



FREE WHEELING

December 2019



Original photo by
Maree Bowker at
Rubicon Dam

Official Newsletter of the
Victorian Four Wheel
Drive Club Inc

Registration No
A0002184F



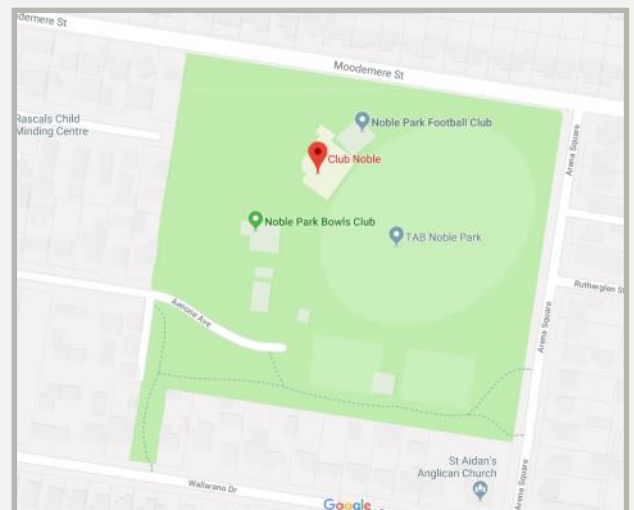
VFWDC General Meeting Venue

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.

Blue and Gold Room

Club Noble
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

2019-2020

President	Steve Pitcher	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President	David Bruinsma	vicepres@vfwdc.com
Secretary	Sally Higgs	secretary@vfwdc.com
Treasurer	Ly Ho	treasurer@vfwdc.com

General Committee

Trip Coordinator	Des Whall	trips@vfwdc.com
Magazine Editor	Mary Griffiths	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	delegate@vfwdc.com
General Committee	Callum Brown	

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	Ann Crockett	

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 - www.fwdvictoria.org.au	

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello everyone to the December magazine.

Our president is away on a trip in Tasmania at the moment, so I get the privilege to write up a Vice President report and fill in for Steve.

By the beginning of December, all the tracks we are used to exploring during summer will be open after the seasonal closures. It still pays to check the appropriate web sites for unexpected short term closures. This could be due to storm damage or more seriously due to current or recent bushfires.

We have already had a statewide total fire ban day in late November, so it will also pay to be aware of conditions at all times and plan contingencies for cooking food if you are out camping instead of being fully reliant on the traditional camp fire.

Our annual Christmas party will be at Gilwel Scout Park just north of Gembrook on Saturday 7th December, looking forward to seeing many of you there. More information about this event will be emailed to members, and discussed at our December general meeting.

Finally, on behalf of the committee I would like to wish each of you a blessed and safe Christmas time and look forward to a new year in only 4 weeks time.

Kind regards
David Bruinsma
Vice President.

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. 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 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

December

4th	Wed	General Meeting		
7th	Sat	Club Christmas Party 2019	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
14th to 15th	Sat to Sun	Strathbogie Ranges	Jeff Griffiths	0425 705 224

January

		No General Meeting		
20th	Mon	Committee Meeting		
25th to 27th	Sat to Mon	Ulupna Beach—Ulupna Island	Steve Pitcher	0421 205 529

February

5th	Wed	General Meeting
24th	Mon	Committee Meeting

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

IMPORTANT

- Club meeting venue has changed. The meeting is now held in the Blue and Gold Room, upstairs of Club Noble. You can enter via the front door or at the back where a member will show you up.
- Club merchandise has been reduced! Check out the new prices on page five and pick up some new gear for the warmer 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!

Christmas Party Information!

- Saturday 7th December, 2019.
- Venue: Gilwell Scout Park Time: From 10.30 am. Lunch will commence 1.30pm.
- If planning to camp overnight, a fee of \$15.00 in cash per person is to be paid on day.

The club will put on a spit roast for lunch. If everyone who is attending could bring a share plate/platter, or a salad or cake/dessert to share and if possible bring a bag of firewood this would be very much appreciated.

Editor's Note:

- My apologies for the error the November's edition of the VFWDC Magazine, Christmas Party 2019 stated free overnight camping available. This was incorrect. If you are planning on camping overnight, there is a fee of \$15.00 in cash per person is to be paid on the day. Time from 10.30am. Lunch will commence 1.30pm.

