



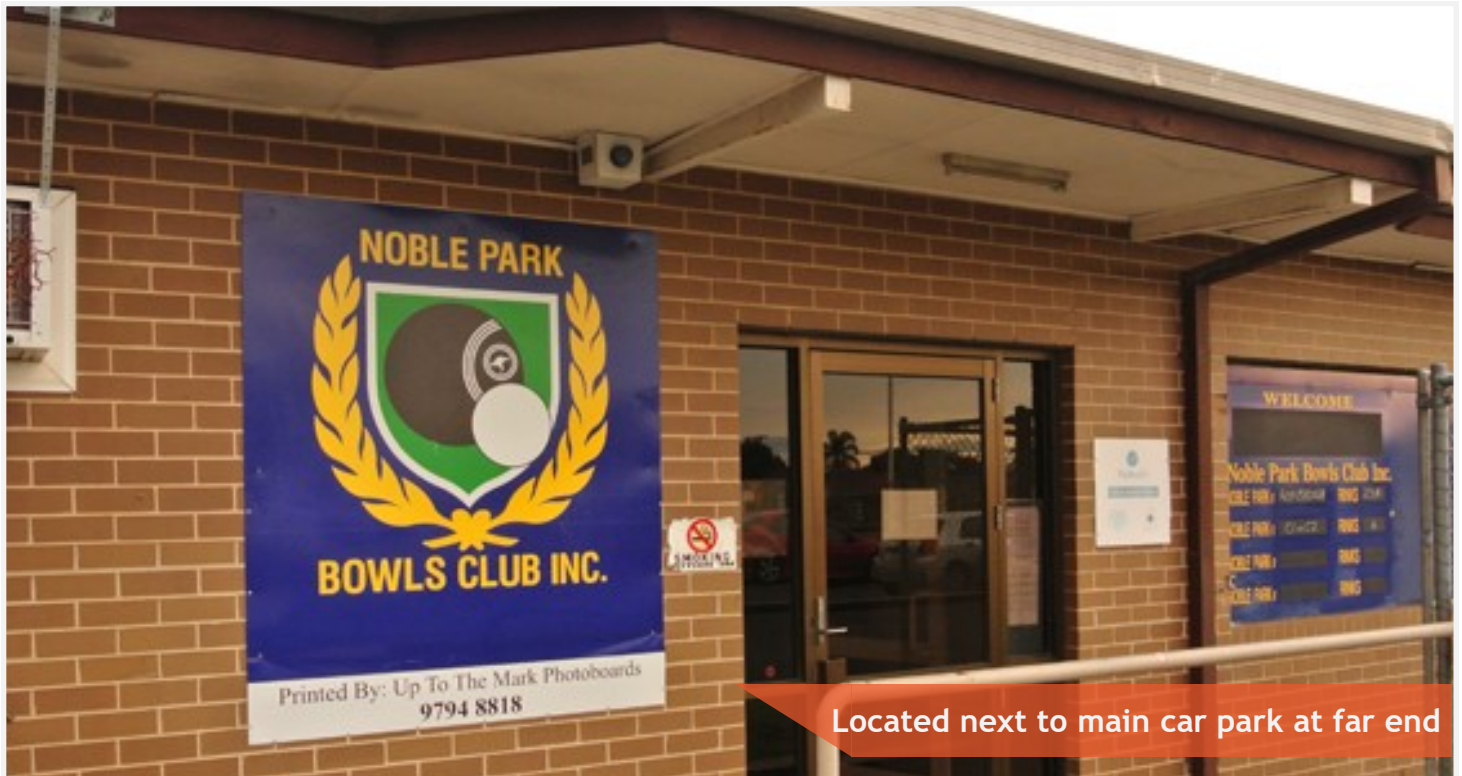
FREE WHEELING

May 2017



Official Newsletter of the
Victorian Four Wheel
Drive Club Inc

Registration No
A0002184F



Located next to main car park at far end

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
Melways ref: 89 D4



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

2016-2017

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--|
| President | Ben Whitworth | president@vfwdc.com |
| Vice President | Ken Beard | vicepres@vfwdc.com |
| Secretary | Bruce Cremonesi | secretary@vfwdc.com |
| Treasurer | Tony Barbera | treasurer@vfwdc.com |

