



# FREE WHEELING

May 2019

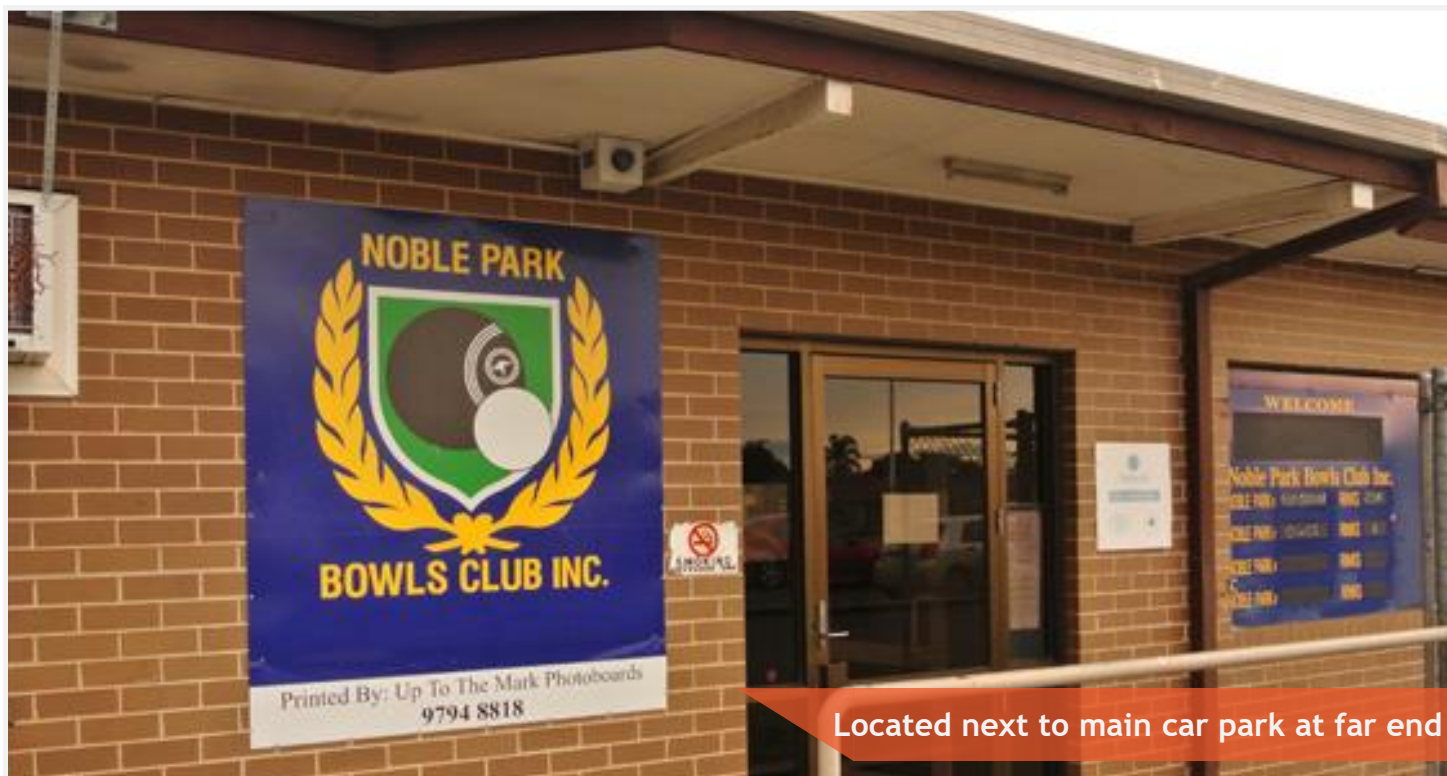


Official Newsletter of the  
Victorian Four Wheel  
Drive Club Inc

Original photo by Roger  
Blakeman at Border Track

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	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President	David Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary	Sally Higgs	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
Treasurer	Tony Barbera	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com">treasurer@vfwdc.com</a>

