



FREE WHEELING

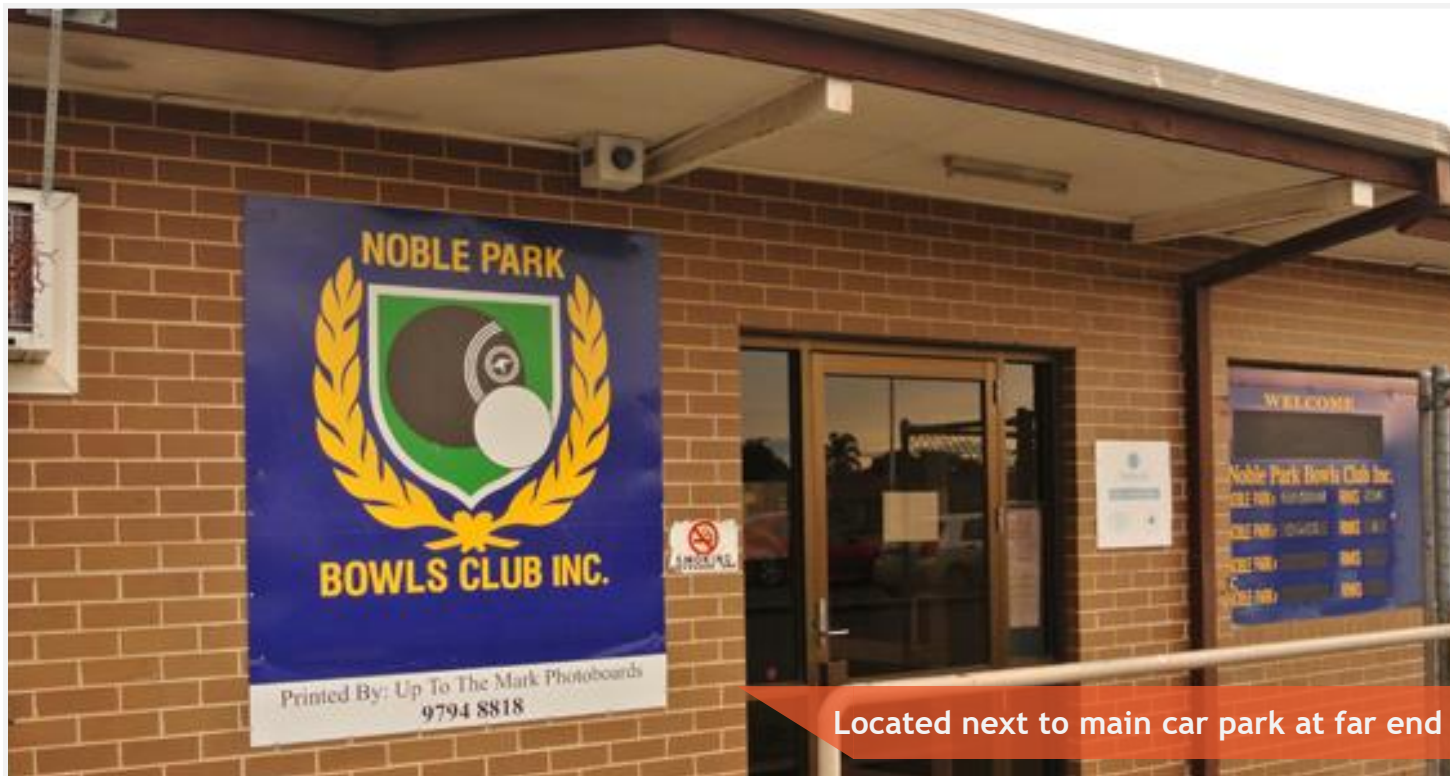
September 2018



Official Newsletter of the
Victorian Four Wheel
Drive Club Inc

Original photo by Darna
Shepherd on Mt. Skene

Registration No
A0002184F

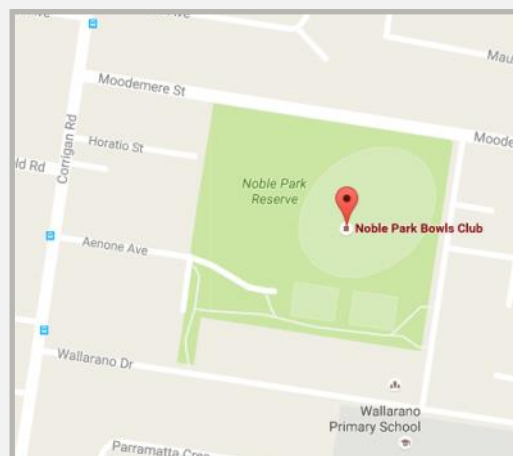


VFWDC General Meeting Venue

The club meets on the first WEDNESDAY of each month at 8:00pm. With the following exceptions; No meeting in January. November meeting is at a selected location, watch the calendar.

