st-4th	Aberfeldy/ Little O'tools	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	19th	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
<b>DECEMBER</b>	3rd	General Meeting (Safety Dave)	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	13th (Date change)	Christmas Break up party	Committee	
	27th-4th	Ayre Peninsula	Garry Smith	0408 093 529
<b>2015</b>				
<b>JANUARY</b> <b>NO GENERAL MEETING</b>	22nd	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	23rd-26th	Australia Day Long Weekend- Long Beach/ Murray River	Markncat	0439 345 207
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	4th	General Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	17th	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
<b>MARCH</b>	4th	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	6th-9th	Labour Day/long weekend Wombat State Forest	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	18th	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860



## News From The President

Hello to all Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club members and to all other people who access and read this publication online.

I am privileged to write my second submission as the President of the VFWDC.

The new committee has met again and what a great meeting it was. The committee is really excited about plans for the future and the people that we can invite to make presentations at the monthly meetings.

There has been plenty of talk over the past few years about being careful about the weight of our 4wd's when we pack up to head off on holidays, let alone for the long weekenders. We are looking very carefully into who to invite to our meeting to talk to us about possible upgrades to our Gross Vehicle Load limits. We want to help our members be very aware of the legal and insurance ramifications of overloading, and what measures we can do to protect ourselves. Firstly by being aware of what our vehicles actually weigh when we put all our, ummm, stuff in our vehicles - which means we will actually soon have a date for when we can properly get our vehicles weighed. Secondly, what can we do to legally to improve our vehicle rating for maximum loading. But I'm sure that there will be some costs involved, so this will not be for the faint hearted. If all that is too hard, there is always the case of learning to pack less, to keep the vehicle legally safe on the road.

Next month, we will be having our November meeting at the NEW TJM store at Carrum Downs. The manager there is pretty keen to have us come and invade his shop. There will be early BBQ sausages before the meeting, and plenty of talk about stuff available at discounted rates on the night. We expect a special presentation on in-car off road navigation and probably a great talk on lighting too, which is especially important for me, as I've had the remaining front driving light of my Navara knocked off at my local train station by someone driving into the front bull bar. (no note left from the culprit either).

If anyone is interested in doing a chain saw course, please urgently email Stuart Bowker at [trips@vfwdc.com](mailto:trips@vfwdc.com) as Stuart has organised a few members that already had their name on the list to do training through the Victorian 4wd Association during October. There are costs involved, but the safety information that you will learn about what I consider a very dangerous piece of equipment, might just save you from a very serious accident. As a club, we also recommend that you always have your own Personal Protection Gear whenever you use equipment like a chainsaw - for your own safety of course.

There is so much more to tell, but I need to keep some things in suspense for the General meetings and future President page spots, so keep watching this space for the next instalment that I will pen for your reading amusement. (oops, I meant to say your reading delight).

Regards,

David Bruinsma

VFWDC President

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Yarra Valley area (Day Trip)</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Sally Harris MOB: 0412464129
DATE	Saturday 11 October 201
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Lilydale McDonalds 9.30am for 10am departure
GRADE	WET: NA DRY: NA
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Wine tasting and some cheese and some lunch with some great people
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM: 12
APPROX KMS	Na
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Lilydale DIESEL: Lilydale
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	NA
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	A great sense of humour
MAPS REQUIRED	Yarra Valley
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

DESTINATION	<b>Aberfeldy Area Maintenance</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Saturday 18th October
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Moe McDonalds at 8.00am
GRADE	WET: easy DRY: easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Planning to get in early before cup weekend and go to at least one of the areas and with a group make an effort to clear some of the vegetation. If we have enough interest, we will break into TWO groups and tackle TWO areas.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	150kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Moe DIESEL: Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Moe
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Protection gloves, Chainsaws, whipper snippers, brush cutters, hand tools, shovels, etc.
MAPS REQUIRED	none
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12

