



APRIL 2013

Free Wheeling



Snow Gums in the High Country

Notice Board

VFWDC GENERAL MEETING VENUE

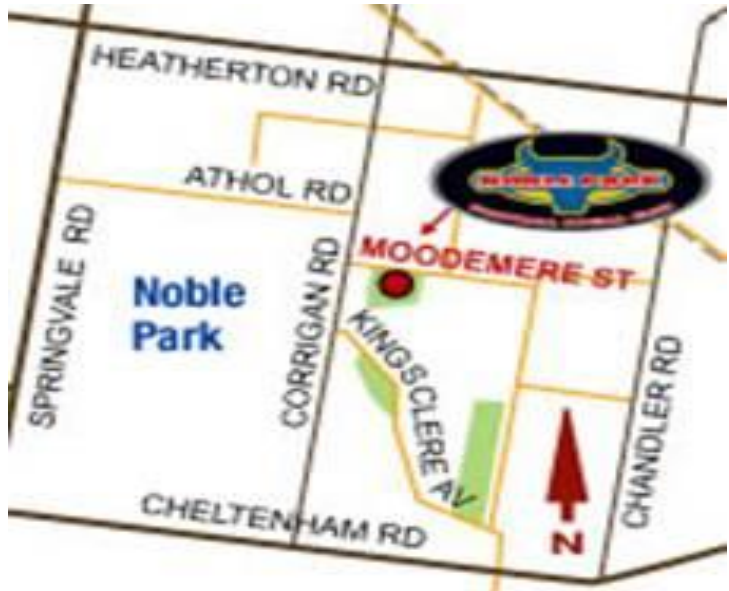
The club meets at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club, 46-56 Moodemere St, Noble Park on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 8.00pm (No meeting in January and November meeting at selected location). Members and Guests are welcome to dine at the Bistro before attending the meeting.

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. If your a new member or interested in joining the club, come along to our new member trip, this month there isn't any four wheel driving, just a two wheel drive day trip, so check the trip data form for more information further into the newsletter.

Catherine

Editor@fwdc.com



COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2012-2013

President	Mark Felton	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President	Catherine Felton	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	David Bruinsma	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	Catherine Felton	editor@vfwdc.com
Web Manager	Bruce Cremonesi	web@vfwdc.com
Training Officers	Ashley Martin	John Partridge
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	
Librarian		
Merchandise		
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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Club Directory, please
contact the Editor at editor@vfwdc.com



CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

2013				
April	Wednesday 3rd	General Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	5th	Monthly night Run	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	13th	Day trip - Castlemaine - New member trip EASY	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
	17th	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	20th - 21st	Wabonga Plateau Trip	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
May	Wednesday 1st	General Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	3rd - 5th	Millers Hut / Lake Tali Karng	Steve Pitcher	0421 205 529
	22nd	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	End of May/June Club Meeting	Club Memberships Are Now Due		
June	Wednesday 5th	General Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	7th - 10th	Queens Birthday Weekend		
	19th	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
July	Wednesday 3rd	General Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	12th - 14th	Christmas in July - New member trip EASY	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	19th - 21st	Snow Trip - Permit Required Mt Skene	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
	24th	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
August	Wednesday 7th	AGM General Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	16th - 18th	Weekend Trip - Shepparton - New member trip EASY	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
	28th	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
September	Wednesday 4th	General Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	13th - 15th	Winery Trip - New member trip EASY	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
	18th	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
October	Wednesday 2nd	General Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	23rd	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to this month's of free wheeling.

Don Montague from Bush-B-Q will be our club's guest speakers at the April club meeting, please come along and check it out.

It was really great to meet and greet so many new faces at the club meeting last month. Hope to see some of you again this month and hopefully at one of our new member trips on the calendar, which I am excited to see quite a few trips on the calendar coming up with plenty of variety of great things to do. Let's see if we can have a couple of maxed out club trips.

