



"Responsible Four Wheel Driving And Family Touring"

December 2013
Newsletter

TRACK TORQUE



www.wangaratta4x4club.org.au

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WANGARATTA 4X4 CLUB

Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club Committee Members

President	David Jackson
Vice President	David Blore
Secretary	Helene Martin
Treasurer	Tim Meek
4WD Victorian Representative	David Robinson
Membership Officers	Toby & Alyce Currie
Merchandise Officer	Peter Burke
Newsletter Editor	Andrew Brown
Property Officer	Graeme Martin
Publicity Officer	Kate Burke
Training Coordinator	Tom Barnard
Trip Coordinator	Tom Barnard

Non Committee Positions

First Aid Officer	Richard Rhodes
Web Master	Maria Lucas

WEBSITE:

www.wangaratta4x4club.org.au

The Wangaratta 4WD Club has evolved from a few members in 1983, to a membership of over 40. The Club is made up of individuals and families who are interested in responsible Four Wheel Driving. There is no restriction on the make or type of four wheel drive vehicle, and there is always plenty of variety and camaraderie amongst members.

Where we live: Members live all over the North East and beyond, including from Benalla, Beechworth, Corowa, Glenrowan, Milawa, Albury, Wodonga, Wangaratta, Gooramab, Tatong, Langwarrin, Molyullah, Myrtleford, Mulwala, Yarrowonga, Stanhope, Violet Town, Melbourne Rosebud and overseas (England).



Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club is a member of the Victorian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs.

Affiliations: Members of our club are proud to be part of the Adopt a Hut Program and work with Parks Victoria to look after Top Crossing and Lake Cobbler huts.

We are also affiliated with the South Coast Four Wheel Drive Club based at Wollongong, and the Four Wheel Drive Club of WA. Current members of the respective clubs are entitled to Reciprocal Membership.

Membership: Single or family \$100.00 p.a.

General Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, generally at the North East Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee Recreation Reserve, commencing 8.00pm. There is no meeting in January. Please refer to the club calendar. **Visitors are always most welcome.**

Track Torque: Newsletter Contributions may be forwarded to ...

Editor : Andrew Brown

☎ 0414 397 802 ✉ : editor@wangaratta4x4club.org.au

Editorial Deadline – Usually 1st of the month. This is your newsletter so be a part of it and send any articles of interest, comments, birthdays, etc, to the editor.

Advertising: \$80.00/yr. Please contact the editor for further details.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in the articles in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or of Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club Inc. The editor reserves the right to delete any section of any article, or reject any article, which has been sent in for publication in the Newsletter.

Front Cover: Allan and Jeanette Wallace enjoying Mt. Pinnibar on 2nd of December 2013...

The President's Page

Hi all,

Happy Christmas to all.

Silly season has arrived yet again with lots of things to get done by Christmas day.

If you've got a few days free over the Christmas break, let us know and maybe we can get together for a drive or a couple of days relaxation together. There's lots of fantastic destinations really close to home.

Lots of things happening on our trip calendar also, so keep an eye on the website for up to date changes.

The committee will email out any last minute drives and other important information and I believe our social media site is also up and running for those of you who know what it's all about.

At the last committee meeting it was revealed that a good percentage of the current committee members would not be available for re-election this year. The AGM will be at the March General Meeting, so we have a fair amount of time for you guys to consider the future of the club and your participation in its management.

It will certainly be a time for new members to step up and for older members to reconsider using their vast experience to see the club expand into 2014.

The last couple of years have seen a lot of procedures put in place leaving the 2014 committee with a very solid base to work from.

Our calendar will be very healthy by that time as our Trip Coordinator will go "all out" over the next few months to fill the calendar.

I would ask that both new and older members, those that have never and those that have been in Club management before, really consider being part of the 2014 Wang 4WD club committee of management.

You will notice an advertisement in the newsletter about a dinner with Simon Christie from 4WD TV - please consider coming to this event it should be a great night put on by the Rotary Club of Appin Park, in preparation for the Wangaratta Camping 4X4 and outdoor Leisure Show the club is involved with in January.

