

“Responsible Four Wheel Driving And Family Touring”



MARCH 2020

Newsletter



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www.wangaratta4x4club.org.au



WANGARATTA 4X4 CLUB

Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club

Committee Members

Executive-

President	Neville Sonogo
Vice President	Mick Maher
Secretary	Sue Abotomey
Treasurer	Bruce Gooday

Other Committee Members-

Newsletter editor	Bev Maher
Property Officer	Neville French
Publicity Officer	Bev Maher
Trip Coordinator	Damian O'Connor

Graham Abotomey
Neville French
Manfred Wagner

Non-Committee Positions-

Training Coordinator	Dave van Zanten
FWDV Representative	Dave Van Zanten
Web Master	Andrew Ammendola

WEBSITE:

www.wangaratta4x4club.org.au

The Wangaratta 4WD Club has evolved from a few members in 1983, to our current membership of over 30 families. 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, Howlong Glenrowan, Milawa, Albury, Wodonga, Wangaratta, Goorambat, Tatong, Langwarrin, Molyullah, Myrtleford, Mount Beauty, Mulwala, Yarrawonga, Stanhope, Violet Town, Melbourne, Rosebud and Overseas (England).



Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club is affiliated with Four Wheel Drive Victoria.

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.

Membership: Single or family \$100.00 p.a. **Temporary Membership:** \$15.00 (Three trips)

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: Bev Maher - editor@wangaratta4x4club.org.au

This is your newsletter so be part of it and send in any articles of interest, comments, trips, birthdays etc.

Editorial Deadline:- 1st of the month

Advertising: \$100/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

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MARCH 2020

General elections are coming up so begin to think about the composition of the committee for the coming year. A good working committee leads to a successful and harmonious club with all members making a contribution.

We should be moving into some more stable weather for the next few months. Good time for travelling – milder day time temperatures and cooler nights. Keep the trip reports coming into the editor for our magazine and upcoming trips into our coordinator for placing on Facebook.

Thanks should also go to our Guest Speaker organiser for some enthusiastic and informative presenters. Keep the suggestions coming.

I am looking forward to the coming months where conditions lend themselves to great club events.

Neville Sonogo.

President.

Club Contact Details

Name and Position Held	Mobile Number	Email Address
Neville Sonogo (President)	0427 251 576	nsonogo1@yahoo.com
Sue Abotomey (Secretary)	0424914200	susieabotomey@hotmail.com
Bruce Gooday (Treasurer)	0409 071 330	bgooday@bigpond.com
Damian O'Connor (Trip Coordinator)	0417 526 175	damnkez@people.net.au
Bev Maher (Editor Track Torque)	0419 533 898	editor@wangeratta4x4club.org.au



**WANGARATTA FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB Inc.
GENERAL MEETING – MINUTES**

**8.30pm Tuesday 11th February 2020
at Nth East Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee**

President Neville Sonogo welcomes all members and visitors and asked Mick Maher to introduce Bert Orr, Wangaratta Ambulance - tonight's guest speaker.

Present: President Neville Sonogo, Chris Sonogo, Bev & Mick Maher, Manfred Wagner & Narelle Cula, Sue & Graham Abotomey, Gill Sydes, Neville & Monica French, Ron Grant, Bruce Gooday and Barry Richardson

Visitor: Justin Wyllie

Apologies: Irene Jones, David Blore (also apology in March and May), Glenn & Robyn Norton, Jeanette & Allan Wallace, Dave & Fiona Van Zanten, Damien O'Connor, Corey Suppa, Beryl & John Strang and Sean Strudwick.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: as per Track Torque

Motion:

“That the Minutes of the December 2019 Meeting, as presented, be accepted”

Moved: Monica French Seconded: Chris Sonogo Carried

Business Arising: - Nil

Correspondence

- WAW – Bank Statements
4 Wheel Drive Victoria – Half Year affiliation invoice.
 - Fire Relief memos (Rural Response and volunteers wanted in Gippsland (circulated) & Heywood, Western Vic.
 - Donating \$2,000 to Fire Relief Fund
- Parks Vic – Chris Clarke: Graham asked for news of Cobbler and Top Crossing Huts? Chris is currently on LSL and Huts of ok for now.
- Vic High Country Huts – Dec 2019 Echo from the Bush
- Thank you from Manfred, Narelle & Wolfgang for sympathy card.

Motion: “That Correspondence be accepted”

Moved: Sue Abotomey Seconded: Neville French Carried

Merchandise - Available as per Track Torque

Treasurer's Report

Bruce Gooday to give a verbal report to the meeting.

Motion:

“Treasurer’s Report was accepted and accounts passed for payment.”

Moved: Bruce Gooday

Seconded: Mick Maher

Carried

- *Club Fees were discussed at our Committee meeting and the Committee will recommend that we keep Fees at \$100 pa.*

President’s Report - As published in February 2020 Track Torque

- **Membership** - Manfred introduced Justin Wyllie who may join our ranks.