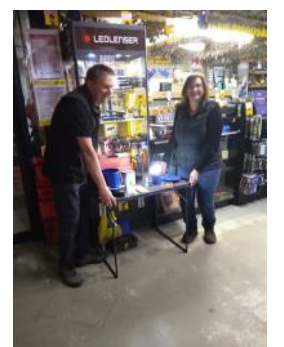
OFF SITE VISIT TO AUSSIE DISPOSALS

November, 2019

This year's November meeting was held at Aussie Disposals Dandenong South on Wednesday 13th.

Our host Klaus Kruithoff cooked up various delicious dishes, Thai basil stir fry, steamed rice, pulled pork sliders, beef hamburgers and provided drinks for everyone to enjoy. Klaus gave a great presentation of the history of Aussie Disposals and showed off some of the latest products for sale. He gave a special 20% off discount store wide for our members to shop. I am sure there were many who grabbed themselves a bargain and took advantage of the special pricing on offer. At the end of the night we drew the raffle with the prizes which were kindly donated by Klaus. Here are some pictures of the sale and our lucky prize winners of the night.

A warm thank you to Aussie Disposals Dandenong South and staff for hosting such a great night!



Sales, Prizes and Lucky Winners on the night!

- Water Bottle Metal, Comfy Bamboo Socks-Maree, Lantern—Shane, USB Mozzie Zapper & sleeping bag-Graham, Cool Towel-Ann, Camps Australia Wide 10-Gary, Water Bottle BPA-Ly, Comfy Bamboo Socks-Phil, Wine & Sunglasses-David, Mary—Camping Table,

Thank you to all who attended.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
www.vfwdc.com



Treasurer's Report October 2019

<u>Cheque A/C`</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/10/2019		\$4,695.29
Add:	Raffle	\$101.00	
	New Membership	\$110.00	
	Merchandise 1 x hoody	\$20.00	
	Total Monies In:		\$231.00
	Closing Balance as at 31/10/2019		\$4,926.29
<u>Term Deposit</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/10/2019	\$6,703.04	
	Interest Paid	\$0.00	
	Closing Balance as at 31/10/2019		\$6,703.04
<u>Petty Cash</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/10/2019	\$50.00	
	Add:		
	Less:		
	Closing Balance as at 31/10/2019		<u>\$50.00</u>
	Consolidated Closing Cash Position		<u>\$11,679.33</u>

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Club Christmas Party 2019 Gilwell Scout Park 2555 Gembrook-Launching Place Road, Gembrook
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	David Bruinsma 0417 747 860
DATE	Saturday 7th December, 2019
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Gilwell Scout Park 2555 Gembrook-Launching Place Road, Gembrook John Akerley Shelter From 10.30am onwards. Lunch will commence 1.30pm
GRADE	WET: 2WD accessible DRY: 2WD accessible
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	We will be holding the Club Christmas party at Gilwell Scout Park. John Akerley Shelter. The club will put on a spit roast for lunch. Everyone is requested to bring/contribute a share plate/platter, or a salad or cake/dessert to share. BYO games and entertainment. If you can bring a bag of firewood this would be appreciated.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: N/A MAXIMUM: N/A
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: N/A DIESEL: N/A
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Usual camping gear if needed if intending to stay overnight. BYO chairs. * If planning to camp overnight, a fee of \$15.00 cash per person is to be paid on day.
MAPS REQUIRED	
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	
GOOGLE MAPS	See map