## General Committee

Trip Coordinator	Andre Van Der Walt	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Magazine Editor	Ly Ho	<a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:delegate@vfwdc.com">delegate@vfwdc.com</a>
General Committee	Stuart Bowker	
General Committee	Callum Brown	
General Committee		

## Support Positions to Committee

Web Manager	Ben Whitworth	<a href="mailto:web@vfwdc.com">web@vfwdc.com</a>
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	
Training officer	Ashley Martin	
Merchandise	Des Whall	<a href="mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com">merchandise@vfwdc.com</a>
Catering	Lisa Barbera	

## Club Details

Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
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>
The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of <a href="#">Four Wheel Drive Victoria</a> - <a href="http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au">www.fwdvictoria.org.au</a>	



Hi everyone,

I hope that you got to enjoy the Easter and ANZAC Day breaks. We were very lucky to have three different trips run over that period, including a couple of interstate ones.

When going on an extended trip, it is always a good idea to 'expect the unexpected'. One of the best ways to prepare for unexpected events is to not only ensure that your vehicle is in good order before heading off but to also carry a range of spares for your vehicle and to consider taking out travel insurance. The last trip that I went on certainly dished out an unexpected surprise (blown head gasket) which caused me to end my trip early. Thankfully, I always carry a range of spares which made it easier to deal with the situation at hand. And, as I type this article, I am currently waiting for further repairs to be carried out on my vehicle which I had to leave up in Mildura... Fortunately, I also have a great travel insurance policy that made it much easier for me to find accommodation at very short notice and to deal with some of the unexpected extra costs of getting back home safely.

On a different note, later this month we will be holding a working bee up in the Aberfeldy area. It would be great to see as many members as possible turn out for this event. As the saying goes, many hands make light work. We will also be treated to a historical tour of the area by a representative from West Gippsland Relic, Mining and Heritage Protection Inc. So if you can, please do come along to help out and to experience some of the rich history of the area.

Until I next see you, take care, keep safe and remember to tread lightly.

Steve Pitcher



CLUB MERCHANDISE



PRICING


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](mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com). Please ensure you advise size required.

# CLUB NOBLE FORM

Did you know if you're a member of Club Noble (the sporting club next door to the meeting), you get discounts on your meal and drinks. And when it's your birthday, you get more than enough points for a feed and drink. \$10 per year—pretty good I reckon!

[Click here to download the form](#) and hand it to reception desk.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Membership Application (Please tick)

New ☐ Renewal ☐ Existing Member No: .....

Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Other ☐

Given Name/s: ..... Male ☐ Female ☐ D.O.B: ...../...../.....

Last Name: .....

Postal Address: ..... Suburb: .....

State: ..... Postcode: ..... Mobile Number: ..... Home Phone: .....

Email Address: .....

Membership Fee (Please Tick) 1 Year \$10 ☐ 2 years \$20 ☐ 3 Years \$30 ☐

Payment Details (Please Tick) Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ C/C ☐

Card Holders Name: ..... Card Type: Visa ☐ M/card ☐

Card No: ...../...../...../..... Expiry Date: ...../...../.....

Signature: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

I hereby apply to become a member of the Noble Park Football Social Club Ltd and agree to observe the rules and by-laws. I verify that I am over the age of 18 and have received and carefully read and understood the Loyalty Membership terms. I agree to strictly abide by these Loyalty Membership Terms as amended from time to time and declare that the details in the application are true and correct.


I wish to receive communications including promotional material, third party offers that include alcohol or gaming related advertising (Please Tick) Yes ☐ No ☐

I agree to receive my Player Activity Statement in accordance with government legislation (Please tick one box only) Mail ☐ SMS ☐ Email ☐

I agree to accept the Annual Report and Financial Statement via: *Please Circle one option*

Members Section (Website) Email

Signature: ..... Date: ...../...../.....