LOTS OF  
TRIPS

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Aberfeldy/Little O'Tools - Melb Cup Long Weekend</b>
LEADER	NAME: David Bruinsma + family    MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Friday 31th October to Tuesday 4th November
MEETING TIME	TBA closer to the date
GRADE	WET: medium/hard                                  DRY: easy/medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Last year I did a sand trip - this year I'm hoping for a little bit of mud. I have chosen a location much closer to home this year and I'm intending to really enjoy a lot of camp fire socializing. People who have been on my trips before have experienced easy drives, harder drives, night drives, muddy trips and everything in-between - I'm planning pretty much all of the above, but happy hour around the camp fire where we can kick back, laugh at the fun we have had and cook some great tucker is very high on the priority list for me. Camping, camper trailers etc all welcome. I'm hoping to get in there very early on the Friday morning to secure a good spot for everyone to join when they can make it. Little O'Tools is not hard to find. as we get closer to the date, I'll help people arrange to travel together in groups, especially for any newbies.
VEHICLE LMTS	MINIMUM: 4                                  MAXIMUM: 12
APPROX KMS	150kms
DISTANCE B/T SUPPLIES	Moe and last available fuel
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Usual safety gear, camping gear, recovery gear (I reckon I'll find some tracks we will need it) and a jolly good sense of humor is mandatory.
RADIO CHANNEL UHF	UHF 12

DESTINATION	<b>The Otways Melbourne Cup weekend.</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Sally Higgs    MOB: 0435782207
DATE	November 1st-4th
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE	WET: medium    DRY: easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Leaving Saturday morning heading down the Great Ocean Road, for a weekend of exploring the Otways, some four wheel driving, sightseeing and camping. Areas to be visited Cape Otway, Triplett Falls and 12 Apostles.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2                                  MAXIMUM: 5
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	500kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Available in towns along the GOR  DIESEL: Available in towns along the GOR
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	
MAPS REQUIRED	Otway
RADIO CHANNEL    CB / UHF	UHF 11

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Haunted Stream</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Mick Harris  MOB: 0424766616
DATE	Melbourne cup Weekend  31/10/14 to 4/11/14
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Willow park Rosedale. Going there Friday afternoon or can meet there at 9:00 am Saturday. NO CAMPER TRAILERS
GRADE	WET: Med to Hard    DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Spending Friday night at Willow Park then up to Haunted Stream on Saturday then onto Dargo then onto Wonnangatta and home. This is a roving trip.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4    MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS	TBA
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Bairnsdale, Bruthen and Dargo  DIESEL: Bairnsdale, Bruthen and Dargo
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Enough for 4 days
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Normal recovery gear
MAPS REQUIRED	Bairnsdale -Dargo –Omeo Adventure map
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

## WANT TO PLAN A TRIP?

Find the 10 trips to planning a trip <http://vfwdc.com/pdf/10.steps.pdf>

Find the trip data form <http://vfwdc.com/pdf/Trip%20Data%20Form.doc>

Or email Stu our amazing trip coordinator to help you out [trips@vfwdc.com](mailto:trips@vfwdc.com)





1B, 280 South Gippsland Highway,

Cranbourne 3977

P: 03 59955055



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## Minutes of General Meeting September 2014

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

**Present:** members present as per the Attendance book

**Apologies:** Members as per Apologies book

**Visitors:** Visitors as listed in the Visitors Book

### **Minutes of previous General Meeting**

Accepted : Scott Lehmann

Seconded : Lisa Barbera

### **Matters arising:**

NIL

### **Correspondence in**

Out Back Challenge

Winch challenge will keep posted

### **Correspondence out**

Consumer affairs sent out

### **Treasurer's report**

<b>Cheque A/c</b>	Opening Balance		<b>\$ 5576.13</b>
	Deposits	\$1674.00	
	Money Out	\$4509.49	
	<b>Closing Balance</b>		<b>\$ 2860.64</b>
<b>Term Deposit</b>	Opening Balance	\$7413.43	
	<b>Closing Balance</b>		<b>\$ 7413.42</b>
<b>Petty Cash Float</b>	Opening Balance	\$150.00	
	<b>Closing Balance</b>		<b>\$ 150.00</b>
<b>Consolidated Cash Position</b>			<b>\$ 10424.06</b>