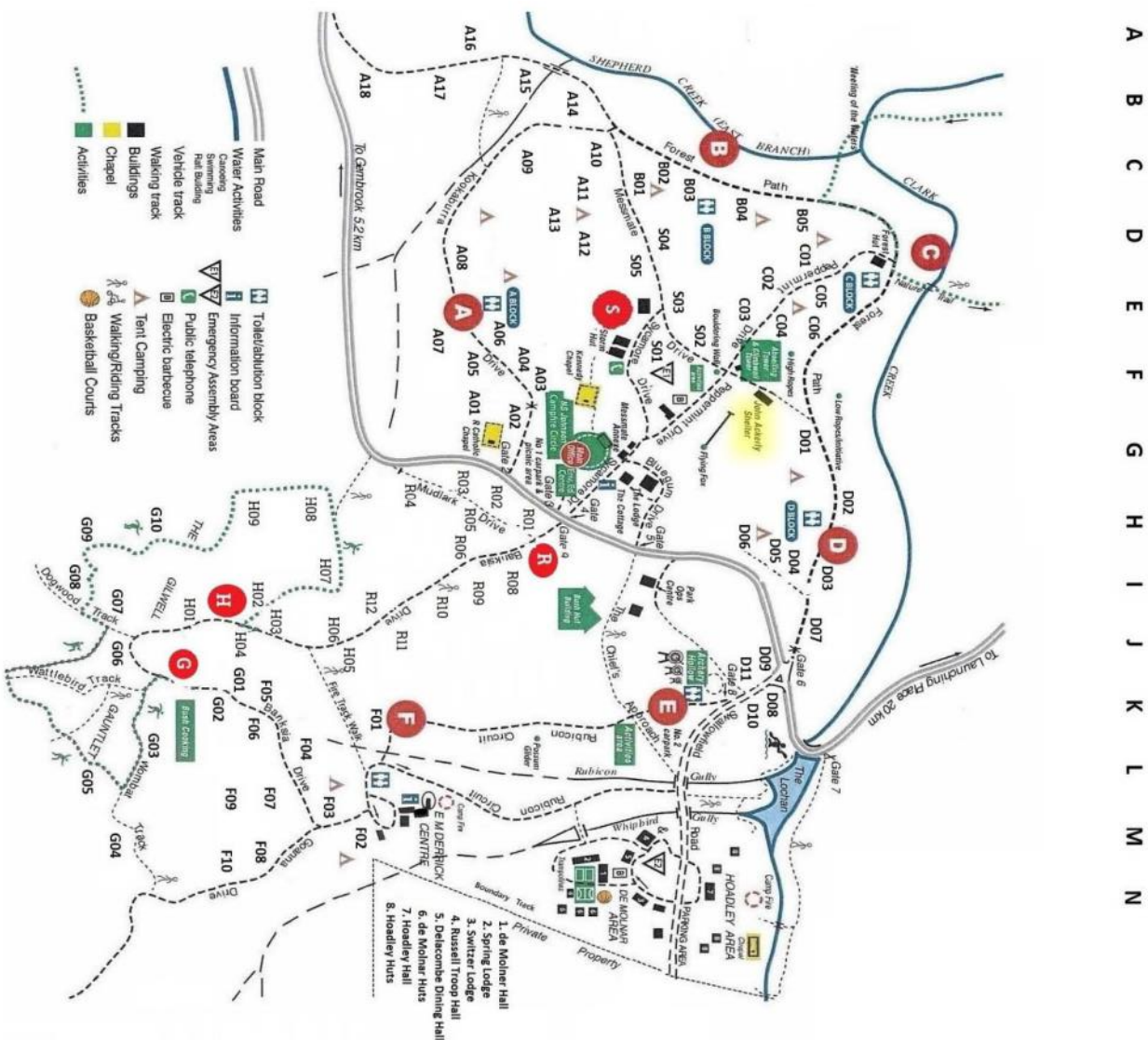
Grid Locations

- Abseiling Tower
- Cleve Cole Hut
- EM Derrick Centre
- Environment & Education Centre
- Delacombe Hall
- de Molnar Hall
- Forest Hut
- Gembrook Scout Hall
- Hoadley Hall
- John Akerley Shelter**
- Patrol Camping Centre
- Russell Troop Hall
- Spring Lodge
- Storm Hut
- Switzer Lodge
- Sycamore Lodge
- The Chapel
- The Lodge

How to find your Campsite

Campsite number A01

= Campsite No. 1 near Toilet Block



DESTINATION	Strathbogie Ranges
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	Jeff Griffiths Mobile: 0425 705 224
DATE	Saturday 14th to 15th December, 2019
MEETING PLACE / TIME	McDonalds Lilydale—7.30am for 8.00am Departure
GRADE	WET: Easy DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Will be heading up to Strathbogie State Forest for a pre-Christmas weekend away to have a look around the area and check out a few tracks. Saturday night will be camping at James Reserve Camping area. This trip will be an easy relaxing trip suitable for new members.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	350k return trip
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Bonnie Doon DIESEL: Bonnie Doon
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic recovery equipment AT or MT tyres, UHF Radio. Camping gear for overnight, food and drinks.
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftops Benalla-Mansfield, Strathbogie Ranges Adventure Map
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12
GOOGLE MAPS	See map