YourPlay gives you the power to track how much money and time you are spending as you play. You can also use YourPlay to set limits on the money and time you spend on gaming machines and to see your playing history online at any time. YourPlay can be added to your loyalty membership card and used on any gaming machine in Victoria. You can register for YourPlay at [yourplay.com.au](http://yourplay.com.au) or ask a staff member for assistance

INTERNAL USE ONLY

Membership Number: ..... Customer ID Sighted: .....

Staff Member's Name: ..... Confirm Customer's over 18: .....

THANK YOU AND WELCOME TO CLUB NOBLE

# CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

May				
1st	Wed	General Meeting		
15th	Wed	Proficiency Training—Theory Night	Phil Griffith Ashley Martin	0428 134 399 0419 865 472
18th to 19th	Sat to Sun	Proficiency Training—Practical	Phil Griffith Ashley Martin	0428 134 399 0419 865 472
20th	Mon	Committee Meeting		
25th to 26th	Sat to Sun	Aberfeldy Working Bee	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
June				
5th	Wed	General Meeting		
8th to 10th	Sat to Mon	TBD	Sally Higgs	0435 782 207
10th	Mon	Queen's Birthday		
17th	Mon	Committee Meeting		
22nd to 23rd	Sat to Sun	Christmas in July	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
November				
TBA	TBA	Biannual Trip to Beachport and Robe for Melbourne Cup weekend	TBA	TBA

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](mailto:trips@vfwdc.com)

## IMPORTANT

- **Club merchandise has been reduced!** Check out the new prices on page five 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

**3rd April 2019**

## Attendees

As per attendance sheets

## Apologies

As per attendance sheets

Banny

Carolyn

Phil

Paul Evans

## Minutes from Last Meeting

Accepted by Jack

Seconded by Stuart

## Matters arising from Last Meeting

Nil

## Correspondence In/ Out:

Emails:

- Apologies from Banny for March and April meeting
- Information on seasonal road closures from Four Wheel Drive Victoria
- Email to members on seasonal road closures
- Information on First Aid Course from Four Wheel Drive Victoria
- Bank Account details to Four Wheel Drive Victoria regarding refunds from National Association

Mail:

- Bendigo Bank Statement - Feb 2019

Letter from Swan Reach Holiday Park

Accepted by Andre

Seconded by David B

## Treasurer's Report

As per treasures report

Accepted by Andre

Seconded by David B

## Association Delegate Report

- David and Steve attended members update meeting in Rosebud in March
- Update on Affiliation with National Organisation. 4WD Victoria President is acting with QLD equivalent for the National Body.
- VFWDC did remit fees to 4WD Victoria which includes fees for the National Association. We have been advised that we will be receiving a refund and we will be raising with members once we have refund on what we will do with the money. It is a very small proportion of our fees.
- Once it settles down it is likely that 4WD Victoria will rejoin the National Association. It is likely to be reinvigorated across numerous areas such as RTO, Insurance, Lobbying, leveraging market buying power
- Presentation by SatPhone Shop
- Q&A Session

## New Members/Guests and Prospective Members

Visitors - as per attendance sheet

New Memberships

- Dean & Joy - received cards
- Shane & Jennie - received cards
- Michael & Sally

## Driver Training

- Driver proficiency training session - 15th Theory - 18th/ 19th May -practical sessions
- Tyre change and winch practice session in a controlled environment - 13/04/2019

## Merchandise

- New scarves and stubby holders available for purchase
- Discounts on some of our older polos

## General Business

- Membership fees and renewals due by end of June for the coming year.