Have a great Christmas break, please drive carefully and we'll see each other in the new year if not before

dj

CLUB APPAREL

Club Tee Shirts, badges, jumpers, windcheaters, etc. are available from STEER Clothing – 15 Baker St, Wangaratta [new address]. Contact person is Bruce Steer. Phone: 03 5721 7773.
(The club shirt should be a dark green with gold embroidery.)



Club Badges

New Club Members who have not yet received their Club badges or any other club member who would like to order new badges at \$10.00 each, please email Toby and Alyce Currie at: toby.currie@hotmail.com and tell them exactly what you require.

Member's Page

Open Forum

Hello everyone,

Just a reminder to follow on from my introduction of the "Open Forum" in the August 2012 newsletter, please feel free to contact me if you have something to sell through the club or have an idea you would like to have discussed at the General Meeting or brought to the Committee. (Please send newsletter advertisements straight to the Editor. *Email address above.*)

My contact details are: Mobile: 0412 664922
Home: 5752 1292
Email: gr.ht.martin@hotmail.com

Graeme

Message from the Secretary: Helene Martin

Hi All,

As Secretary of the club, I write up an agenda for each General Meeting which helps the smooth running of the meeting. If anyone has an issue they would like to bring up at a General meeting (other than an article for sale or general topic for the Open Forum), please email me or phone me before the 1st of the month and I will include it in the agenda. [See email and phone details above]

Helene

General Meeting 12th Nov. 2013



Meeting opened: 8.05pm

Welcome to members by the Vice President, including any new members and visitors. Members present as per attendance book and Daniel and Jackie from Albury.

Apologies: Jeanette Wallace, Kate Burke, Noel & Virginia Robinson, Steve Twomey, Richard Rhodes, David Jackson, Andrew Brown.

Send Andrew a message hoping that his Mum gets better soon.

Minutes of previous meeting from the 8th October 2013 General Meeting were circulated as the newsletter had not been sent out to members. Moved: Graham Abotomey, 2nd Monica French and carried.

Business arising from minutes: NIL

Correspondence IN: Nissan News, Email from Beyond Hotham.

Correspondence Out: None.

Treasurers Report Treasurer presented the report on the clubs finances. Account balances are:

General Account: \$11,998.44

Term Deposits: \$2,380.02

Accounts to be paid: NECC for room rent. Moved by Tim Meek, 2nd by Burkey and carried.

Membership – Toby & Alyce not present.

Trips – Tom updated meeting

Girl's getaway end of November to Lake Catani and Mt Buffalo 29/11 > 1/12/13. Meet at Apco Wangaratta and Myrtleford.

Wombat Trip – Tim to advise at a later date.

Next meeting at club house 6pm start for a BBQ before the meeting. Tom to organise photo's for the night. Bring something that is unusual/practical that you take camping.

Ian Barry – Davies Plains – January 2014 3 spaces left.

Wang Leisure show on the same weekend.

Bruce Gooday spoke about his trip that is being held next week but the club, Trip Leader did not acknowledge the trip.

Damo reported that he and Steve Twomey went to Cameron's Corner over the Cup weekend.

Weather was pretty good not too hot. Travelled via the Ivanhoe Hwy. Some vehicle trouble but not enough to stop the trip.

There will be a Xmas party/trip but no date set as yet. Will be a drive of some sort via Lake William Hovel.

Other Committee Reports:

Training: Richard Rhodes away – First aid course cancelled – lack of numbers

Driver training: November 2014 tentatively booked in. Is it possible to schedule a weekend earlier not only for new members but for current club members to refresh their skills. Show of hands – a lot of club members interested.

4WD Vic – Rep Robbo last meeting held in Bright in October. 4WD Vic experiencing some internal dysfunction which needs to be sorted.

Meeting program – ????

Publicity – Kate not present - Burkey showed the club a with thanks certificate from the Cancer Council for the help received from the club.