General Committee

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--|
| Trip Co-Ordinator | Stuart Bowker | trips@vfwdc.com |
| Magazine Editor | Ly Ho | editor@vfwdc.com |
| Association Delegate | David Bruinsma | delegate@vfwdc.com |
| General Committee | Shane Dodman | |
| General Committee | (position vacant) | |

Support Positions to Committee

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|--|
| Web manager | Ben Whitworth | web@vfwdc.com |
| Training officer | Phillip Griffith | |
| Training officer | Ashley Martin | |
| Merchandise | Carolyn Bruinsma | merchandise@vfwdc.com |

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 Shirts | \$28.00 | Club Hoodie | \$54.00 |
| Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket | \$48.00 | Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest | \$54.00 |
| Club Caps | \$15.00 | Club Bucket Hat | \$16.00 |
| Club Wide Brim Hat | \$18.00 | Club Beanie | \$12.00 |
| Club Drivers Jacket (Coat) | \$80.00 | VFWDC Windscreen stickers | |
| | | Small | \$6.00 |
| | | Large | \$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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi all,

Welcome to the VFWDC Free Wheeling magazine.

The month just gone has included School Holidays, Easter Break and Anzac day so plenty of opportunity to get out and about. The club ran a couple of trips over this time which I am sure we will hear all about in various trip reports.

I myself spent the Easter break, and the week leading up to it, camped next to the Buckland River with my family and a few friends. We lucked out with weather, with nothing but clear skies the entire week. I hope everyone else took the opportunity to get out in the great outdoors before the weather turns.

During a trip on Anzac Day our members encountered a serious medical emergency and they stopped to provide assistance. As the club president it makes me proud to know that our members can be relied upon to do the right thing and lend assistance to our fellow man when it counts.

This leads me onto the very important subject of First Aid training. I strongly encourage all members to do a First Aid course to learn the basics. You never know when you may be in a situation to help someone in need. It could be a member of your family! Each year we usually run a "trip" for those who want to do a course or refresher.

That's all I've got for you this month.

I hope to see all our members at the next general meeting and out on the tracks.

Ben Whitworth
President

CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

| May | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--|--------|--|
| 3rd | Wed | General Meeting | | |
| 5th to 7th | Fri to Sun | Aberfeldy Working Bee | Stuart | 0428 539 157 |
| 13th | Sat | CPR Update Level 2 First Aid | FWDV | 03 9874 7222 Email here |
| 16th | Tue | Committee Meeting | | |
| 19th to 21 | Fri to Sun | Avoca | Ashley | 0428 134 399 |
| 27th | Sat | Marysville—Aberfeldy | Stuart | 0428 539 157 |
| June | | | | |
| 7th | Wed | General Meeting | | |
| 9th to 12th | Fri to Mon | Portland Buggy Club | Bruce | 0400 425 296 |
| 19th | Tue | Committee Meeting | | |
| July | | | | |
| 5th | Wed | General Meeting | | |
| TBC | | Christmas in July at St. Annes Winery | David | 0417 747 860 |
| 18th | Tue | Committee Meeting | | |
| November | | | | |
| 1st | Wed | Aussie Disposals Dandenong South—Special Meeting | | |
| 3rd to 7th | Fri to Tues | Beachport / Robe | David | 0417 747 860 |

IMPORTANT

- 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 “Sally’s table” from the club.
- All members should have received an email from FWDV about the First Aid / CPR Update course. Please email committee@vfwdc.com if you decide to take up this offer.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

April 2017

Members as Per Sheet

Visitors as Per Sheet

Apologies as Per Sheet. Including:

David & Carolyn

Ashley, Brett and Nicky

Meeting opened at 8:10pm

March General Mins Accepted

Accepted: Mick

Seconded: John

Business from Minutes

Nil

Correspondence in

Nil, secretary was not present

Correspondence out

Replies to prospective members.

