



*"Responsible Four Wheel Driving And Family Touring"*

# TRACK TORQUE

October 2012  
Newsletter



[www.wangaratta4x4club.org.au](http://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	David Ashford
4WD Victorian Representative	Craig Cheetham
Membership Officer	David Jackson
Merchandise Officer	Peter Burke
Newsletter Editor	Andrew Brown
Property Officer	Craig Cheetham
Publicity Officer	Kate Burke
Training Coordinator	Tom Barnard
Trip Coordinator	Tom Barnard
Committee Member	Graham Abotomey
Committee Member	Graeme Martin

#### Non Committee Positions

Sergeant At Arms	Scott French
Social Coordinator	Chris Jackson
Web Master	Maria Lucas
Past President	David Robinson

#### WEBSITE:

[www.wangaratta4x4club.org.au](http://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, Glenrowan, Milawa, Albury, Wodonga, Wangaratta, Goorambat, Tatong and Melbourne.



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 \$80 p.a.

**General Meetings** are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:editor@wangaratta4x4club.org.au)

**Editorial Deadline – Usually 1<sup>st</sup> 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: The Simpson Crew at The Birdsville Hotel (see this month's trip Report)**

# The President's Page

Hi all,

Well it's happened - Spring is here and daylight saving as well, a great opportunity to get a bit of after work driving in locally. As I mentioned in the last newsletter my Grandson David has just got his L plates and after just 20 days has got up 25 hours - he says that will equate to about 900 hours of driving experience by his 18th birthday. Took a day of yesterday and we did the Eldorado area off road - very impressed with his off road progress.

On family matters, our Granddaughter Jasmine and Tim celebrated their engagement on Saturday night and are our latest club members - congratulations from the club. Oh yes, and one more grandson to my youngest son Daniel - his name - Jet. Yes 'Jet Jackson' - for those of my vintage you will remember one of the very first super hero's on tele was "Jet Jackson and the Flying Commandos" - and I think he drove a LandRover as well.

You will notice a Photo and Film Disclaimer Notice in this edition and on the web - as part of our membership drive (mentioned last month) and due to the increase in advertising and promotional opportunities the club is taking advantage of within our local communities and electronically, the committee thought it prudent to contact all club members in this manner rather than on an individual basis, to make sure they have no problem with their photos or vehicle photos appearing in the public domain - if you have any concerns give me a call or alternatively, our Publicity Officer (Kate Burke).

A big thank you to our Newsletter Editor Andrew Brown, for his mammoth effort in getting our new letter out every month and on time. Not really sure that the majority of club members realise and appreciate the amount of time that some of your committee members put in to keep things ticking along from month to month. I'm sure Andrew's job is made a little easier with articles etc sent in on time - so if you have anything news worthy, get it into Andy - there's never too much info. Again Andy thanks, you're doing a great job and I know you're a busy man.

Please keep your eye on the Trip calendar for upcoming events especially our Christmas celebrations. Over the Christmas break, it is usually a quiet time on our calendar, however some of us take an annual break during this time and are available for a bit of a trip - even at the last moment. Keep Tom informed if you've got something planned or you have some free time.

And congratulations to Tom Barnard - good to see the new factory opened and your business thriving - need any mechanical repairs? See Tom.

Chris and I are doing our last minute planning for our trip to Vietnam in Oct-Nov. Chris asked whether we could hire a scooter over there ourselves and have a look around - last year when we were there I asked our guide that exact same question - he looked at me and just laughed - I'm sure it was because there are ten Zillion scooters on any one road 24hrs a day and not because I was wearing a LandRover cap at the time.