Bowling Club Rooms

Noble Park Noble Football Club
46-56 Moodemere Street
Noble Park



Members and guests are welcome to dine at the bistro before attending the meeting from 6:30pm.



Aberfeldy Track

In association with [Westland Gippsland Relic, Mining and Heritage Protection Inc](#) , the club maintains a section of the Aberfeldy Track with working bees throughout the year. View the club calendar for the next upcoming working bee.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

2018-2019

President	Steve Pitcher	vicepres@vfwdc.com
Vice President	David Bruinsma	delegate@vfwdc.com
Secretary	Stephen Dickson	secretary@vfwdc.com
Treasurer	Tony Barbera	treasurer@vfwdc.com

General Committee

Trip Coordinator	Bruce Cremonesi	trips@vfwdc.com
Magazine Editor	Ly Ho	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	delegate@vfwdc.com
General Committee	Stuart Bowker	
General Committee	Callum Brown	
General Committee	Andre Van Der Walt	

Support Positions to Committee

Web manager	Ben Whitworth	web@vfwdc.com
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	
Training officer	Ashley Martin	
Merchandise	Des Whall	merchandise@vfwdc.com
Catering	Caroline Bruinsma	

Club Details

Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
Registration No	A002184F
Correspondence	PO Box 778 Dandenong VIC 3174
Email	secretary@vfwdc.com
Website	www.vfwdc.com

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

CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Club Polo Shirt	\$28.00	Club Hoodie	\$50.00
Club Singlet and T-Shirt	\$15.00	Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$50.00
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$45.00	Club Bucket Hat	\$16.00
Club Caps	\$10.00	Club Beanie	\$10.00
Club Wide Brim Hat	\$18.00	VFWDC Windscreen stickers	
Club Drivers Jacket (Coat)	\$70.00	Small	\$6.00
		Large	\$8.00
Club Cloth Badges 120mm	\$8.00		

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo shirt.

Email your order to merchandise@vfwdc.com. Please ensure you advise size required.



Hi all,

I hope that you all enjoy this month's edition of Free Wheeling magazine.

Well, the club held its 2018 AGM last month and I am pleased to announce that we received nominations for all key roles. This was a great demonstration of member's support for the club and I wish to thank all of you who nominated for a committee position or agreed to continue in your support roles.

Ben did a great job of leading our club and the committee over the past 2 years and I wish to thank him for his contribution over that time. He has also agreed to continue in his role of web manager.

For those that may not know me well, I first joined the club back in 2002, I have served on the committee in other roles previously and I have made many friends within the club over that time. I was first attracted to the club for its family values and I think that remains a key point of difference with our club today.

Our committee line up for the upcoming year is as follows:

- President: Steve Pitcher
- Vice President: David Bruinsma
- Secretary: Stephen Dickson
- Treasurer: Tony Barbera
- General Committee: Stuart Bowker, Callum Brown and Andre Van Der Walt
- Association Delegate: David Bruinsma
- Trip Coordinator: Bruce Cremonesi

- Training Officers: Philip Griffith and Ashley Martin
- Web Manager: Ben Whitworth
- Magazine Editor: Ly Ho
- Merchandise: Des Whall
- Catering: Caroline Bruinsma

As you can see from the above, it takes considerable volunteer support to keep our club functioning. I sincerely wish to thank those who have agreed to fill these roles in their continued support of our great club.

I look forward to working with our new committee over the next year and to catching up with you all out on a club trip or at the next general meeting.

Keep safe, tread lightly and have fun out there!