**Accepted:** Mark Feltham      **Seconded:** Emily Wimetel

## Minutes of General Meeting September 2014

### Association Report

Nil

### Trip coordinators report

All upcoming trips advertised in the club magazine

Uluru Northern Territory 20<sup>th</sup> Sep to 4<sup>th</sup> Oct -Max and Sandra Germasi

Aberfeldy Clearing 27/28<sup>th</sup> September staying at Little O'tools for the night- Stuart Bowker

Lilydale winery trip Sat 11<sup>th</sup> October Day trip expressions of interest- Sally Harris

Aberfeldy Area Maintenance 18<sup>th</sup> October must have all personal protective equipment -David Bruinsma

#### ***Melbourne cup weekend – 4 trips***

#### **Trip Leader**

Aberfeldy /Little O'Tools

David Bruinsma

Knockwood Reserve

Mark and Catherine Felton

Haunted Stream

Mick Harris

Otways

Sally Higgs

Expression of interest - Ayre Peninsula for Christmas holidays Garry Smith

Chainsaw Course Expressions of interest, it is highly recommended to do this course.

### **Trip reports**

Mt Skeen / Sam Ayoubiee

Organised a second trip to Mt Skene on 15 August 2014

Tried to get Crows hut but it was taken we then found Jays hut which was better with 2 sleeping quarters and a fire place, there was still heaps of snow.

We drove to the summit only to see around 200 vehicles there and had a great weekend.

Thanking everyone who came and look forward to the next one in 2015

## Minutes of General Meeting September 2014

### **General business**

Charlie Costa needs a membership card.

Club members Email list lost, service provider looking at it

### **Saturday Night 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner**

44 attended everyone agreed the food was great

Briefly spoke about Trips

Robe Beach Trip

Mt Skene Snow Trip

Mud Run (Wombat State Forrest)

Wooden Spoon Awarded to David for forgetting tent poles when camping.

Catherine picked her own ticket and won a bottle of liquor Muscat

Emily won the bottle of Moscato

Darrell (one of the very early members of the club) brought along some photo albums from the 1970's and 80's and some old newsletters and Memorabilia

Presented Catherine with flowers and thanked her for years of service.

Good Night

Good Food

Great time had by all

### **First aid Training**

Steve Pitcher, spoke about the day.

Learned lot of new procedures and practices related to first aid

Highly recommend and endorse the course

### **Committee has been working on:**

TJM Carrum downs store holding November Meeting second Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>

Trying to get someone from Power Quip for Oct meeting

December meeting Safety Dave attending 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec First aid equipment

4wd Weights how to apply current rules with GVM try to get Statewide 4x4 to explain rules for February 2015 meeting

Tony Barbera will try to get Andrew Davis from Molytech Australia for March 2015 meeting

Mark has requested that no pictures contact or comments be placed on any social media of Mark & Catherine, or his four wheel drive.

## Minutes of General Meeting September 2014

### Raffle

BBQ Cutlery set	Amanda
Iron Man LED strip light	Carolyn
1 dozen eggs	Andre
1 dozen eggs	Sandra
I4x4 Beanie	Steve

meeting closed 9:42 pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014 at Noble Park Bowl Club



## ***OXFAM AUSTRALIA*** ***TREE DELIVERY***



Dear Christmas tree helpers,

Last December, with the tremendous support of volunteers like you, Oxfam Australia raised over **\$200,000.00** through the delivery of Christmas trees. Our sincere thanks to everyone who has supported and helped make this a success, by donating your time and vehicle. On average, each of 190 vehicles raises about **\$750.00**.