Please don't forget to send our newsletter editor a trip report on the trips so we can all share in your clubs experience and photo's are always welcome as well, as they help tell your story.

I would also like to remind club members that fees are due by 30th of June so please remember to try to have your fees and forms to the Treasurer at the clubs June meeting.

I also hope people had a safe and enjoyable Easter as there will be alot of traffic out there, please be wary others on the roads and remember it's better late by five mins than never at all. Please send through your trip report so we can all read of your adventures.

Till next time, catch you at the next club meeting or out there on the tracks somewhere.

Mark Felton
President VFWDC

Notice to all club members

Hey all,
Just a final update with how the worlds greatest shave went I raised a total of \$575.
Most of the donations was just from our fantastic VFWDC club members.
I would like to thank everyone who donated money to a great cause. Below are some photo's of before, during and after.
Once again, thank you very much - Emily



UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Toolangi State Forrest
LEADER/ CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATES	5 th April 2013
MEETING PLACE/TIME	Lilydale McDonalds at 7pm for a 7:30pm departure
GRADE	WET: Medium/hard DRY: Easy/Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Drive to destination area and find tracks to explore using all the lights our 4x4's have mounted – the more lights you have installed, the more fun you can have in using them. <cheesy grin> Note: you do need to take more care when driving at night, there is greater risk involved in all aspects – especially with recoveries if/when required. I do not intend to try to drive home each time we go out at night, sometimes it might be wiser to throw a swag in the 4x4 and we stay overnight and leave for home in the day light. This would be for your and my safety instead of driving home tired after a few hours playing in the bush.
VEHICLE LIM-ITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS	Less than 100km
LAST AVAIL FUEL	PETROL: Pakenham DIESEL: Pakenham
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic Recovery Equipment. Winch recovery Equipment advisable.
MAPS REQ	Rooftops – Toolangi State Forrest
RADIO CHAN- NEL UHF	12

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Day Trip to Castlemaine
LEADER/ CONTACT NO.	NAME: Markncat Felton MOB: 0439 345 207
DATE	Saturday 13th April
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Servo next to Calder Park 7am
GRADE	On sealed roads, no off roading. It will be a sight seeing day.
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>This will be a sighting seeing day, as it's been a few years since we've been out this direction.</p> <p>We'll be checking out the growing harvest festival, there will be workshops, demonstrations and stalls and check it out on the web. We'll stop off for a bite to eat for lunch, if you choose to or bring your own.</p> <p>Then in the afternoon, we'll check out the Buda historic home & Garden (there is a small entry charge). Possibly stop into a winery or two, time dependant. We'll head home sometime late afternoon.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM:2 MAXIMUM:8
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	tba
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12