2020 TRIPS & EVENT CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

TUESDAY February 11th	General Meeting	NE Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee	Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	7.30pm for 8.00pm start
SUNDAY February 23 rd	Top Crossing Hut Trip	As per Track Torque	Graham Abotomey Book by Friday 21st Feb on 0357273427 or 0427273427	

MARCH

TUESDAY March 3 rd	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club Victoria Parade, Wang	Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	6.00pm for 7.00pm start
TUESDAY March 10 th	Annual General Meeting	NE Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee	Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	7.30pm for 800pm start
THURSDAY March 12 th	Little Desert NP Trip	Kiata Camp Ground	Nsonego1@yahoo.com 0427 251 576	

APRIL

TUESDAY April 7 th	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club Victoria Parade, Wang		6.00pm for 7.00pm start
TUESDAY March 14 th	General Meeting	NE Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee		7.30pm for 800pm start
THURSDAY April 2 nd to Sunday 5 th	Man From Snowy River Festival	Corryong	Graham Abotomey 0427 273 427 www.bushfestival.com.au	

MAY

TUESDAY May 5 th	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club Victoria Parade, Wang		6.00pm for 7.00pm start
TUESDAY May 12 th	BIRTHDAY DINNER Meeting	Wangaratta Club Victoria Parade, Wang		6.00pm for 6.30pm meal

JUNE

TUESDAY June 2 nd	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club Victoria Parade, Wang		6.00pm for 7.00pm start
TUESDAY May 9 th	General Meeting	NE Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee		7.30pm for 800pm start

AUGUST 2020 - HANN'S TRACK & THE WESTERN DESERTS, Western Australia. Meet Saturday 1st August at Laverton or Lenora (tbc) for 4 week round trip.

David Blore TL: 0407 885 410 or David.blore@gmail.com

- **Trip reports**

Milawa Hotel get together in January – Neville Sonogo thanked Monica and Neville French for organising this popular event.

- **Training** - to be advised at later date.

- **Editor Newsletter**

General Business:

- Bushfire relief – Blazeaid are now in Corryong and other areas in the north east. Club members are encouraged to spend a few days/weekend if they are able to help with fencing, cooking, etc.
- 2020 Office Bearers – Our AGM is next month. Looking for secretary. Everyone else is happy to re-stand. Encourage new blood on our committee.
- Club Advertising – The Committee has decided to display our Club Brochures on the counters of up to 10 businesses in Wangaratta, Myrtleford and Benalla. Ie. Sponsors etc. We have purchased 10 holders. Thanks to Manfred & Narelle for this initiative. And thank you to Bev & Mick Maher for the printing and folding of these brochures.

- Other

Thank you to Ron Grant for delivering a caravan to Corryong after a request from Rotary and Blazeaid. Also, thanks to Neville Sonego and Graham Abotomey for offering their time.

Meeting closed 9.30pm



PRE - TRIP REPORTS

1. HANNS TRACK & THE WESTERN DESERTS – AUGUST 2020

Trip leader: David Blore

Emergency Contact: (outside of trip):TBA

Tail end Charlie: TBA

Trip leader contact details: ☎ David: 0407 885 410, email david.blore@gmail.com

Start Date: Saturday 1 August 2020

Meeting place and time: Laverton or Leonora, WA – yet to be determined

Trip duration: Four weeks Laverton to Laverton.

Trip rating: Medium-Hard

Type of tyre tread required: All-Terrain at a minimum, with better than 75% tread, less than 4 years old, in LT construction.

Fuel requirements: Fuel for in excess of 800 km will be required, at desert consumption rates.

Minimum recovery gear required: Snatch straps, shovel etc

Winch required If you have one

Wheel chains required No

Fire restrictions: Unknown – plan for all possibilities.

Type of Accommodation/camping:

Tent-based, locations not confirmed. No camper-trailers will be permitted on the trip: these and caravans (we will be towing our off-road caravan to the start of the trip) will be stored at Leonora or Laverton if you choose to bring them for other travel before or after the trip. I'm making enquiries about storage options at the moment.

Maximum number of vehicles (first in gets a placing): 7

Personal equipment requirements:

Gear for warm as well as possible cold and wet conditions.

Trip Details:

The trip will follow Hanns Track (so-called) east from Laverton, to Warburton on the Great Central Road. After Warburton a number of possibilities arise including the Old Gunbarrel to Carnegie and Wiluna, or thence to Granite Downs and back to Wiluna and Laverton via the bottom of the Canning Stock Route. A decision will be made at the time of reaching Warburton; it may be that some proceed straight along the GCR to Laverton, whilst some will follow the full route suggested above.

Permits to access Aboriginal Lands will be necessary: I expect to start seeking these early in the New Year once I have enough interested members wanting to do the trip.

Other Requirements:

Drivers must be experienced in 4wd driving in remote desert terrain; vehicles must be mechanically excellent, have low range and excellent tyres as noted above.

There is much planning to be done: this is simply a heads-up so that interested members can book a place. The trip limit will be strictly enforced.

Expressions of Interest:

Contact David to advise of your interest.