DESTINATION	Australia Day Long Weekend 2020 Ulupna Beach—Ulupna Island
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Steve Pitcher MOB: 0421 205 529
DATE	Sat-Mon 25-27 January 2020
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Northbound service station at 1175 Hume Hwy, Mickleham Aiming for 10am departure to get there around lunchtime.
GRADE	WET: 2WD DRY: 2WD (4WD may be required to camp foreshore)
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Relaxing weekend camping on the banks of the Murray River at Ulupna beach, Ulupna Island. It gets very hot during the day so adequate supplies of water, proper shelter and sunscreen are highly recommended. Camper trailer friendly. It can get extremely gusty of an evening (short bursts) so sand pegs are highly recommended. Koalas can be found in the area and there is a strawberry farm just up the road. BYO fishing rods (and permits), kayaks, hammocks, etc.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: N/A MAXIMUM: N/A
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	300kms (approx.) Fuel, ice and other supplies available at nearby Strathmerton.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Strathmerton DIESEL: Strathmerton
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	10km from camp
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Usual camping gear (no 4WDing planned - just R&R). If you can bring some firewood, that would really help!
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A - follow the signs from Strathmerton - once you cross onto the island, it's almost impossible to get lost!
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12
GOOGLE MAPS	See maps

TRIP REPORT

Snowy River National Park By Maree Bowker



Snowy River National Park

2nd–5th November 2019

Participants

Mary & Jeff	BT50
Stephen & Graham	Jeep
Jenny & Shane	Colorado
Des	Patrol
Joe	80 Series
Maree & Stuart	79 Toyota



The first thing to understand is you need a GPS to help get you to your destination but this causes a few problems if you only speak Kiwi when you ask voice recognition to go to Buchan and it comes back with no you can't say that it thought it was going to F#####ham Opps and this set the tone for the weekend.

The race is on? Who has the shortest short cut around Sale? Des peeled off first Stuart second and Jeff and the convoy the main road. We would like to thank Brett Buchanan for the best short cut Stuart won.



Lunch at Buchan caves we found it that's to our Aussie GPS. Ha Ha.
Up Basin road to Basin track and then to Jackson Crossing track and our first water crossing, finally camping at Hicks campground. Shane and Jenny had a housewarming in the rain for their new set up.

Sunday

Leaving the rain overnight we were playing Dora the explorer and U turn day to get to Raymond Falls.



We did the walk with the thunder and lightening cracking around as you can see some of the group took their umbrellas and others just got soaked waling back.

After a huge rainstorm we decided to have a look at Jones staircase and the Deddick track the reason

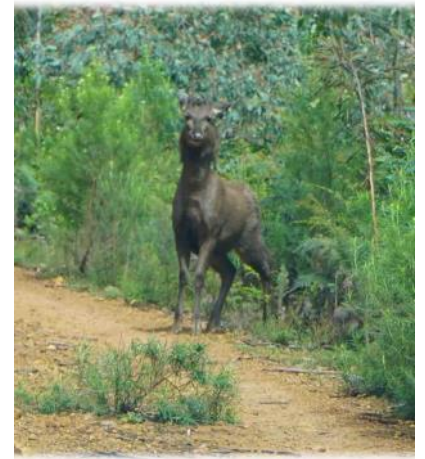


we are all here. It's really wet and the road sign said dry weather only, after a discussion we headed along Rich Knob track and finally ending up in Waratah camp. The decision to erect the big tarp was a wise choice as just after it rained and rained and just for something a bit different it hailed.



Monday 4 November 2019

Maps consulted and the execution was Waratah Flat Road, Mary frightened a large deer as she came around the corner, poor animal should know better road crossing rules. Heading on Bowen Link Track to Bowen Track which disappeared into the forest and gave everyone a few new pinstripes. You know when you are really close to the end of a track and everyone comes to a screaming halt it's a tree it blocking our path so we showed it who was boss and its no longer going to give the explorers a hard time.



On to Warm Corner Road and turn on to Shills Road the timber jinkers are working so carefully on the corners or you could turn into a Kenworth hood ornament. This road just disappeared into the forest so another u turn and on to Rising Sun Road to Yalmi road and back to Waratah camp site.