DESTINATION	Wabonga Plains Trip
LEADER/ CONTACT NO.	NAME: Markncat Felton MOB: 0439 345 207
DATE	Friday 20th - Sunday 21st April
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Lilydale Macca's (Back car park) For 7pm departure
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	We'll be camping at Buttercup Five campsite, just out of Sawmill settlement. Option to meet us Saturday morning at this campsite for 9am departure. We'll be going in via Pineapple campsite, take a look at King Hut, travelling along the staircase, passing Lake Cobbler, across the Dandongadale Buffalo divide track, down to Bennies, to take Wild Horse Gap track, along the Razorback, Burnt top track, stop at Top Crossing hut and stopping at Lake William Hovell. If time permits, take a look at Paradise Falls as well and possible come out via Tomahawk Gap.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM:3 MAXIMUM:8
APPROX KMS	200kms off-road from Sawmill settlement/ Gates Mt Buller/Mt Strirling. 600kms round trip roughly.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	Diesel: Mansfield Petrol: Mansfield
MAPS REQUIRED	TBA
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Millers Hut / Lake Tali Karng
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Steve Pitcher MOB: 0421 205 529
DATE	3 – 5 May 2013
MEETING PLACE / TIME <i>A second/later group may depart later in the evening but this is <u>not</u> assured.</i>	BP Service Station, Princes Freeway (Pakenham Bypass), Officer (Meet 1:00 pm for 1:30 departure), GPS Coordinates: Lat: -38°.0699" Long: 145°.3872"
GRADE	WET: C Grade (Medium) DRY: C Grade (Easy-Medium)
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Base Camping at Millers Hut. From there, we can head over to the Sentinels lookout to view Lake Tali Karng from above (no vehicular access down to the lake itself – those that are interested can hike down to the water's edge from camp, and get back in a day, but it is only suited to experienced hikers). I will run a day trip on the Saturday, taking in Moroka Hut and Horseyard Hut (4L most of the way) and a packed lunch or easy to prepare lunch is recommended as we will not return to camp until mid-afternoon. The return trip from Horseyard will be an easy drive back (2WD / 4H) for the most part to cater for those with kids and/or anyone wanting to get a roast on. Camper trailers are welcome (make sure you can lock/secure your trailer if participating in the day trip), families with children are also welcome/encouraged (the length and difficulty of the day trip has been set to cater for those with children and/or anyone who has limited off-road driving experience).
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS (Meeting place to destination)	350 Kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Licola (Heyfield is the 2 nd nearest) DIESEL: Licola (Heyfield is the 2 nd nearest)
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	50 kms (approx) back to Licola from Millers Hut
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED <i>In case of an emergency (eg. Bushfire), completed Personal Information Forms / Visitor Forms are required for this trip.</i>	All equipment and supplies required to be self-sufficient for 3+ 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. Good quality maps include: Rooftop's 'Dargo-Wonnangatta Adventure Map; and Hema Maps High Country Victoria.
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	Channel 12 UHF

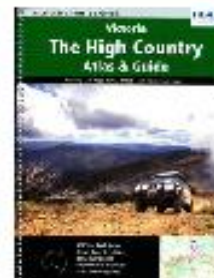
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Most of this we have in stock ready to go.



Minutes of General Meeting March 2013

General Meeting 6th March 2013

The meeting was held at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.05pm by President Mark Felton.

Present: as per the attendance book

Apologies: as per the Apologies book

Visitors: as per the Visitors Book

Minutes of previous General Meeting

Amendments: Tupperware was donated by someone other than Sam and Sandra

Accepted : Mark Cosh

Seconded : John Kokas

Matters arising:

Correspondence in

Land Rover Review
Overland Cruising
Bank Statement
PO Box renew

Correspondence out

Mail out of membership cards and/or payment receipts to 18 members

Marche Magazine

Treasurers report Feb 2012

Opening Balance	\$	5378.09
Total monies in	\$	511.00
Total monies out	\$	524.71
Unrepresented Cheque	\$	90.00
Closing balance	\$	5454.38
Term Deposit	\$	7000.00
Interest	\$	0
Term deposit top up	\$	0
Term Deposit	\$	7000.00
Petty Cash	\$	150

Accepted: David Brunsma

2nd: Sally Haris

Trip coordinators report

Next trip will be 8th to 11th March (for the weekend): Johan - Knockwood

Night runs: Friday 15th March - Bunyip
Friday 5th April

Easter weekend - 2 trips

Tolmie - Basecamping. Contact Sam

Hatta - Long drive up, camping. Limited spots - Ashleigh

The playgrounds - MacFarlane flats

Training (Advanced) - Aberfeldy or Ballarat. April 2013

Training Proficiency - May? 2012 Proficiency certificates on the way.

14 April - Castlemaine - New member trip.

26 - 28 April Wabonga Plateau trip

8 -10 June - Experiencing huts

Trip Report

Toolangi night run - Dean got stuck, all home at Midnight.

Association Report

nil

General business

Dave - Presents trip leader pack. Johan suggest adding a trip report pro-forma.

Question on first-aid trained trip leader.

Dean receives his new member pack.

Presidents report - Bringing up new member "Meet and Greet"

New supplier for club gear.