Treasurers Report:

As per attached report in Magazine

Accept: Ken

Second: Stuart

General Business

No raffle, as prizes were forgotten

Driver training

- Excellent weekend, lots were learned.
- John to report bit later

Dargo Fires

- Occurred last few weeks
- Billy Goats, Blue Rag
- Check for burn offs etc, talk to authorities
- Safety before your trip
- Forest Fire management emails. Can sign up to emailing list if you want:
<http://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/bushfire-fuel-and-risk-management/planned-burns/planned-burning-notification-system>

Safety and travel Apps

- Ben reviewed a number of apps he has used on his travels and recommendations. It was Android centric but can be found in the 'Ipod' IOS App Store

VicEmergency (replaced from FireApp)

flooding, fire, winds, etc

finds issues from current location (while in service)

free

WikiCamps

community app pinpoint camping spots and interests

trial, but once off purchase

Ben uses it alot

FuelMap Australia

find servos,

community edited price

fuel management/tracker

GPS Status & Toolbox

Free version (and paid version)

improves the GPS tracking thus speeds up locking

\$4.50 IOS

WeatherZone app

Best Australian weather based app

Free (and paid version)

Bom data + tweaks

AccruWeather

14 day forecast.. not very accurate

BOM Weather

Straight out of BOM

GoogleMaps

the best.

only good with data access

Sygyic Car Navigation

offline

maps

voice

lifetime updates

First-Aid Australian Red Cross

good refresher

Free

Mapping apps

OruxMaps

Online apps
download for offline
can use oziexplorer apps
hardcore

Mud Map

IOS and Android
Extremely popular
don't know much

Hema Explorer

Paid for app
Simplest interface
\$40 purchase includes basemaps
Subscription \$60 year ultra detailed maps
gives topography maps

OziExplorer

still in beta

Avenza Maps (Tony)

sends GPS coords along with photos. used
for dobbing in idiots etc

Club Magazine

Advertisement free for members
Trading Post section—use it to unload your
goodies

November Meeting

- Aussie Disposals Dandenong
- Wednesday 1st November
- Discounts on the night

New Members

Dave—bought a Patrol three months ago

New Ideas

- We have lots of ideas, some are scheduled
in this year.
- Callum's mate is a descendant of Ned Kelly

John recommends we talk to a Parks Vic ranger
before going on trips as they're a very good
source of information.

Ben went to Blanket Bay and loved it

Gave out welcome packs to new members:

- Rob who rides shotgun in Callum's ranger
- Steven has a Landcruiser or two
- Michael. Mitsubishi man

No training certificates as they were forgotten.

Trips Coming Up:

- Brett—4 days over Easter
- Tony—Flinders Ranges. Easter long trip
- Stuart—Aberfeldy Working Bee
- Ashley—Avoca. Med to hard trip.
- Stuart—Marysville Day trip
- Bruce-Portland Buggy Trip. Queen's bday
- Sam- High Country in June
- Snow Trips- Sam for the upper part. Bruce
for the lower part.
- Xmas in July
- Melbourne Cup Weekend-Robe
- Melbourne Cup Weekend—Snow Mountains.
Mick

July meeting guest speaker—Eddy from AllSat

Coffee Break

Xmas in July

- Social event
- No 4x4ing

Trip Reports

- Driver Training
- Theory night at Club Noble
- Recovery kit, stall recovery, parts of the
car
- Tracks—putting training to practice
- John's Navara was crap

Shane's Hut Trip

- Callum—Awesome trips. Campfire talk.
Lots of people

Ben's Mt. Disappointment Trip

- Very busy on tracks. Followed guide "4x4
Tracks Close to Melbourne"
- Bridge burnt out, track went through dry
river bed.
- No water at waterfall

Meeting Closed at 10pm.

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: GU Patrol accessories

\$50, \$60

Ashley
0428 134 399

Kaymar GU Patrol wheel carrier spacer bracket:
Allows for larger diameter wheels such as 35's and incorporates a fixing for reversing light.
\$50

ARB GU Patrol dual battery tray
\$60



FOR SALE: Esky

\$100

[Sally](#)

Esky \$100

0412 464 129



LAST BARREL

Last Barrel Wines

492 YARRAGON SOUTH ROAD

YARRAGON SOUTH

VIC 3823 AUSTRALIA

Web: www.lastbarrelwines.com.au

(M): +61 (0)408 093 529

Export and domestic sales.