Dinner was a feast to behold. Des had a spit roast lamb and everyone else had predetermined things to contribute a feast for Kings was prepared and consumed. Those reading this should be drooling it was that good.

Tuesday 5th November 2019

The rain sang its overnight lullaby to us all, and we packed up with wet gear all deciding it was a wonderful weekend. We headed out to Orbest and the local bakery for an early lunch and decided we need to come back again and see more of this wonderful National park.

The last word of this is the pictures don't do justice to this magic spot in the world enjoy some of the pictures of this trip.



Waratah and alpine daisies
some of the really pretty flowers
we found on our travels



The chain saw gang the tree zero the chain saw gang winners.

Dinner everyone, yum yum.





Standing at the top of Mt Tower
It's like being on the top of the world.



Tall trees on the track.



Wild flowers on top of the hill.



The rain is coming the weather is not the best.

TRIP REPORT

Marysville Day Trip

9 November 2019

Participants

Maree & Stuart	79 Ute
Des	Patrol
Callum & Ray	Ranger
Ben, Clair & Jack	D Max
Audrey & Ian	Patrol
Jenny & Shane	Colorado



If it looks cold well let us enlighten you just a thought it's November so you expect unpredictable weather but not

to the extent, we received. This is the trip of closed gates. First, we head up Mt Margaret road and its covered in snow. As we head to Boundary track, we find our first locked gate.

Plan B Lady Talbot drive gate locked Plan C East west falls track. Looking good but Yanks, Folly and Whitehouse tracks all closed so another U turn by now its snowing that white stuff is falling from the sky and from all the trees we bump enjoy the pictures. Our dash is showing Zero as a temperature, this is looking out to the track take note of the aerial on our bull bar.



We stopped for coffee and cakes we got from the Marysville bakery.



Back on the track

Another U Turn



Stuart your land cruiser looks a bit cold?
This is while driving along the road.

We headed up Blue range road, its covered in snow, with the shoulders all white, and the surface showing signs of ice and mud so with tippy toes we headed up to Rubicon and down the track to the power station for a lunch stop. The water over the falls was awesome. The spray was covering us all like it was raining and its hard to describe the noise with this rush of water.



After lunch the question is which way to go as many of the tracks are still closed. Stuart asks how about Bullfight over to Snob creek sounds like a plan so here we go.

Bullfight track is all covered with snow and its as slippery as can be, so the challenge is out there. Who's going to get stuck first. The prize goes to Stuart that pesky rock is in the way and it catches both his front and rear wheels. Cullum to the rescue with his winch, to go back oops not working Stuarts winch to go forward and finally he is out, Shane, Ray, Ben, Des and Ian all assisting the recovery, and clearing the snow to reveal the way round the rock.

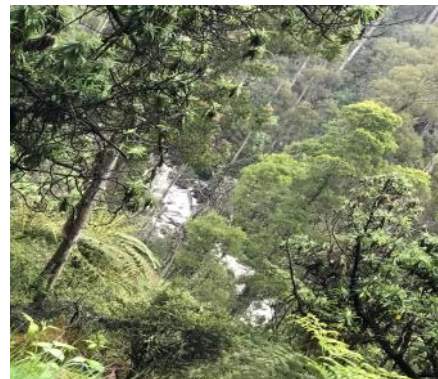


Great spotting and everyone got around a few new scratches, but we are off again.



A large rut covered in snow with a small river running through it and a tree on the side Stuart tried but slipped into the rut, so he backed up and tried again, we walked the rut and worked out where the side of the track is because its all covered in snow. Stuart finally finding a way round but deciding it's too hard with the tree so the chain saw sorted that tree out and made it easy for the rest to pass. We finally made it to Herb Road, and everyone was pleased to finally find a real road.

Everyone helped each other through Bullfight, and we will have a bit more respect for this short cut in the future.



We headed to Snob creek falls and that was cascading over the rocks with a thunderous roar. From there we headed to the old trestle bridge and the water was overflowing from the viaduct then we found the waterfall on the road out to Rubicon. Shane and Jenny were staying the night in the Tin Hut camping ground that has just got a new long drop toilet installed. We headed to the Black Spur Hotel for dinner and a debrief on a wonderful day playing in the snow.



Thanks to all who joined us it was fun
enjoy the pictures Maree and Stuart