To make this fundraiser a success, we're looking for volunteers to help us again this year. If you are able to assist with loading and unloading trucks or driving, navigating and have a vehicles which can carry 8 to 25 freshly cut trees (with or without a trailer), we'd love to hear from you.

**When: Saturday 7th December**

**What: Delivering south and eastern suburbs of Melbourne**

**OR**

**When: Sunday 8th (from 7am to 11am)**

**What: Delivering northern and western suburbs of Melbourne**

Drivers are generally required for 1-3 hours. Each driver is given a list of addresses, allocated within close proximity to each other. There is no selling or cash handling. All trees are prepaid.

To assist with our planning, please RSVP to [katrinad@oxfam.org.au](mailto:katrinad@oxfam.org.au) or 0407 561 073 by 10th

October, indicating your availability.

For further information, please don't hesitate to call or email me on the details below. If you would like to **order a tree**, go to [www.oxfam.org.au/trees](http://www.oxfam.org.au/trees) or 'phone Oxfam head office on

**1800 034 034 between 9am and 4pm from 4th November.**

Thank you again for your past support in helping Oxfam to continue its important work.

Kind regards,

**Katrina Desfosses**

**Events Coordinator**

**Oxfam Australia**

[katrinad@oxfam.org.au](mailto:katrinad@oxfam.org.au)

0407 561 073





## Murray Sunset Country/ Border Track Trip Report



### Shearers Quarters at Sunrise

#### Day 1

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2014 Mick, Sally, John and Emily left home to meet Stuart and his imaginary friends at Calder park McDonalds at 7.15am. Steve and his old man (Hans) left home (Cobram) around about 9:15am and we all headed to Ouyen and down to the Pink Lakes to the Lake Crosbie camp ground. Mick, Sally, Em, John and Stuart and his imaginary