Tastings by appointment only.

FOR SALE: Free fire wood

FREE

[Gary](#)

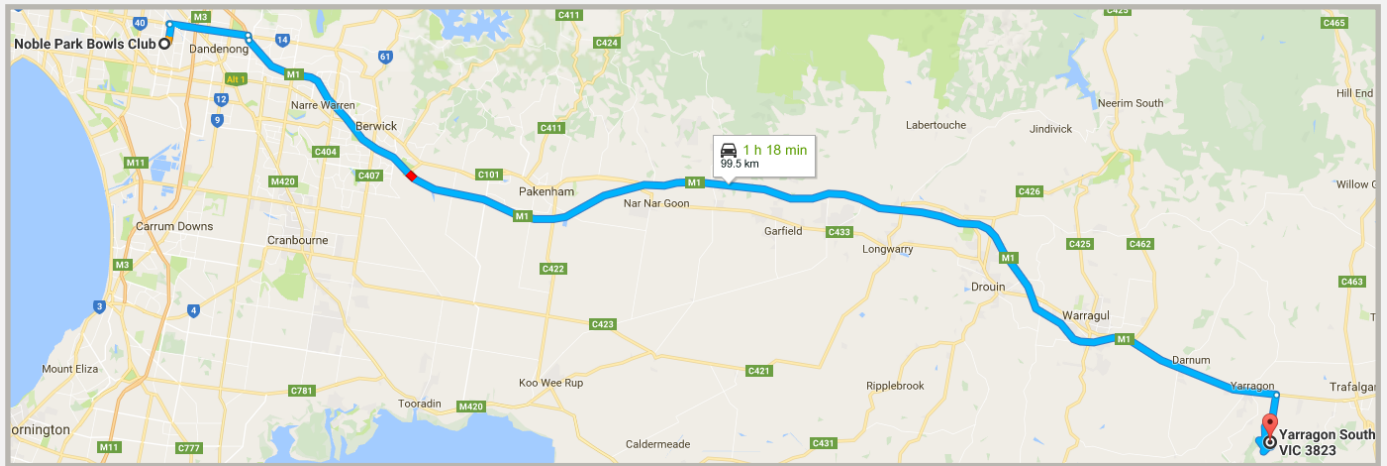
0408 093 529

Blackwood and Gum. Some dry, some are not.

Bring chainsaw and trailer.

I have trees coming down next week, and branches being trimmed also. There is wood on the ground also. Most of it needs cutting up and carting away. Current access is reasonably good.

Location: Yarragon South



FOR SALE: Samsung CLP-415NW Colour Printer

\$50

[Stuart](#)

0428539157

The club's now retired colour printer. Works perfectly.

See the [full specs here](#)



UPCOMING TRIPS

| | |
|--|---|
| DESTINATION | Aberfeldy area Club WORKING BEE |
| LEADER/CONTACT NO. | NAME: Stuart MOB: 0428 539 157 |
| DATE | Friday 5th - 7th May 2017 |
| 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: Medium to difficult 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 | 300-400 km round trip |
| LAST AVAILABLE FUEL | PETROL: Moe LPG: Moe DIESEL: Moe |
| DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES | 400 km |
| 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. Lawn mower, whiper snipper or brushcutter if you got one. |
| MAPS REQUIRED | Rooftop maps Walhalla-Licola |
| RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF | UHF 12 |
| Google Maps | See here |