### **Upcoming Trips**

- Tyre repairs and winch practice - location TBC 13/4 (Stuart)
- Flinders Ranges & Mungo NP Easter to ANZAC Day long weekends (Sally)
- Border Track (Roger Blakeman)
- Working Bee and Tour of Aberfeldy region on 25-26 May (David)
- Night Run - Toolangi 3rd May - Andre
- Bringing Christmas in July even forward to June due to weather - St Anne's Winery 22nd - 23rd June (David)
- Blazeaid - looking for volunteers 25th and 26th April to help in Bunyip
- Sally to run Queens Birthday trip (8th, 9th, 10th) June - location TBD

### **Guest Speakers**

- Sally is organizing a snake awareness and education evening
- We are hoping to secure Safety Dave for September Meeting

### **Past Trip Reports**

- Short Notice Trip: Otways NP (Anne Crockett / Roger Blakeman)
- Not a Trip but special mention to Sally & Tristan for completing Oxfam Trailwalker

### **Raffle Prizes**

- Jerry Can - Callum
- Ratchet Strap - Ian
- Travel Rug - Alan
- Grease Gun Kit - Andre

Meeting Closed: 21:25 Hours

Next meeting 1st May 2019

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

Just email the editor, [editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com), with the following:

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

FREE: Fire Wood

FREE

Bring you saw and trailer.

*"...I have no photos as the wood varies from fallen branches to dead, but standing trees. All Gum trees. Up to almost 1m in diameter."*

492 Yarragon South Road  
Yarragon South, 3823

Gary

[kiwiau@inet.net.au](mailto:kiwiau@inet.net.au)

0408 093 529



## FREE: Tigerz11 Awning 2 x 2.5m

FREE

Bought a new awning so the one came with the car is free to a good home.

The original velcro straps have lost its stickiness so I stuck some new ones which do the trick. The poles no longer twist-lock so I added collars to hold it place. The bag has a few holes up top but never had trouble with wetness or mould. It's missing a rivet or two that holds it to the aluminium backing.

No mounting brackets or screws—just the awning and bag.

Ly Ho

[ly.tri.ho@gmail.com](mailto:ly.tri.ho@gmail.com)

0433 387 811





## FOR SALE: Bridgestone Dueler A/T x 5

\$1000 negotiable

Emily Wimetal

[emilynwimetal@gmail.com](mailto: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



Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc  
www.vfwdc.com



# Treasurer's Report

## March 2019



<u>Cheque A/C`</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/03/2019	\$6,033.38
Add:	Raffle	\$107.45
	Merchandise	\$110.00
	Memberships	\$480.00
	Total Monies In:	\$697.45
<u>Less:</u>	Catering	\$22.80
	Total Monies Out:	\$22.80
	Closing Balance as at 31/03/2019	\$6,708.03
<u>Term Deposit</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/03/2019	\$6,604.23
	Interest Paid	\$0.00
	Closing Balance as at 31/03/2019	\$6,604.23
<u>Petty Cash</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/03/2019	\$150.00
	Add:	
	Less:	
	Closing Balance as at 31/03/2019	\$150.00
	<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>	<b>\$13,462.26</b>

# UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Proficiency Training
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	Ashley Martin - 0428 134 399 Phil Griffith - 0419 865 472
DATE	Theory - Wednesday May 15, 7.30pm start Practical - Saturday/Sunday May 18 &19
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Theory - Noble Park Football Club, Blue & Gold Room (above dining area)
GRADE	Practical - Service Centre Officer (Princess Hwy) TBA WET: Easy/Medium DRY: Easy/Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>The Club encourages all members to participate in a proficiency course to ensure the basic fundamentals of 4 wheel driving are gained.</p> <p>Theory provides an overview of the tread lightly principals, vehicles dynamics and functions, tackling various terrains along with other subjects. This provides the back ground for the practical weekend.</p> <p>Practical we run through individual vehicles and differences, basic recovery equipment and recap some of the theory (including home work J). We then begin the practical side running through several techniques to ensure safe vehicle recovery when in difficult situations. Once all participants are confident with these we hit the tracks to put all the theory into practice.</p> <p>Sunday will be a leisurely start then we traverse a number of tracks which allow you to become familiar with your vehicles capabilities and gain further confidence. We should be finished by 2 o'clock arriving back to Melbourne around 4.</p> <p>As with past participants the weekend provides confidence to safely 4WD either with the club or friends.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	300km approximately
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Theory, pen and concentration Practical you will need to be self-sufficient for camping and have your brain switched on.
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12
GOOGLE MAPS	<a href="#">See here</a>