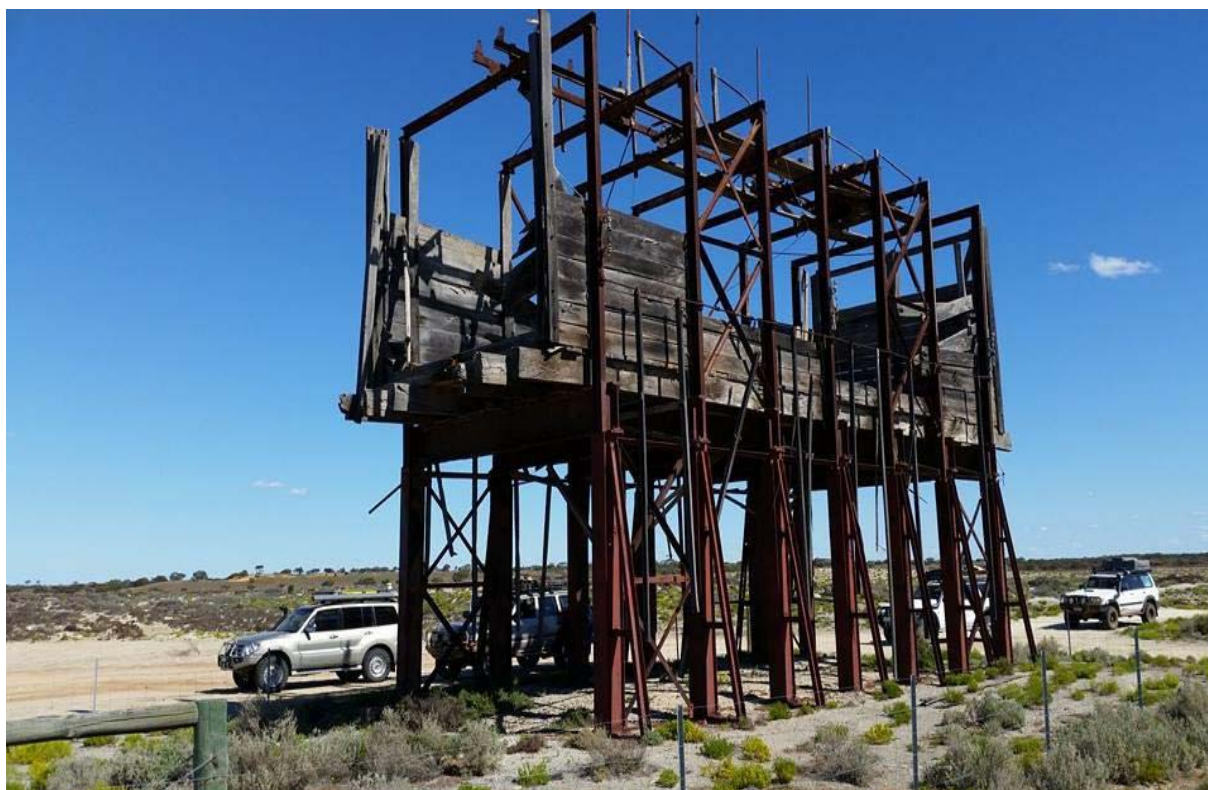


### Pink Lakes

friends arrived around 2pm and the camp ground was rather busy with tourists and grey nomads, but they found a spot and set up camp. Steve and Hans arrived around 5pm and set up camp. After setting up and sitting by the fire for the night we had all had an enjoyable dinner and went to bed.

## Day 2

The next Morning we had breakfast and packed up camp and made our way up Grub track and onto honeymoon hut track and turned left onto mopoke track and went for a drive by look at mopoke hut. When we got there, there were people everywhere so we continued on up towards rocket lake. We stopped there for lunch and had a look at the dried up lake and continued up rocket lake track and turned right onto midnight tank track. We followed that until we came to the old gypsum mining area where we stopped for a look and then continued on towards Ned's corner up Meriden Road towards Merbein and took a left onto the old mail route. We followed this route for about 60kms where the track was hard clay and a few wet spots here and there. Mick noticed that John had his passenger window down as Emily was driving and came up beside them at a greater speed than them and hit a mud puddle and covered his car and John's car (as well as John with his window down) in mud. We then turned right just after Ned's corner station as it is now closed to the public and found a great spot on the river after looking at a couple of other spots and set up camp there for the next couple of days. When we got there Steve was getting his bed ready in his tent to find that there was a sleeping bag missing (one that he had paid good money for just before the snow trip). Hans had tied everything down on the roof rack but had not put the cargo net over it. We assume that we had gone under some low branches and it got knocked off or caught in a tree somewhere. Fortunately mick and sally had a spare with them so Steve used it for the night. We then built a campfire and cooked dinner and sat around the fire and had a few drinks and went to bed.



## Old Gypsum Mine



### Day 3

Today was to be treated as a rest day. It was a rather windy day and Stuart and Steve went for a drive to Renmark so Stu could fuel up his car and Steve could get a new sleeping bag. Mick also wanted Stu to get some coolant for his car. On the way out they followed a couple of tracks nearby the Murray and saw heaps of Emu's and Red and Grey Kangaroo's. While they were driving through these tracks they got a phone call from Em to tell them that Stuart's chair had blown into the fire, so we also went looking for a new chair for Stu. They then went back out toward the Sturt Hwy and across the Murray River to Renmark (SA).

Once they got to Renmark they went to all the Auto shops in town to find coolant for Mick but couldn't find the right coolant that Mick wanted. They also went around town looking for a camping shop so Steve and Stu could get a new sleeping bag and chair but they only had one shop with minimal camping gear so they went to the next town down the road to Berri. Once they got to Berri they found a shop and got a sleeping bag and a chair. They then searched around all the auto shops in town and still couldn't find the right coolant for Mick. They then continued onto the petrol station so Stu could fill up and then went back to camp.