| | |
|---|--|
| DESTINATION | Avoca |
| LEADER/CONTACT NO. | NAME: Ashley Martin PHONE: 0428 134 399 |
| DATE | Depart - Friday May 19 Return - Sunday May 21 |
| MEETING PLACE / TIME | Meeting details TBA |
| GRADE | WET: Medium to hard DRY: Medium to hard |
| TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS | <p>This area I understand the Club hasn't been to for some time and is well worth a visit. It's small in size but contains some very good tracks within a small area and suitable for the more experienced member. We will be governed by weather as the tracks become very difficult after periods of rain, if too wet will have to reconsider the trip.</p> <p>Vehicles will require suspension lift and minimum of all terrains as there are rocky and ledge sections.</p> <p>Camping will be at Glenpatrick Reserve (near Elmhurst) and contains running toilets and a shelter with open fire. I have booked the shelter so we should have it to ourselves to keep the chill away.</p> <p>I will probably be leaving early Friday morning to visit companies in Ballarat so will organise a leader for Friday evening.</p> |
| VEHICLE LIMITS | MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 8 |
| APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION | 300 kms approximately |
| DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES | - |
| EQUIPMENT REQUIRED | Full recovery equipment Self-sufficient camping gear Food and water |
| MAPS REQUIRED | - |
| RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF | UHF Ch 12 |
| Google Maps | See here |

| | |
|---|---|
| DESTINATION | Marysville - Aberfeldy |
| LEADER/CONTACT NO. | NAME: Stuart PHONE: 0428 539 157 |
| DATE | Saturday 27th May |
| MEETING PLACE / TIME | Marysville Bakery 17 Murchison Street, Saturday Morning for a 9:00 am Departure. Bakery is open for breakfast from 7:00 am. Please fill up with fuel before arriving in Marysville |
| GRADE | WET: Medium to difficult DRY: Easy |
| TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS | Leaving Marysville heading up via Stockmans Reward to Mt Matlock then heading on to Aberfeldy and home through Moe. Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops |
| VEHICLE LIMITS | MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: N/A |
| APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION | 200-300 kms round trip |
| LAST AVAILABLE FUEL | PETROL: Healsville LPG: Healsville DIESEL: Healsville |
| DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES | 200km |
| EQUIPMENT REQUIRED | Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may require. AT or MT tyres |
| MAPS REQUIRED | Rooftop maps Marysville |
| RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF | UHF Ch 12 |
| Google Maps | See here |

| | |
|---|--|
| DESTINATION | Portland Buggy Club |
| LEADER/CONTACT NO. | NAME: Bruce MOB: 0400 425 296 |
| DATE | 9th to 12th June |
| MEETING PLACE / TIME | TBA |
| GRADE | WET: Easy DRY: Medium (soft boggy sand) |
| TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS | <p>It has been requested that we head back to Portland to drive around the 1800 Hectares that are Portland Buggy club. Some of the best dune driving to be had. Steep, flat, soft, hard etc. Up Down around and around. Very family Friendly trip.</p> <p>There is also some magnificent beach fishing to be had in the gutters off the beach. Camping on site at the buggy club. You will need to be self-sufficient for the weekend - there are no shops. Or you can drive back into Portland, about 30-40 mins.</p> <p>But there are dunnys and showers on site.</p> <p>You will need to apply for a 4 day license with the cost \$50 per driver. Forms will be available at the meeting. More info: http://www.portlanddunebuggyclub.com.au/ No Buggy Club license - No Buggy Club Driving</p> |
| VEHICLE LIMITS | MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 8 |
| APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION | 400km from Melbourne to Portland 1—100kms per day in sand |
| LAST AVAILABLE FUEL | Portland |
| DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES | 30—40mins Portland |
| EQUIPMENT REQUIRED | <p>*** Full Recovery Gear is Mandatory ***</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sand Flag • At least 1 Snatch Strap • 2 x Rated Shackles • Winch Blanket • Gloves • Shovel • You will need a tyre deflator and compressor to inflate tyres. <p>*** SAND FLAGS ARE MANDATORY. NO FLAG NO DRIVE ***</p> |
| MAPS REQUIRED | |
| RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF | UHF 12 |
| Google Maps | See here |