Merchandise : Peter advised that there are club T-shirts still available.

Agenda Items

Radio repairs / sinking fund – Committee to address – Helene explained what was organised when David Ashford was last Treasurer and Graeme Martin's suggestion to start a account for a sinking fund to assist in replacement of club items.

Xmas party Drive: Date to be set.

Open Forum

At the last Committee meeting Steve Fuller addressed the Committee on a 'trial Facebook page'. In the past there has been resistance to 'Facebook'. The Committee asked Steve to speak to the general meeting.

Steve informed the club that he had set up a 'general page' not an official page for the club. To date there are 28 members for 4x4 Wangaratta. Can view pictures but cannot post messages unless you are a member.

Craig spoke to the meeting on the pros and cons n Facebook – Be very careful of comments made on Facebook. Important that Facebook not be used to advise short term trips. Trips need to be in the trip calendar. Be very careful of comments - that they are not taken out of context. Good source for new members quicker than trade shows. Excellent way to advise members of news items, meetings etc. Great tool for enticing new young members. Jeep club now uses Facebook instead of a monthly newsletter. Have a trip calendar but advertise in-between trip on Facebook. Photos can be uploaded instantaneously.

Irene Ham spoke to the meeting and advised the meeting that she has observed some photos of club trips. Was advised that the site was not the clubs. Very powerful tool if used correctly. The Centre has the ability to assist community groups set up a Facebook page.

Bruce Gooday spoke to the meeting regarding Facebook and if it was agreed to state a page to assist with information and generate new members, everyone – committee would have to step up as the club has no trained instructors for new members to complete club training and there is also very few trips advertised on the trip calendar.

David Blore asked the question: 'Does the club want to investigate a Facebook page that will support the current club website?' With a show of hand most of the floor supported the investigation of a Facebook page.

Benalla Day in the Gardens – Several club members assisted on the day. Obtained a number of inquiries.

Beyond Hotham – March 2014 2013 cancelled due to the bushfires. Nissan is no longer sponsor. Beyond Hotham hasn't been able to secure a major sponsor but needs support from the club in order to runs trips. Hotham Management Board is running the 2014 event. 12th > 23rd March 2014

Sergeant of Arms: Peter shook the can.

Special Guest Speaker: Bluey Beetles was the guest speaker. Has a vast array of experiences and spoke about chainsaws.

General business:

Craig mentioned that the Government is looking to introduce camping fees in national parks.

Next meeting reminder: Tuesday 10th December at 8pm (6.00pm BBQ...)

Meeting Close: 10.15pm

Victorian High Country Huts Association

VHCHA

For information about huts please visit VHCHA website : <http://www.vhcha.org.au>

This site has further information on the Victorian High country huts and activities associated with each area. Our club is a member of this organisation, with Graham Abotomey our representative.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VICTORIA



Driving In A Sustainable Environment

For more information visit the website: www.fwdvictoria.org.au

FWDV Delegates Brief Sheet to be read out at Club Meetings, and printed in Club Magazines

December 2013

2013 Annual General Meeting

FWDV held its Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 11 November 2013, and the following members were elected or appointed unopposed to the Board of Management:

Executive Officers

President – Damian Stock (Subaru 4WD Club of Victoria)

Vice President – Vacant

Secretary – Eric Bishop (Toyota Landcruiser Club of Victoria)

Treasurer – Vacant

Ordinary Board Members

Lou Catherine (Toyota Landcruiser Club of Victoria)

Colin Oates (Off-peak 4WD Club)

Michael Martin (Toyota Landcruiser Club of Victoria)

Chris Kershaw (Bellarine 4x4 Club)

Past President

Graeme Walsh (Land Rover Owners Club of Victoria & Idlers 4WD Club of Victoria)

Treasurer Required

At the recent FWDV Annual General Meeting the position of Board Treasurer was not filled. The Board is seeking a volunteer from the clubs to take on the role of Treasurer. The Association cannot go forward past February 2014 without a Treasurer and to prevent this risk, the Board is seeking a volunteer. However, if the Board cannot secure a Treasurer from the clubs, it will have no choice but to buy one. At this point in time, we estimate the cost will be in the region of some \$35-40K to employ an accountancy firm to conduct a diligent management of the Association's finances.