I'll send my report from Vietnam next month, hope you all have a great month and remember to drive carefully.

dj

# Member's Page

## Open Forum

Hello everyone,

Just a reminder to follow on from my introduction of the "Open Forum" in the August 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](mailto:gr.ht.martin@hotmail.com)

Until next month,

Graeme

### Items for Sale

### TOYOTA 100 Series IFS Accessories

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1 ARB  $\frac{3}{4}$  Length Roof Rack with all fittings **\$500**

1 Tradesmen Rear Cargo Barrier **\$300**

1 Front Shocker (EC) **\$50**

2 Original Rear Coil Springs EC **\$50**

1 Rear Home Made Cargo System Single Draw **\$200**

Rear Jerry Can Holder )

Rear Spare Wheel Holder ) **\$200 the Lot**

Rear Bin )

2 CBIE Driving Lights with Lens Covers **\$50**

1 Hot Water Heat Exchanger (Home Made) **\$100**

1 Fuel Tank Return Solenoid **\$50**

1 x 2.5 mtr Side Awning (used once) **\$250**

6 Assorted Fan Belts (never used) **\$20.00**

**Phone** Graham Abotomey Mobile: 0427 273 427 or Phone: (03)572 3427

## ITEMS FOR SALE by Murray McEachern

**Phone:** (03)5768 2284 or Mobile No. 0427 342 285

### New spares Ford F250 V8 diesel specific:

- Ford Bottom radiator hose \$20
- Ford Diesel fuel filter \$50
- Ford Air filter \$30
- Old Man Emu rear shock absorber \$80
- Old Man Emu front shock absorber \$80
- Ford RHS front mudflap \$30.

### General items – some new, some used:

- Slat table (1mX1m):– good condition (GC) \$20
- ARB Air jack:- as new – never used \$100
- 265/75 16” Good Year Wrangler tyre, 60% tread, road pattern \$50
- New tubes(2) to suit above tyre \$10ea
- Companion 2 burner stove:- GC \$50
- 12v continuous duty solenoid:– only used as a second battery switch/connection \$20
- Wheel bearing kit suit TLC 80series:– new \$60
- Petzl headlight:– GC \$30
- Staun light duty (0-10psi) tyre deflator valve caps:– very good condition (VGC) \$20
- Self inflating mattress:- GC \$20
- Codan model 8528 HF radio, 8532 remote head & model 8558 auto tune antenna:- VGC \$500
- Electrophone 40 channel UHF radio:- VGC \$60
- Pair 11” mudflaps:- one new, one FC \$20
- Shentai 12volt impact wrench – little use – VGC - \$60
- Engel 12v56ah battery pack – bought new Oct2010, still has original battery, accepting & holding charge – GC - \$70
- Autofridge 40litre – GC - \$500
- Glind shower – VGC - \$150

### Editor’s Note:

*Club Members wishing to have advertisements displayed in our newsletter need to have your ad to me by the 1st day of the month. This ensures your ads inclusion in the Newsletter.*

*If you would like to have the advertisement displayed in the following month, please email me which items are still for sale and again, would you do this by the 1st day of the month. Thanks, Andrew.*

## 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, please email David J at: ([david@hideawaysafe.com.au](mailto:david@hideawaysafe.com.au)) and tell him exactly what you require.

### We Need Help... A Request from 4WD Victoria via email

Hello all,

It is time to start thinking about track clearing activities prior to the opening of the season commencing on Melbourne Cup weekend.

The land managers have asked us to indicate how many volunteers might be available to assist in this regard so I am looking for your feedback to enable me to answer this question.

At this point in time, areas needed to be cleared are not yet determined, as heavy machinery may be needed to be used in some instances before our services can be activated.

We are really trying to put together a bank of volunteers who are willing to help out in certain areas when they are required which I am informed will be known within the next 2 to 3 weeks.

Please ask your members to consider this request and offer support wherever you can.

I look forward to your replies.

Regards,



*Wayne Hevey*

Projects & Events Manager

**Four Wheel Drive Victoria**

RSL Hall, 2 Centroway  
Balwyn North VIC 3104  
PO Box 1015G  
North Balwyn VIC 3104  
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## General Meeting September 2012

**Welcome:** David Jackson opened the meeting at 8.05pm.

**Present:** As per the attendance book. Visitors in attendance Travis, Tim, Les McLean.

**Apologies:** Ian & Trish Barry, Allan and Jeanette Wallace, Graeme Martin, John, Irene, Glen and Robyn Norton, Tom Barnard, David Ashford

**Minutes:** August meeting be accepted. Moved by Andrew Brown, 2nd by Kate Burke.

**Business arising:** NIL

**Membership:** Still a few members still outstanding

**Correspondence In:** Various as per Helene

**Correspondence Out:** As per Helene

**Treasurer's Report:** David Jackson gave the Treasurer's report on behalf of David Ashford.

**General Account:** \$6 055.94

**Term Account:** \$1,310.02.

**Accounts to be paid:** N/A

It was moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted by David Blore 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helene Martin and carried.