Steve Pitcher
President

CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

September

5th	Wed	General Meeting		
8th	Sat	Tallarook	TBC	TBC
15th	Sat	FWDV General Meeting		
15th	Sat	First Aid Training (and Update)	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
18th	Tue	Committee Meeting		

October

3rd	Wed	General Meeting		
16th	Tue	Committee Meeting		
20th to 21st	Sat to Sun	Aberfeldy Area Club Working Bee	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860

November

TBC	TBC	Special Meeting		
3rd to 6th	Sat to Tue	Portland Buggy Club	Tony Barbera	0417 153 424
3rd to 6th	Sat to Tue	Beachport, Robe, Carpenters, Narracoorte Caves	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
5th	Mon to Tue	Guy Fawkes Day, Bonfire Night	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
3rd to 6th	Sat to Tue	Mckillops Bridge (Deddick trail)	Jeff Griffiths	0425 705 224
12th	Mon	FWDV General Meeting	FWDV	
20th	Tue	Committee Meeting		

December

TBC	TBC	Christmas Party		
5th	Wed	General Meeting		

IMPORTANT



- Hella are coming to October meeting as our special guests. There will be a special presentation and raffle prizes. Don't miss it!
- **Club merchandise has been reduced!** Check out the new prices on page three and pick up some new gear for this cooler season.
- If you wish to join us for dinner before the General Meeting, please book a spot at [Club Noble](#). Phone 9546 0653 and ask to join "Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club" table. You must book **BEFORE** the Monday on the week of the meeting to avoid disappointment!

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

August 2018

Meeting started 8.05pm

Attendees - as per book

Apologies - as per book

Minutes from July Meeting

Read and Accept

Accepted:

Second: Jeff

Correspondence from mins

Accepted: David

Second: Emily

David said Stuart's name was in mag, when he wasn't there. Explained it was a typo.

Incoming Correspondence

- Upcoming Trips
- Insurance Update
- Permit for Snow Trip
- First Aid Training info
- Meet and Greet from Beach Hut
- Top secret committee emails
- Email from 4wd Vic

Outgoing Correspondence

- Replies to emails

Treasurers Report

As per attachment in magazine

Accepted: Emily

Seconded: Des

4wd Vic

Stuff

General Business

Snow Trips

August 18th - 1 Group lower

Leaving the pub at early o'clock.

August 25th - 1 Group lower

Leaving the pub at early o'clock.

Good onya award

4 Nominations

1. Dave B - from Andrew White. Dave managed to get stuck downhill.
2. Des - Brett Nuske - Cassilis Trip. Des getting lost for several hours in dark on own looking for camp. 11pm they found him
3. Jeff Griffith - Steve Dickson. Murray Sunset trip- setup his pie oven to cook dinner, lunch time. Arriving at camp, he found he hadn't turned it on. Much laughing at him was had.
4. Ly Ho - From Dave - Toolangi night run. Ly nearly rolled his cruiser with several wheels in the air and needed to be recovered backwards to save his life.

Winner Jeff Griffith.

Renewals

Due end of July. Membership form is online

Steve mentioned don't be norty while driving on the road - people notice.

New Members

Upcoming Club Trips (Trip forms down the back of the meeting on the bench)

- Bruce - Snow Trips 18th August.
- Ben - Snow Trips 25th August.
- Steve P - Cobaw 18-19th August
- Sally Higgs - Tallarook -
- Bruce C - Robe/Beachport Melbourne Cup Weekend
- Tony - Portland Buggy Club - Melbourne Cup Weekend
- Jeff Griffiths - Deddick Trail - Melbourne Cup Weekend
- Mick Harris - Centre to Cape York.

--- Donuts, Cake, Coffee and Socialising Break ---

Past Club Trips

St. Annes Winery

Sam and his snow trip

The secret person whose name wont be used here mentioned we need some more trips, so if you have any ideas, please email them through to committee@vfwdc.com

5th September next meeting

Meeting Closed

9 pm

GOOD ON YA!

The "Good on ya" trophy is awarded to a member who has done something silly, stupid, crazy or out of the box.

This year's winner is Jeff! On a trip he was raving to everyone about his delicious pies he was going to have for lunch in his Travel Buddy. Unfortunately by lunch he discovered the Travel Buddy wasn't plugged in and had cold pies...



TRADING POST

Members can advertise any four wheel drive or camping related items they wish to sell or buy.