FWDV cannot afford to endure such costs and would therefore need to look towards the clubs to finance this extra cost. This item will be on the agenda for the February 2014 General Meeting, so please advise your clubs to consider this requirement at your next meeting.

Until the FWDV Board has a Treasurer, our financial management will be conducted through the office with some assistance from a volunteer finance committee.

FWDV Business Plan

The Board has secured Hari Maragos to continue the development of the business plan. Hari has already secured some volunteers to assist him in this endeavour. However, if you have skills in Risk Management, Financial Management, Journalism, and/or general report writing then please contact Damian Stock at president@fwdvictoria.org.au.

Trackwatch Editor Required

We are looking for someone to take over the role of Editor for Trackwatch, beginning in 2014. Past Editor, Graeme Walsh has resumed the role of Editor for the December 2013 Issue. If you have the skills required and would like to take on the role of Editor of our prestigious magazine, please contact the CEO on 9857 5209.

Volunteers Wanted

The Board of FWDV is seeking volunteers who are willing to assist with sub-committee activities. We are looking for people who would be interested in areas, such as, communications (including preparing information leaflets) or assisting with contributing articles to Trackwatch. We also have vacancies on our sub-committee group relating to membership and member benefits.

Are you a good team member? Do you have the skills which could complement our activities?

If you are interested, please respond to Damian Stock at president@fwdvictoria.org.au

Training Manager

The board is seeking a volunteer training manager to take on the role of managing the specific courses developed through FWDV; the role will require collaborating with the Marketing Manager and the Chairman of the ETU. It is the intention of the Board that this volunteer role will eventually become a paid position. This will be on a part time basis only, to start with, however there is the potential for it to become a full time position in the future.

Office Administration Position at FWDV

FWDV is currently seeking an Administration Officer for a full time, paid position in the office from 2014. We have already received a number of applications from the public but the Board is also interested to receive applications from Club Members, family or friends experienced in office administration.

Candidate Attributes:

A positive and friendly personality/attitude

Ability to work within the management team

Ability to work unsupervised

Excellent oral and communication skills

Excellent organisation and time management skills

Computer confident – skills in Microsoft Office

Suite, ACT CRM Database Management and

MYOB Premier are highly desired

If you have the required skill and are interested in applying for this position, please send a cover letter

and resume to FWDV office at

office@fwdvictoria.org.au.

FWDV Victoria Club Night Presentations

Did you know that FWDV Victoria President – Damian Stock, CEO – Russell Sturzaker, and Projects & Events Manager, Wayne Hevey are available for Speaking Engagements at Club Nights, with the CEO also available for Committee Meetings? We are happy to cover any topics that you may like to

present to either Club Members or your Committee. To book a speaking engagement please contact the office on 9857 5209 or email the CEO at ceo@fwdvictoria.org.au.

Regional Reps and Tracks Committee

From time to time Four Wheel Drive Victoria is invited, as an interested party, to respond to various Regulations, Management Plans and Regulatory Impact Statements initiated by Government via Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) and Parks Victoria (PV). There is always a component of these documents that have an effect on some aspect of our recreation. When the FWDV Office receives these invitations, a request, together with information web links, is put out to Clubs for research and comment. From those comments received, the Tracks and Regional Representative Sub Committee also research and meet to form a united response on behalf of Four Wheel Drive Victoria and member Clubs. During November 2013, two such responses were submitted by their due dates; the 'Ngootgoong Gunditj Ngootyoong Mara South West Management Plan' and the 'Victorian National Parks Camping and Accommodation Fees Regulatory Impact Statement'. Thank you to the Clubs and individual club members who assisted with the process. Your input is invaluable ... but we want more!