<b>DESTINATION</b>	Aberfeldy Area Club WORKING BEE
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
<b>DATE</b>	25th and 26th May
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	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
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Easy DRY: Easy
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	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
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	-
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	150Km
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Moe LPG: Moe DIESEL: Moe
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	75Km
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Camping Gear Appropriate clothing for the working bee
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	Channel 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	<a href="#">See here</a>

<b>DESTINATION</b>	Tasmania 22 days away
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Stuart and Maree MOB: 0428 539 157
<b>DATE</b>	Sunday 17th November 2019 day sail to Devonport to Sunday 8th December 2019 9:30 am day sail to Melbourne
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	Spirit of Tasmania Departure point Station Pier Port Melbourne 7:30 am or as per boarding requirements
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Extremely difficult 
	DRY: Difficult 
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	Plan is to do some of Tasmania's iconic four wheel drive tracks.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 5
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Approximately 2000 km in Tasmania
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Available in most towns in Tasmania DIESEL: Available in most towns in Tasmania
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	Available in most towns in Tasmania
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Full recovery gear and well setup vehicles only, lifted, A/T tyres, F&R recovery points, winch etc. Camping gear to be self sufficient for at least four days NO CAMPER TRAILERS as many tracks are rated difficult.
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Hema Tasmania
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	Channel 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	<a href="#">See here</a>

# WINCH PRACTICE & TYRE REPAIR

13<sup>th</sup> April  
by Maree & Stuart

### Participants

Maree & Stuart	Landcruiser
Mary & Jeff	BT 50
Steven	Jeep
Des	Patrol
Ly	Landcruiser
Dean & Michael	Patrol
Phil G	Everest
Audrey & Ian	Patrol

Starting the day off at the Gembrook bakery well worth the stop, we headed up Soldiers Road and on to Tent pole road in Gembrook. When we first put this trip together we were heading into the Bunyip state forest but the fires have closed this park so the plan B was Kirth Kiln but this was the weekend of the festival there so off to plan C.

The aim of the day was to allow people to use their equipment and work out how it all works together in a safe environment so if you get stuck you have an idea of options available. We started off by finding a tree and discussing the pros and cons of different tress and why we chose this one.

We looked at the tree trunk proc-tors and the position of them in relations to the vehicle. We talked about the safety aspect of a live rope and dampeners, different people showed off their choices of equipment and the discussion was on what's the best? With the consensus being whatever works for you.





There was a good deal of banter around the different 4x4's but its all-in good fun.

The second part was adding a pulley block to the winch and how this works in your favor by halving the load. To demonstrate this Stuart got out a hand winch and set it up with everyone having a go and understanding the difference of the load on the winch with a single line pull and adding the pulley block.

Moving on to tyre repairs, and discussions on what brand is best, the group all had opinions, and each has its place in different situations. I think its healthy to open this type of discussions as it increases your personal knowledge of what is out there in the retail tyre world. Stuart demonstrated how to use plugs to repair punchers and we had a variety of different kits on show. Many people used the drill to make a hole and then repair it on the demo tyre. It was noted that this was only to be used to get you to somewhere you can get a permanent repair or a new tyre.

The final thing we did was set up 3 pulley blocks to allow you to pull backwards using a front winch, it's possible but complicated but as we said it allows for options if you are stuck in the bush.

We were lucky the weather was great, and everyone had a fun time and hopefully came away with a better understanding of how to use their equipment and if needed how to repair a tyre. Thanks to those who attended. We headed to the pub for lunch afterwards to continue the discussions.



Steve showing how to be safe with the live winch cable



Phil has a job he just needs to find the tree!