Once they got back to camp they then discovered that Stu's chair was still usable and it was only burnt in the top right corner of the chair but Stu still got his new one out to try it and discovered that it was faulty. The wind was still howling and everyone had dinner and went to bed reasonably early that night.



**Camp fire at Ned's Corner**



**Stu and his imaginary friends**

## Day 4

Today we followed some tracks up to Lock 7 and had a look. There were a couple of creek crossings and it was an interesting drive. We then made our way through the bush over to the Kurluna Cliffs and had a short stop for a look at them. We then proceeded to head back towards the Old Mail Route but then Mick decided to then take a turn to have a look down this track and we came across an old barge at the edge of the river. It was very interesting to look at and to think how they did it back in the days when they used to use these things. After that we went back on course and made our way to the Old Mail Route and back to the Sturt Hwy and over the border into SA to Renmark. Mick, John, and Stu and his imaginary friends continued onto Berri so Mick could choose some coolant and Stu could swap his new faulty chair for a new usable chair. Steve, Hans, Sally and Em stayed at Renmark and had some lunch and did some grocery shopping and fuelled up. Once the others got back we then continued onto the Border Cliffs Customs House. We got there and had a coffee and then started making our way down the Border track where there was a lot of whoody doo's. We followed the Border Track down to the Shearer's Quarters and set up camp for the night where we sat around the fire and had dinner and went to bed.



**Group Shot**



**Stu and his imaginary Car**



## Day 5

We left the Shearer's Quarter's and made our way into Pinnaroo Via the border track so we get permits for the lower section of the track. We went to the bakery and had lunch and then went to the servo to get permits to find out that you can get the permits at the gate to the lower part of the Border track.

After lunch we made our way back via where we left the Border track and made our way down to where the gates are for the lower section. We got out and paid our fees for the lower section and Aired down our tyres to about 16 – 20psi we then carried on until we got to Pines camp-ground and had a look and decided to camp there for the night as it was not for of getting dark. Once again we set up camp and before we got the fire going Hans did a silly dance in the fire pit and then we lit the fire and enjoyed the night around it and went to bed.



**Sunrise at the Shearer's Quarter's**



**Campfire At Shearer's Quarter's**

## Day 6

Today we packed up camp and left to continue down the Border Track where we came across a few rather large sand dunes. Mick was the lead car in his patrol and had a few goes at getting up some of them. John then followed in his Land cruiser and at one stage he had forgot to put it into low range and had about 4 or 5 goes at getting up until his passenger (Em) realised that maybe low range would help as all of the other cars had been using low range for these sand dunes. Steve then followed in his patrol and only had to back down once. Stu and his imaginary friends then followed and had the best fun as TEC. We then came across another sand dune where some of us had trouble getting up especially John, he had a couple of goes at it and then realised he had left the hand brake on. Once we got over that sand dune we then turned right onto centre Track and stopped at Pine soak hut campground for lunch. Steve and Hans swapped spots in the car and Hans started driving for the afternoon. We then continued onto where Centre track met back up with border track just near where we camped the night before and had a go at all the sand dunes again. This time it was a lot easier as we knew what gears to do the sand dunes in but we all had a lot of fun. We then continued down to Red Bluff Camp ground and set up camp for the night. We got there and set up just before the sun went down and then Em, Steve Sally and John went for a walk up to the top of red bluff to watch the sun set. Steve got some photos and then we went back down to cam and had tea and went to bed.



**Stu and his imaginary friends coming up the sand dune.**

**Day 7**

This was the final day of the trip so we packed up our camp and continued along the Border Track where we started to see some wild life again. We had a baby emu chick run out in front of Mick and Sally who had just missed hitting the emu chick with their car and then John and Emily saw it and it scattered across the track and got itself stuck in the fence. John and Em got out of the car and rescued it from the fence and let it go. It took off a hundred mile an hour across the paddock and then doubled back towards us and then ran in front of all of us again in the opposite direction. We then continued down the Border track from there and we came across a few deep holes where other vehicles had been tearing up the track and we had to straddle over a couple of them and then we got to the gate where the end of the Border Track is. Steve and Hans turned right and made their way back to Mildura via Pinnaroo whilst Mick, Sally, Em, and John made their way to Halls gap where they stopped for the night in a caravan park for a nice hot shower and Stu and his imaginary friends continued on home.