Just email the editor, editor@vfwdc.com, with the following:

1. Description of the item
2. Price
3. Contact details
4. Photos (highly recommended)

FOR SALE: Bridgestone Dueler A/T x 5

\$1000 negotiable

Emily Wimetal

emilynwimetal@gmail.com

265x70R 17 inch Kingwheels

4x near new

1x slight damage but does not effect the use.

Used once for flinders ranges

Bought for \$1600 selling for \$1000 negotiable



UPCOMING TRIPS

Something goofy happened to someone on a trip? Nominate them for the next “Good on ya” trophy! Send a quick summary to trips@vfwdc.com

DESTINATION	Tallarook State Forrest
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: TBC MOB: TBC
DATE	Saturday 8th September
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Departure 8am from Lilydale McDonalds
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	A nice cruisy day trip. Some of the more fun tracks are closed but there is still plenty to see and do in the park. It will be great for beginners or people with not a lot of 4WD experience. You will get the opportunity to try some rocky shaley climbs and try some exploring with us.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 8 Have to limit vehicle numbers to fit in places for lunch etc.
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	100km
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Lilydale DIESEL: Lilydale
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	100km
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Recovery Gear, Food for the day (Plus a little bit extra for emergencies) Radio.
MAPS REQUIRED	Roof Top - Toolangi - Macedon Adventure Map
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	Channel 15 UHF
GOOGLE MAPS	See here

DESTINATION
LEADER/CONTACT NO.

First Aid Training (and Update)

NAME: David Bruinsma
MOB: 0417 747 860

DATE

Saturday 15th September

MEETING PLACE / TIME

108 Bourke St, Melbourne VIC 3000
Time: TBA

GRADE

WET: Easy
DRY: Easy

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS

This is our bi-annual course to update our knowledge in the area of First Aid
As a club we fully support and encourage our members to be prepared for medical emergencies, especially since we travel to remote areas. We may be needed to render assistance with first aid until professional help can get to where we are.

Click on the link below, and you will need to register and pay online approx. 4 weeks prior to the date above.

Note: you need to register with your email address and undertake the online component of study PRIOR to arriving for the practical on the Saturday.

I find it is best to allow up to 2 evenings in the week leading up to the training to spend approx. 2 hours at your home PC to do the reading and answer the multiple choice questions.

The course we undertake is:
HLTAID003 Provide first aid

<https://www.firstaidtrainingmelbournecbd.com.au/?First-Aid;Info;1685>

VEHICLE LIMITS

MINIMUM: -
MAXIMUM: -

MAPS REQUIRED

I usually go into city by train and get off at Parliament Station and walk down Bourke Street.

DESTINATION	Aberfeldy Area Club Working Bee
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Saturday 20th—21st October
MEETING PLACE / TIME	McDonalds on the Pakenham bypass departing 6:30 PM Friday night or meet us at Aberfeldy township Saturday Morning for a 9:00 am departure.
GRADE	WET: Easy DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Idea is to head up past Aberfeldy to start cleaning and clearing of some of the summer grass from the base of the signs together with any fallen trees over the walking tracks our club is looking after. Then to camp at Little O'Tools for the night and do some four wheel driving Sunday before heading home Sunday afternoon. Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: N/A
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	300-400km round trip
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Moe DIESEL: Moe LPG: Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	72km
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may require. AT or MT tyres Self sufficient camping and food for the weekend. If you have one please bring a chain saw, chain oil and fuel Note: Personal Protective Equipment is mandatory for chain saw operators eg; earmuffs, safety visor, Chaps, work gloves and sturdy boots.
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftop maps Walhalla-Licola
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12, or call me on mobile
GOOGLE MAPS	See here