**Trip Report:** Trips as per the trip calendar on web site. Simpson Desert trip all going well and Craig Cheetham just arrived back from his Simpson Desert trip.

**Training:** Remote Area First Aid Course will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October at NE Car Club. Wang 4WD Club will pay the \$100.00 room fees. Cost per person is \$205.00. Must have current first Aid Cert Level 2.

**Some other trips:** Kate reported to the meeting that she and Burkie had completed the Rubicon State Forest Reccie about a month ago. No BBQ facilities so BYO stoves for cooking. Wood etc.

**Next General Meeting** is to be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> October at the Wangaratta Club. 6pm for a meal the meeting to start after at 8pm. The Club no longer has a chef so venue may change. Email will be set to advise in about a week.

**Open Forum:** Email sent to Wangaratta 4x4 asking if anyone has an old ute that may be for sale. Richard Rhodes spoke about a new UHF radio that is on the market. Price: \$299 and is waterproof. Bruce Gooday advised the meeting that fixed price servicing has problems. The dealers put the cheapest oil in the vehicle to service it. Recently his vehicle wouldn't start due to cold weather and the thinner oil. He is looking into obtaining information for the correct oils required for his vehicle.

Industry talk is that Toyota Utes will not be brought up to 5 star safety rating. Utes and 200 series may be phased out...time will tell.

Andrew spoke about lockers and advised the meeting about a new locker on the market – Harrop e-locker. Also, Roo Systems has 22 inch LED light bars on special for \$299.00

4WD Victoria will be in the Whitfield area in October 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Vehicles required to chaffer delegates around. See Craig Cheetham for more information.

**Track clearing:** 20-21<sup>st</sup> October. To be confirmed. Website will advise if dates change. Being organised out of the Parks Vic - Bright Office. Clearing will be around Mt Selwyn at this stage.

Tracking clearing 27 & 28<sup>th</sup> of October also organized around Lake Cobbler. Check website for further details. (Craig is the contact person for both events)

Craig advised he will be stepping down as the Club's representative for 4WD Victoria. Should anyone be interested in this position, Craig will assist with information.

**Shutterfly:** Terry Dillon presented Shutterfly to the meeting. Discussion from the floor then proceeded about the site which is hosted through the Wang 4x4 website. If any person doesn't want their photo in any newspaper article or on Shutterfly they are to let the Committee know. A list may need to be started. David Blore mentioned that in the trip leaders report, there might be an inclusion advising that participant's photos may be posted on the site. There are about 6 people in the club who are active on the Shutterfly site.

Andrew Brown said that he is very aware about taking photos of people and if anyone doesn't want their photo taken by him, they won't be taken.

**General business:** Beyond Hotham on hold at present as snow season still open.

**Fine Sergeant:** Burkey did the rounds and collected fines etc.

**Next meeting:** 9<sup>th</sup> October at the Wangaratta Club for diner then an 8pm meeting.

**Meeting closed** at 9.35pm.

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# 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](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au)

The following information has been taken from E-news and the FWD Victoria website. If you would like to receive a free copy of E-news, email the Fwd Vic office and ask to be placed on the email list.

E-mail: [office@fwdvictoria.org.au](mailto:office@fwdvictoria.org.au)

Editor's Note:

There has been no update received from 4WD Victoria for this month's segment of our newsletter.

I apologize if there is any inconvenience to Club Members regarding Track Closures or other matters usually contained in this article.

If you are looking for this information during this month, go to the 4WDVic website or email them on the address immediately above this Ed Notes. (*There has been a change in the leadership of 4WD Victoria and I think this article will reappear in the near future*).

Till next month...

Andrew



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