Possible sponsor for club magazine - expensive to print and at the moment we do not have access to color printing.
Looking at couple of printing companies.

Johan will investigate prices of laser printers

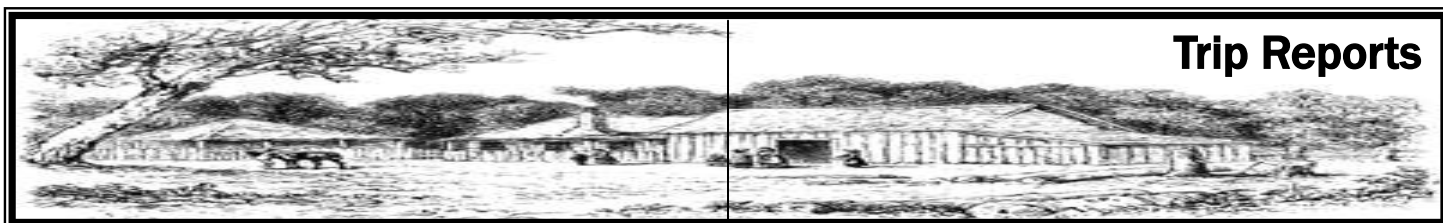
Emily raised \$305.80 for "Be Brave and Shave"

Meeting Closed: 21:30 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 8.00pm April 3rd at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club.

Post meeting - Sam pays \$10 for two small stickers

Johan receives a small stickers, still needs to pay



Trip Reports

Mt Terrible

Sunday 25th November

Attendees:

David Jackson Patrol

Ian and Audrey Patrol

Joe #1 Prado

Joe #2 Prado

Chris Landcruiser

The first of us met at Lilydale macca's, did the usual meet and greets then hit the road.

Our next stop was onto Thornton to meet Chris.

We then continued onto Snobs creek road and stopped at Snobs creek falls. Everyone got out to have a look.

After everyone returned to their vehicles we continued to Dry Creek Hill road and Torbreck road across to Jamieson road and followed that around to Mt Terrible Tk.

This track provides a nice climb up to Mt Terrible where we stopped for lunch and to soak up some of the lovely sunshine.....

After some investigating and a good look around I decided on a spot to leave the water (against the opinion of the sceptics!!!) for the horses due the next day to find.

After some lunch and a chat we continued off down Mount Terrible Tk then down Moonlight Spur Tk to Knockwood.

Finding the drop off spot for the horse feed was a little bit more challenging considering the info I was provided!!

We found the "Knockwood reserve" but not "The Horse Yards" as I was instructed.

The two separate lots of campers could not shed any light on my deleterious either..

So after about 30 minutes of driving up and down, in and out, under and over the decision was made that I would leave the horse feed behind a tree near the drop toilet.

As it was now late afternoon the end of this trip was called and everyone made their way home from Knockwood.

Thanks to all who attended....

P.S. both the water and feed we're easily found and very much appreciated.

David Jackson

Night trip: 15-03-13

Bunyip state forest.

David was the trip leader. Dean his possie and myself with my son met David at 7.30pm at BP. After a quick snack we headed off towards Gembrook and on the way Ian and Audrey joined our convoy, David in his Navara, myself in my trusty Toyota Prado (lol), Dean in his monster Patrol and Ian in his Patrol.

We entered the bush via Soldiers Rd. We aired down, then headed off to bottom of Little Bunyip track. Then we continued up to Blue Range Road. Went down Anderson Track which David was keen to go down and told us that it would be a great challenge, however not knowing it has been graded since the last time he was there, he was disappointed. We headed to the tracks

under the power lines so Dean and Ian could test their 'flexing on' some of the deeper ruts. After a little play, we went out via Black Snake track. We all aired up at Gembrook then said our thanks and good bye's.

Overall the night was clear which made it an easy and fun run. The only incidents was me messing around trying to get 4wd high and taking my time airing up. lol.