DESTINATION	Beachport, Robe, Carpenters, Narracoorte Caves
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Bruce C MOB: 0400 42 52 96
DATE	November Melbourne Cup Long Weekend. Friday - Tuesday 2nd to 6th
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBC
GRADE	WET: Easy DRY: Medium to Hard—be ready for Beach Recoveries.
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Heading to Southern Oceans Caravan Park in Beachport to base camp. Plan is Friday Day 1 - Drive to Beachport Saturday Day 2 - Beach run and dunes run to Carpenters Rocks Sunday Day 3 - Rest day OR anything you like, wineries, or 120klms to the Dinosaur Caves at Narracoorte. www.naracoortecaves.sa.gov.au Monday Day 4 - Beach run to Buggy club + Robe Tuesday Day 5 - Drive home.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	550klms from Eastlink to Beachport
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL and DIESEL: It's everywhere
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	It's everywhere on the way.
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	FULL RATED RECOVERY POINTS FRONT AND REAR - No If's No Buts Full Recovery gear - Snatch, 2x Shackles, winch blanket ON CLUB TRIPS - HELP WILL ALWAYS BE ON HAND But each and every vehicle must be self-sufficient with its own recovery gear and you shouldn't rely on the other members to provide equipment. Other basic equipment that is advisable to carry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid Kit (and knowledge of how to use it) • Tyre deflator, inflator and tyre pressure gauge • UHF Radio - Recommended 5W output • Basic Tool Kit • Suitable Jack & Jacking base plate • Fire extinguisher • Torch • Spare fuses
MAPS REQUIRED	Nil—You can pick up from Visitors Center at Beachport
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	INCAR UHF is recommended—Channel 12
GOOGLE MAPS	See here

DESTINATION	Portland Buggy Club
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Tony Barbera MOB: 0417 153 424
DATE	Nov Melbourne Cup Weekend Saturday 3rd to Tuesday 6th November
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBC
GRADE	WET: Easy DRY: Easy/Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Head to the dunes of Portland to blast around the hills. Also fishing out of the beach gutters is very worth while if that's your thing
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	410kms from Scoresby to the Buggy Club.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL and DIESEL: Portland
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	It's everywhere on the way.
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	FULL RATED RECOVERY POINTS FRONT AND REAR - No If's No Buts Full Recovery gear - Snatch, 2x Shackles, winch blanket Other basic equipment that is advisable to carry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid Kit (and knowledge of how to use it) • Tyre deflator, inflator and tyre pressure gauge • UHF Radio - Recommended 5W output • Basic Tool Kit • Suitable Jack & Jacking base plate • Fire extinguisher • Torch • Spare fuses
MAPS REQUIRED	Nil
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	INCAR UHF is recommended—Channel 12
GOOGLE MAPS	See here

DESTINATION	Guy Fawkes Day, Bonfire Night—St Annes Winery
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Monday 5th November
MEETING PLACE / TIME	64 Garrards Ln, Myrniong VIC Time: TBA
GRADE	WET: Easy DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>We have been invited to attend St Anne's winery for a bon-fire night - probably on Monday 5th November. Below is a little bit of information about Guy Fawkes (I had to look it up on Wikipedia)</p> <p>More information will be made available closer to the time, but for those who have not been able to attend the clubs other trips planned for the Cup Weekend, this might be a suitable opportunity to get together close to Melbourne CBD.</p> <p>I think there will be opportunity to camp overnight again at the Winery, hopefully with less windy conditions than Xmas in July.</p> <p>Guy Fawkes Night, also known as Guy Fawkes Day, Bonfire Night and Firework Night, is an annual commemoration observed on 5 November, primarily in Great Britain. Its history begins with the events of 5 November 1605, when Guy Fawkes, a member of the Gunpowder Plot, was arrested while guarding explosives the plotters had placed beneath the House of Lords. Celebrating the fact that King James I had survived the attempt on his life, people lit bonfires around London; and months later, the introduction of the Observance of 5th November Act enforced an annual public day of thanksgiving for the plot's failure.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: - MAXIMUM: -
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	40kms from Melbourne CBD
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL and DIESEL: Every major suburb
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Every major suburb
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Camp chair, and maybe overnight camping supplies
MAPS REQUIRED	Nil
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF Channel 12 or call me
GOOGLE MAPS	See here

DESTINATION	McKilops Bridge (Deddick Trail)
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Jeff Griffiths MOB: 0425 705 224
DATE	3/11/18 to 6/11/19 Melbourne Cup Weekend
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BP McDonalds on the Pakenham Bypass (on the freeway) Meet at 7:30 AM for 8:00 am departure
GRADE	WET: Medium / Difficult DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Saturday Drive up to McKillops Bridge on the way stop have a look at where the Snowy river and Buchan river meet.</p> <p>Saturday night camp the night McKillops Bridge then. Sunday head down the Deddick Trail to Jacksons Crossing. Camp there.</p> <p>Monday have a day there to relax, swim, have a look around. Tuesday head home maybe have a look at Buchan Caves on the way through.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	400kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL and DIESEL: TBA
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	TBA
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Full recovery gear, tools and any spares you may require. AT or MT tyres. Must have a Snorkel fitted UHF radio in vehicle or hand held. All your own camping gear and food for 4 days Nibbles for happy hour. Sorry no Camper Trailers
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftops Snowy River -McKillops Bridge -Lakes Entrance
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF Channel 12
GOOGLE MAPS	See here