We strongly urge Club members and Committees to keep an eye out for email requests from the Office and in the public media and to be a part of the collective voice that is the Association. The DEPI and PV welcome and value our comments and we have no doubt there will be opportunities for clubs to 'have a say' in submissions for 2014

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Bioscan Project

Museum Victoria (MV) and Parks Victoria (PV) have just completed a two week extensive fauna study in the north east area of Victoria which had not been done previously. From its inception, FWDV were invited to assist in the transportation of the scientists and their equipment into areas totally inaccessible without the skill sets provided by our volunteer members. The outstanding outcomes from this experience are many and varied, from the camaraderie formed between all parties, to the gathering of information and exhibits sought by MV, to the cementing of our working relationship with PV and DEPI the land managers. A huge thank you to all who participated in making this project as wonderful and successful as it was. This is the catalyst of many new initiatives to flow from our commitment and efforts!

River Red Gum Project

Launch of Victoria's Seventh Iconic 4WD Adventure – The River Red Gum Drive

On Friday, 1st of November 2013, the River Red Gum Drive was officially launched in Cohuna as an Iconic 4WD Adventure joining Victoria's existing six Iconic 4WD Adventures that were launched in 2010. The 2013-14 edition of the Murray River Guardian—a 36-page guide for people visiting and camping along the Murray River—was also launched at this event.

The River Red Gum Drive starts at Torrumbarry Weir and follows River Track to Koondrook through Murray River Reserve, Gunbower National Park and Gunbower State Forest. The drive then takes in the NSW areas of Koondrook State Forest, Perricoota State Forest, and Murray Valley Regional and National Parks with the Edward River region offering excellent opportunities for recreational activities along the way. The River Red Gum Drive finishes with an easy drive through Barmah National Park showcasing sections of the world's largest River Red Gum forests.

This new drive will take at least two or three days to complete. Visitors can enjoy all the local area has to offer – the beauty and serenity of the River Red Gum forests and waterways, a wide range of picnic and camping grounds and an extensive network of forests tracks to explore.

Camping Fees Submission

FWDV submitted a report to Parks Victoria regarding the camping fees initiative recently advertised through the Minister of Environment. A copy of the submission is available from the office and will be updated on the website this week (6th December 2013) Clubs seeking a copy of the submission can contact the office of FWDV and request an electronic copy.

FWD Victoria Training Courses

FWDV's website will soon be updated with its range of Training Courses for 2014. There is already a lot of expressions of interest for our February 2014 Courses, so get in early to not be disappointed. All courses conducted during 2013 were well patronised by both members of the public and commercial organisations, with the last few months being extremely busy. The many instructors from the different clubs are to be complimented on their hard work in seeing that the Courses are conducted in a professional and safe manner. We have received some great feedback!



Coming Events

FWDV General Meeting – Saturday, 22 February 2014 at 11.00am “Thisildo” (Old Tatura East Primary School) 297 Craven Road, Tatura East.

This meeting gives you the clubs the opportunity to come along and hear what is happening within the Association and meet your co-club colleagues to discuss up and coming events. Please provide the office of FWDV any agenda items your club wishes to be discussed and come along and discuss those matters. FWDV welcomes all club members interested to participate in this event.

Christmas Break

The office of FWDV will be closed from 20 December 2013 and reopening on 20 January 2014.

As this is the last Delegates Brief Sheet for the year, the Board and Staff of FWDV wish you and your families, a well-travelled and safe journey through the Christmas period and wish you all the very best for the up and coming New Year.

Trip Reports:

MAGNIFICANT MORETON ISLAND

Sunday 4th August – designated meeting day.
 Location: Caltex Service Centre – Port of Brisbane.
 Time: 12 noon onward.

All trip participants had arrived at the designated meeting spot by 2pm. Everyone caught up on their trip up and settled in for the afternoon/night. After tea, a birthday cake was presented to Kate.

The Port of Brisbane Security and the Police checked on us we must have look like a motley lot because even the truck drivers drove past us.