| | |
|--|---|
| DESTINATION | Beachport / Robe - 2017 |
| LEADER/CONTACT NO. | NAME: David MOB: 0417 747 860 |
| DATE | Melbourne Cup Weekend 2017 Friday 3rd to Tuesday 7th (longer if you wish) |
| MEETING PLACE / TIME | TBA - Depends on who is coming, and respective departure times |
| GRADE | WET: Medium DRY: harder if the sand if Dry. |
| TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS | <p>I plan to leave very early on the Friday morning from Berwick at approx. 6am to avoid the worst of the peak morning traffic, setting up camp early afternoon.</p> <p>Hopefully arriving to set up at the caravan park in Beachport, and then spend family time on the beach (sunning, fishing, swimming) with opportunities for group drives up the beach or for individual family activities whenever and however you want.</p> <p>BIG Sunday Roast (if we can have the camp fire). If we are lucky the fire ban doesn't start until after Cup Weekend. But we got caught out last year, so no fire.</p> <p>Intending to pack up on the Tuesday morning and head back to Melbourne. Some members usually stay the whole week.</p> |
| VEHICLE LIMITS | MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM: 10 + |
| APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION | Approx. 550km to Beachport from Melbourne CBD |
| LAST AVAILABLE FUEL | PETROL: Every major town DIESEL: Every major town |
| DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES | Every major town |
| EQUIPMENT REQUIRED | All Recover gear - Max Trax if you have them Self Sufficient for all camping gear (in a caravan park) Sand Flag |
| MAPS REQUIRED | Normal GPS to get to Beachport Beach track maps are available at Beachport |
| RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF | UHF 12 |
| Google Maps | See here |



31st March to 2nd April
by Will

Sunday morning we woke up all well rested with an extra hours sleep. The day started with a hardy breakfast and a recovery demo using a snapstrap... which would later come in use!

We headed to the tracks at 9:30 “current time” and begun with a few steep inclines. After a few challenging hours practicing braking techniques and how to correctly exit rivers we found what would be the highlight of the weekend.

Everyone had stopped; being the third car I got out to see what had happened to discover the almighty Ironman 4x4 car (d40) had found a spot of bother and was stuck in a pit of mud.

I ran back to spread the news and most were keen to try and get through (especially myself). Of the four cars that tried only 1 made it through and we were able to put to use the recovery techniques we had being taught.

Next up we all attempted a second mud pit all successfully getting through finishing with a river crossing to clean off the muddy 4WD's.



Overall it was an awesome weekend packed with great tracks and great company. Special thanks to all the trainers for the weekend!



ANZAC DAY BUNYIP TRIP

25th March
Andre

Members attended:

Andre (and family)
David and Carolyn (and family)
Ly
Norm
Anthony

Visitors:

LaMont and Erna
Thomas
Neville (past member of the club)

We had a wet start to the day and only left the meeting point at 9:00. We headed up to Bunyip state forest with the intention to air down at Dyers picnic ground, but due to the condition of the road we aired down on Link road. After a discussion regarding the tracks I planned, we changed our plans and decided to do different set of tracks that Steve suggested to David earlier in the year.

good fun. We wanted to go back down Andersons track to continue our trip but were help up by two groups that came up before we could make our decent.



The first had a Pathfinder stuck and crossed up on the track which David and Anthony recovered with significant effort. The second group had a Prado that made it up but a Triton that couldn't make it. We assisted in the recovery by helping with advice and guidance.

Driving down Anderson's track was slippery and required good skill to maintain traction and control (unlike me who didn't engage low 1st gear and had a run-away Prado most of the way down).

We then continued on to Nash Creek campground for lunch break. After lunch we planned on doing Labertouche North road-Tea tree track-Bunyip river road as a loop. As we got to Tea tree track we noticed a vehicle a couple of hundred meters up the track.

Since it was on the track David, who was leading,



We elected to drive up Little Buynip track as we were under the impression that Andersons was grated and in good condition. Little Bunyip was

drove up and then called other drivers to have a walk up to discuss the situation. Further up the track there were people doing a winch-recovery as well as more vehicle coming the other way. Based on what we saw and the condition of the track we decided to turn around and do Bunyip ridge as an easy loop and then head home.



This all changed when we encountered an emergency on Labertouche North road. We stopped to lend assistance till the Ambulance arrived. This is where our day on the tracks ended. After we were allowed to go we pretty much headed home on the shortest route.

I would like to acknowledge the attitude and willingness to do what was needed by all who attended the trip. People conducted themselves in a very positive manner by assisting whenever needed but not crowding around during the medical emergency.

I will be running another trip up there shortly