COBAW STATE FOREST

18th - 19th August
by Steve Pitcher

While gathering at our rendezvous point (the BP / Macca's at Calder Park), we were greeted by some other friendly faces - those from our club who were headed north for their Cape York trip.

After a quick bite, a cuppa and a chat, we were soon on the road. About an hour later, we reached the outer fringes of Cobaw State Forest. We stopped to air down and to take in the chill (yes, it was a little cold!). The sun was shining though so it was promising to be a good day.

Soon enough, we reached the main picnic ground in the park and that's where the 4WDing began. First, we made our way along Smiths Track (minor ruts and the occasional large puddle) before turning on to Pinnacle Track. It was along this track that we ascended, and rather quickly at that, to a height of around 730 meters above sea level. There was a large fallen tree across the highest section of the track but we managed to drive around it by following tracks that others had laid before us.





From there, it was all down hill...

The descent was equally as steep but quite a bit slower and rougher. After a short section where the track did flatten out, it descended again into even rougher terrain. At this point, the track had narrowed considerably and by then we were past the point of no return - we were now committed!



There was lots of slow going, the occasional wheel lift, frequent large drops and body-hugging ruts.

Owen led the charge (mostly on foot), spotting our vehicles' lines and hand-signalling everyone through the most difficult of obstacles. These were some of the worst (aka fun and memorable) sections of track that we would see for the day. All in all, it took close to 2 hours of slow, technical and challenging driving make our way back out to where we had started out from.



After about an hour's break for lunch (David needed some extra time to replace a tyre that had developed a slow leak), we drove further along the forest until we reached Pole Track. This track had several side options but we kept largely to the main track and before we knew it, we were back on to a main road.

From there, we turned our attention to Soil Pit Track. The start of the track was quite tricky (a few boulders and some decent ruts) and I needed 2 attempts (and both lockers) to make it through that section. David picked a much better line and made it through with ease. Tristan and Sally followed David's line and we were all on the move again. Shortly after, the track split (there was the original track and a chicken run).

While a couple of us stuck to the original section of track, it wasn't long before we could hear over the CB radio that the chicken track was holding the Disco up! After a few moments, Tristan and Sally got going again and we made our way down to the lowest and wettest point of elevation.

It was a short but very muddy descent down towards a stream and that is where the first winch was needed. David had attempted to take what appeared to be the easiest option to make the short descent, only to find that he was struggling to get his wheels to cross over into the desired wheel ruts. Tristan helped out with a quick winch backwards and, following a change in tact, we were all moving in the right direction (down hill) once more.

Once that was sorted, we crossed a very small stream before facing a short but challenging drive back up and out the other side. That's where the real fun began...



I picked a line, stuck the right boot in and made it close to the top in quick time. Unfortunately, the spare wheel got caught up on a protruding rock/boulder and I fell 1-2 meters short of making it up unassisted. After winching myself unstuck from the rock, it was David's turn to give it a go. He analysed the track and picked a very different line to mine. He made impressive progress but, ultimately, still had to winch the final section too. In the meantime, the weather had started to turn and it began to hail intensely (thankfully, the hail was only brief). Next up was Tristan who needed a couple of goes to make it but was able to show everyone how to do it without winching at all!

From there, it didn't take long until we made it to near our campsite. That's where Tristan and Sally aired up and parted company, heading home for the evening. The rest of us found a campsite for the evening, cut and collected a pile of fire wood then settled in around a campfire. While all that was happening, I had to change a tyre which had copped a bit of dirt in the bead. The night itself was cold (there was a period where we could see the beginnings of snowfall) so we kept the coals hot while we recounted the day's events over dinner and a couple of reds.

All in all, it was another great, challenging and fun trip out. Thanks to everyone who came along.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Photos from the Mt. Skene trip on 18th October [uploaded here](#).
There are more photos and content posted by our members on our [VFWDC Facebook group](#).