Monday 5th August: Everyone was up early, showered, had breakfast and then waited in anticipation for our Moreton Island adventure to commence. Vans dropped off into secure parking, last minute checks made, photo of the ‘crew’ taken while we waited in line until we were instructed to ‘drive on’ the vehicle ferry, the ‘MiCat’.

With a later departure time than expected we felt the engines gain momentum with the boat vibrating and we were off, slowly motoring out through the Port of Brisbane past the giant container lifting cranes and out through the leads into Moreton Bay.

The weather was glorious with the water glistening like silver as we cruised by.

We settled in for the 70 minute boat ride.

Coffee and muffins ordered, we all took in the beautiful scenery and faint view of Moreton Island.

Graeme organised with the Captain to view the bridge of the MiCat, with some of us being lucky enough to steer the boat over to our destination.

Prior to our arrival at ‘the Wrecks’ on Moreton Island, the vehicles tyres were all “aired down” and the hubs locked in.

Graeme and I have seen many a vehicles get bogged as soon as they hit the sand because they weren’t prepared. When this happens, the MiCat reverses and pulls back in to the left or the right of the bogged vehicle. Needless to say no one from the club wanted this to happen to us.

After all six vehicles drove off the MiCat, we cruised on up the beach with the glorious Moreton Bay glistening to our right heading for the Middle Road exit and the surf side of the Island.

For most of the trip participant's, this was the first time for them driving on beach sand so the sensation was different with the vehicle response. (Not to mention all vehicles were very heavily loaded for the two weeks of camping on the island.)

We were in luck! The road had been recently graded so it was a great introduction to this type of driving. 20 minutes later we drove onto the surf beach and what a sight! Crystal blue water, with small rolling waves and a light breeze to greet us. 400 metres up the beach and we were at our designated camping area, sites selected everyone got themselves set up. Club marquees erected, everyone congregated and enjoyed a drink prior to tea.

Tuesday 6th August: Burkey, Graeme and I were up bright and early to watch the sun rise and the whales frolic out the front of the camp site. Could it get any better than this? You bet ya it did!

As Toby and Alyce were only staying a short period of time, it was decided to take a drive and show them along with the others, some of the sights of the island.

Heading north to the light house, we stopped and took pictures of the vehicles on the beach and then onto the light house for a walk around and was treated to more whales playing in the water.

After taking in these sights, we then drove onto 'Yellow Patch' and 'North Point', were some of us walked on to 'Honeymoon Bay' and the 'Champagne Pools'. Robyn MacLean notice that there were more whales playing just off the northern tip of the island, so for the third time that day we were treated to another spectacular display of the migrating whales playing in the water. From here we drove onto the settlement of 'Bulwar', had some lunch and then back to camp for a spot of afternoon fishing.

That night we had our first communal meal with everyone dressed Hawaiian. Toby was the cocktail maker and did an excellent job on the 'Pina Colda's'.

Wednesday 7th August: Rest Day – We woke to another glorious day on Moreton Island.

Early morning walks being taken, fish filleted, morning tea with pikelets shared, the day rolled on. Toby and Alyce took a drive to the 'Blue Lagoon' and had a very invigorating swim there on their own with very little beach traffic.

After lunch everyone has either picked up there rods to fish or a screw driver to dig the pippies out. Oh it's another day in paradise!

Thursday 8th August: Day drive. Locations discussed Tangalooma Resort, The Sand Dunes and Rouse Battery.

After consulting the tide book we headed off to Tangalooma Resort so Toby and Alyce could look at their next holiday destination. Morning tea and lunch was enjoyed here and then we pushed onto the Sand Dunes to do some tobogganing. There was more bogging than sliding.

It was very windy there so after many attempts we headed off to the Rouse Battery where in WW2 Australian troops manned these lookouts to protect Australia from possible infiltration of Japanese troops. Remnants of the ammunition bunkers, gun turrets and staff quarters are still present today. The task of supplying the troops with water was carried out under the cover of darkness. This was done to protect the location of the troops. After collecting the water then the troops would have to help push a Blitzer up the sand dune to carry the water to a holding tank near the gun turret. Les, Jeanette and Glenn found out how challenging that track could be!