Also on the way home on the freeway there was a police booze and drug blitz with the SES cooking a BBQ for all the members. It smelt good and inviting. Inbound traffic only took a minute to get through but outbound was at least an hour waiting to go through.

Joe Yammouni



8/2/13 Friday Night run at Toolangi/Gembrook state forest

Friday night run started quick and smart no time to waste as we all met at Lilydale Mc Donald's at 7:00 o'clock for a 7:30 departure, only two drivers were running a little behind schedule as "Sam" had been spotted by "Dean" at Domino's Pizza and had pulled over with him to possibly order a pizza too bring along for the drive through the Black Spur, luckily he didn't.

Three cars had started the detour through to the spur "Dave" "Sam" "Dean" along with picking up "Scotty BOBCAT" along the way plus other daredevil passengers, after reaching our destination it was time to pull over, stretch our legs and air down before we head off onto our first track although one of our trip leader drivers wasn't feeling quiet right.

First track had to be walked before approaching any further as just only a few months ago this track was swamped full of bog holes and unknown ruts that couldn't be seen or felt unless driven through, although it was completely dry, dusty and just unbelievably full of ruts no matter where you placed your wheels. Going through was just fine in the dry and no need for winching or snatching out.

Along came many more tracks which once had to be driven with ease and care although due to the dry weather all tracks had just become a little easier and only diff clearance and body clearance was an issue for some until out of know where "Dean" had managed to get stuck in some deep mud which looked to be dry as a bone as it had been approached with little or no acceleration at all, although was moist like a chocolate cake on the inside.

After a few attempts of going backwards and forwards "Dean" had made himself a death bed and couldn't move an inch so it was time to pull the winch out or snatch it out back on its wheels and thanks to "Sam" "Dean" was out in no time by a quick snatch recovery.

At this point in time we had made it back to more solid grounds a main dirt road where we had to pull over due to our unwell driver, which it now had been diagnosed as some sort of food poisoning which everyone had helped out Sam and giving him some good pointers on how to feel better "Scotty BOBCAT, stick your fingers down your throat" along with everyone else telling him to have a

chuck and so he did and WOOOWWW he looked and felt like a new man not long after, so along we went to our next few tracks which had lead us in some nice downhill rutted tracks and thoughts on how much more fun the tracks would be in the mud.

Finally got to a small known area where you can test your car out for diff clearance, belly clearance and front and rear departure angle clearances and a spot where you can have options on how hard and far you want to take your vehicle as there are three short small inclines ranging from, easy, medium and hard.

Boys will be boys and we all tried the hardest one except for one due to not enough clearance, Dean was the first to go and made it up on the second attempt due to it needing some more coffee beans from the right pedal, next up was Sam which he made it up quiet well due to front and rear diff locks and it being a short wheel base which had more belly clearance.

Along the way came "Scotty BOBCAT" which had given it a quick burst of 5.7L LS1 power trying to launch his D22 Navara up and over, but had stopped due to not enough clearance, he was stuck good and proper and not even going in reverse could get him out so a quick snatch back down the ramps and it was sorted.

Not realizing that something was wrong with BOBCATS car we continued on until we got a call on the UHF repeating "I have lost steering, I have lost steering and it's hard to turn". After a quick stop we had a look under the vehicle and it turned out to be a tie rod arm bent like a banana luckily a spare was on board and thanks to a Hi Lift jack and a few tools it was fixed in no time and back on the road, from here on we called it a night due to some working the next morning and Sam still not feeling 100 percent, we aired up the tyres and of we went home.

What had been learnt from the trip was to not eat Domino's pizza and to carry spares with you at all times along with a good bunch of hand tools as this could be a difference of sleeping out there the night or going home to a warm bed. The night run bought a few small challengers along and was a very enjoyable way of spending your Friday night after a hard week of work.

Thanks to Sam for being the trip leader, Dave for getting it all organised and all drivers for coming along as well as passengers for helping out throughout the night.

By Dean Pallone