**John And The Emu Chick**

It was a great trip and fun was had by all that attended.

Written By: Steve Zonneveldt



# VFWDC 40th Anniversary Dinner

40 years ago, our 4wd club was started.

Through the hard work of the committee a wonderful evening was planned and carried out. Many thanks to all those who played a role in making it to be the success that it was!!

The night started with people beginning to arrive at 5:30pm with lots of catching up and mingling for a 6:00pm start; the evening proceedings began with a formal introduction by president David Bruinsma. After welcoming everyone to the evening and giving a brief explanation as to the running's of the evening, everyone settled in for a fun night of memories and laughter.

During the evening there were a few planned talks about the type of trips that our members had experienced over the recent years, firstly Sam Ayoubie filled us in on his snow trips that he ran with all the adventure and misadventure that happened, Mark and Catherine also gave their insight to the snow trips, camping below the snow line.

Stuart gave us an insight as to his take on why and Stuart and Maree joined the club and how much they have enjoyed being a part of it all.

Our distant former members from Geelong who made a trek gave a small spiel on life in the early days which we found to be most interesting, and they also brought their photos and memorabilia from the era of when they were active in our club.





During the course of the evening we also had a few fun moment moments of choosing a wooden spoon recipient for the most embarrassing moment for the year. This year went to our President David Bruinsma for leaving the tent poles at home ... Hopefully he'll remember next time!

Catherine was presented with a bouquet of flowers as a thank you for the wonderful effort she has contribute to the club as the editor for the past 4 years.

With a full buffet 3 course meal taking place progressively through the evening and the bar open for drinks we were all having a marvellous time.

The 2 door prizes went to Catherine and Emily who took home with them bottle of wine each for the St Anne's winery near Wombat forest. Congrats girls on winning!

The night then began to wind down after a very tasty dessert and closing thanks for all be-



# Bush Tucker

## Damper

Damper was traditionally the bushman's bread. First cooked by Australian settlers, as many had to be away from their homes for many weeks at a time. The damper was popular though out these times because of the cheap and easy assessable ingredients needed flour, water and salt. The damper was derived from the way of 'damping' the fire, covering it with ashes. The damper was usually cooked over night as a way to preserve the red coals that could be stoked and a fire restarted in the morning .



**DID YOU KNOW:** William Bond, a first fleeter opened a bakery in 1817 on Pitt street and the damper was the first thing he cooked.



### Aussie Damper

#### Ingredients:

2 cups self raising flour  
1 Tablespoon butter or margarine  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
approx 1 cup water  
1/4 cup milk

#### Method:

Ideally, sift flour and salt into a large bowl.

Rub the butter through the flour until you get a 'crumbly' mixture.

Gradually stir in water and milk

Cover hands in flour and knead the bread on a floured surface until fairly smooth. Shape into a ball and flatten slightly. Shape the mixture into a round and allow to stand for 5-10 minutes

Put Damper in a camp oven and bake for one hour or until cooked, Not burnt.

### Stu and Maree's Famous Damper:

1kg self rising flour

2 cans of beer (any variety will do)

Mix flour and beer, into a dough (drink the left over beer)

Heat a camp oven

Put damper in the camp oven make sure you put some flour in the bottom to stop it sticking

Bake for approx 1 hour till cooked. This will depend on the heat of the coals used and the size of the camp oven

Stuarts special touch, If there's lots of flies around, add some small raisins, then if any flies get in the mix, the raisins will hide them.

Serve with butter and golden syrup.