After looking at these historical sites, it was back to camp for another leisurely evening around the camp fire. The only altercation for the day was a frog and Burkey in the toilet tent! (The Frog lost!)

Friday 9th August: Toby and Alyce organised themselves to depart the Island.

With some goodbyes said, Burkey, Kate, Graeme and Helene travelled with Toby and Alyce over to the barge to say a final "good bye".

As high tide was almost in, the Burke's and the Martin's settled in at Tangalooma Resort for coffee and cake waiting for the tide to go down so that they could travel back to camp.

The MacLean's, Norton's and Wallace's had a leisurely morning back at camp relaxing.

Saturday 10th August: Another glorious sunrise greeted us and after a lazy morning lunch over the MacLean's, Norton's and the Wallace's took a drive to Blue Lagoon, Honeyeater Bay and Bulwer sightseeing. The Burkes and Martin's held the fort back at camp enjoying a lazy afternoon.

Everyone arrived back in camp safely and caught up on the afternoons drive.

Sunday 11 August: Guess what? Another glorious morning with a number of people rising early and trying to catch fish.

A few fish got away but better luck next time which will be this afternoon, after a round of worming to try and get some different bait to entice the fish.

Monday 12th August: Another day's driving – back to Tangalooma Resort for a few provisions.

The day's very nice but strong winds blowing.

We had lunch at the resort, along with 1,000 Indonesians on their annual holidays.

Afternoon spent leisurely playing cards, fishing, and reading. Oh this is the life.....

Tuesday 13th August: Walk organised to Mt Tempest. 2.5 Km round trip; not all partook in this walk. Allan stayed behind and fished and Graeme? Not sure what Graeme did!

We had a lovely walk to the top of Mt Tempest with its sweeping panoramic views of both sides of the island.

Allan, Jeanette, Les and Robyn had organised themselves to depart early the next day, due to the Wallace's having to organise a medical appointment quickly and Les & Robyn having to head back home due to a family emergency.



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Wednesday 14th August: The Martin's and the Burke's escorted the Wallace's and the MacLean's to the other side of the Island to see them off.

The Norton's held the fort back on the surf side warding off any unexpected intruders coming into camp site. The afternoon is spent doing very little. Wind has picked up again.

Thursday 15th August: Another glorious day awaits us!

The wind has dropped and the tides are in our favour for a trip to Koorinal and the 'Gutter Bar'! 23 k's of beach driving to the southern end of the island. The Gutter Bar was not open when we arrived but a quick look around and back to the bar we were in luck.

After a pleasant couple of hours partaking in a drink or two we headed back to camp to check Burkey's vehicle out which was sounding a bit sick.

After removing all spark plugs it was discovered that the 6th spark plug wasn't looking very good with the possibility of a head gasket gone also. Will keep you posted with the outcome.

The rest of the afternoon spend driving to water course for water for showers, playing cards, reading, maybe a drink or two.....

Friday 16th August: The Burke's left the island this morning to head home not knowing if the vehicle would make it.

Graeme and Glenn drove over to the MiCat landing site to make sure that the Burkes didn't get into any trouble.

After the Burkes, left the Norton's and the Martin's were left to enjoy the remainder of the time left on Moreton Island. After a brief discussion over a game of Rummykub it was decided to head towards Stanthorpe (slight change to itinerary) and partake in the many wineries that are in that area.

Saturday 17th August: Camp site packed up.

Sunday 18th August: Left Moreton Island at 10am after a coffee and muffin at the Resort again.

Beautiful day on the water and 70 minutes later we are in Brisbane. With caravan hooked up we headed to Warwick to meet up with the Wallace's and then travel onto Stanthorpe. Stanthorpe is 980 metres above sea level and is primarily granite rock country. They have a very predominant wine and apple industry in this region. After organising a tour for the next day it was drinks in the camp kitchen which had gas heaters. The weather at Stanthorpe is very similar to what we experience in our region with the area being approx. 980 meters above sea level and it has been known to snow!

Monday 19th August: Picked up at 9.45am by our tour guide Allan. The 6 of us enjoyed a delightful day touring the various wineries, cheese factories and castles that had over 400 liquors to taste. With many boxes of wines, liquors, cheeses and relishes it was back to the caravan park for our last night in Stanthorpe.

Tuesday 20th August: Goodbyes said to the Wallace's the Norton's and the Martin's headed west via Goondiwindi to St George, via Hebel which is on the NSW/QLD boarder and then on to Lightening Ridge.

In Summary: It was great couple of weeks on the Island with great company, and exceptional weather which was appropriate given the trip was called 'Magnificent Moreton Island'.

PS: The Burkes made it home safely. The problem was a head gasket and from all reports the vehicle is now back on the road. Good news!

The Bruce Gooday led Mt Pinnabar Trip will be featured as a report in the next edition...(thanks for the nice photo though Bruce...Andrew (Ed.)



Club Trips

Girl's Weekend

Kate Burke was unable to run the "Girls Weekend" (advertised in the last edition), due to lack of numbers.

Whilst she is disappointed that the trip couldn't be run this year, Kate has emailed me that she will set another date for next year. (Probably earlier in the year, so keep an eye on the Trip Calendar for the dates...Ed.)

Davies Plain Trip...

Ian Barry has emailed me that the trip is fully subscribed now...

Editor's note:

This has certainly been a busy year for me so I'm not surprised this is the case for many of us in the Club.

As D.J. has said often in his "President's Report", even a small day trip works well for reports in the newsletter, so take your camera wherever you go, take a few snaps and then write a few lines about your day. Drop them to me (E: abrown52@eftel.net.au) and I will include them in the next edition.

Small articles are great because they add a wider view and more personal perspective of the club members and their interests.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you....

(P.S. Notice the nice new ad for Wang Bearings...nice work Maria...)

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CLUB CALENDAR 2013

Remember club trips are not set in stone so there will be times when trip dates will be changed to suit members and the weather.

Nov 29th-1st Dec	Girls Getaway	TBA	Kate Burke		No Men Allowed	Cancelled... Possibly February new date!
Jan 25-27	Davies Plains	Davies Plains Mt Pinnabar area	Ian Barry		Re scheduled trip. A must to attend	Trip is now Full
Jan 2014	Wangaratta Outdoor Leisure show	APEX Park Wangaratta	Committee		Need volunteers to help man the club display	Unlimited places!
Feb 2014	Adventure Travel Film Festival	Bright	Committee		Further details TBA	Unlimited places!
March 2014	Myrtleford Festival	Myrtleford	Committee		Need volunteers to help man the club display	Unlimited places!
April 2014	CSR	Canning Stock Route	Ian Barry	TBA	Need 4 vehicles minimum	TRIP IS NOW FULL
June 9 2014	Tackling Toolangi	Toolangi state forest	Tom Barnard		Will be wet, cold, & muddy	Places still available

WATCH THIS SPACE..... (proposed upcoming trips)

- Graeme Martin - Day trip around the Gapstead area
- David Blore - Jehrico Red Jacket area
- Tom would like to tackle the North Eastern parts of NSW- Port Macquarie to Coffs Harbour would be nice
- Richard Rhodes – Woods Point Walhalla area

Advertiser's Section

Notice to Business owners

There are a couple of spaces available for extra advertisements.

Call or email Andrew (Ed.) to book your advertisement in our magazine.
 (Contact details on bottom of Page 2)

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The Question Is:

Which Club President is Interested in Buying this Toy?

Just who could it be.....? Let me think!

(This picture was sent in by a sad and lonely Wangaratta based person/man...how desperate is he?

Oh...okay, good choice El Presidente).



TRACK TORQUE



December 2013



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