2. LITTLE DESERT NATIONAL PARK TRIP

Pre-Trip Report

Wangaratta 4WD Club

Name of Trip:	LITTLE DESERT NATIONAL PARK	
Date/s:	12/03/2020	16/03/2020
Timings: Include where to meet, departure time and return time	Meet at KIATA CAMPGROUND which is 26 kms west of Dimboola on Nhill Road 404 kms from Wangaratta	

Trip Details: List things such as Destination, Plan, Expected weather, Sights, Places, Key track names, etc	Explore the Little Desert National Park in Western Victoria. Use the Kiata Campground as Base Drives within National Park will be mostly sand driving Several historic sites to view Walking Tracks available from Campground Visit to Mt Arapiles Local Hotel meal tba		
Trip Leader:	Neville	Sonego	nsonego1@yahoo.com 0427 251 576

Trip Rating: A brief description of likely conditions to be encountered	Easy	All bitumen roads until you get to the Campground turnoff. Then 12 kms of unsealed dirt road. Tracks within the Park will mostly involve sand driving
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Number of Vehicles:	No limit			
Suitable for: List type of vehicle, whether campers or caravans can be taken, etc.	Suitable for Tents, Campers and Caravans			
Vehicle Requirements:	Tyres	All Terrain	Winch	No
All vehicles on club trips are required to have recovery points and carry their own recovery equipment, a snatch strap, shackles and dampener as a minimum. All vehicles require a UHF radio, the trip leader will advise radio channel prior to departure. Trip leader to list other items that may be required for this trip. Things such as snow chains, water blinds, chainsaw, etc.	Lift	No	Snorkel	No
Fuel and Supplies: Brief description of where fuel and other supplies can be obtained if at all.	Fuel available at Dimboola to the east and Nhill to the west Both approximately 20 kms from Kiata Campground			

Trip Specific Info:

Food, clothing, prohibited items, fire restrictions, other items to bring, etc

Please be self-contained- food, water and necessities for duration of trip
 Nights can get cool so some warm clothing
 Fire pits available- please bring own wood
 Toilets at Campground
 Solid shelter also available
 Telstra mobile phone reception

Permits, Camp fees, etc

Not required
 No camping fees applicable

If you wish to go on this trip, ensure you register with the trip leader. Do not turn up without registering. Remember to let the trip leader know if you need to cancel.



TRIP REPORTS

TOP CROSSING HUT TRIP REPORT

Words and photography- Graham Abotomey



11 Club members met at Oxley at 9am for our day run to the Top Crossing Hut on the King River.

We travelled the Wang Whitfield Road through the King Valley to Cheshunt. You could see a green tinge along the valley especially on the river side of the road as we have had reasonable rain for last part of

January, which had continued on for the first half of February.

Once we had turned the corner at Cheshunt heading to the William Hovell Dam, we were in a different world as both sides of the road were very green with a fair amount of growth. Our group enjoyed smoko at the dam which was down considerably. You might say at a guess half empty.

On our way again and onto the dirt, with 4WD selected we drove the Top Crossing Track which was surprisingly dust free around the back of the dam and followed the King River all

the way to the Hut. There were a couple of vehicles near the Hut, so we waited for them to leave then lined up our convoy to take a photo with the Hut.

Next it was out with the rakes and shovels for a clean of the inside of the hut followed by a bit of raking around the outside. We screwed a couple of loose iron sheets and part of the internal frame. A few of our members did a rubbish pick up around the fireplaces, most of our work was now done.

Lunch was then called. We left the hut around 2pm for our run out. We crossed the river twice on our return to Sandy Flat, a turn to the right saw the group re crossing the King again and we commenced our climb towards the Long Spur Track intersection, always a good long pull to the top.

We all regrouped at the top for our final run down to the King River again for our final crossing. It was around 3pm when we crossed to the other side where we re-inflated our tyres for the run back to Cheshunt for the customary ice creams before our run home.

Thanks to everyone on the trip for their contribution on the day. Many hands make light work, and this was the order of the trip. Top Crossing is one of the Huts that the Wangaratta Club maintains for all Park users.



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- * NERVE DAMAGE
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CLUB NEWS-

Guest Speaker- February 11th was Bert Orr from Ambulance Victoria



A very enjoyable evening was had listening to a great talk by Bert- very enlightening, with some good basic principles and tips to keep us all safe as we travel this amazing country.



MAN from SNOWY RIVER FESTIVAL



www.bushfestival.com.au

A number of Members from the Club are going to the Festival and have already booked. If you are interested in going there are various Packages available and you can check their web site on the above web address.

**The festival runs from Thursday 2nd April 2020 till Sunday 5th.
If you require further information you can contact Graham Abotomey 57273427 or
0427273427.**

MARCH IS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING month.

Tuesday 19th March
NE Car Clubrooms, Tarrawingee
8.00pm start

Please consider taking on a position in your Club.
There are roles in the Executive and on the Committee
Sue has announced she will not be standing as Secretary
again, so we will certainly need a SECRETARY



WANGARATTA 4X 4 CLUB- AGM- MARCH 2020

PLEASE NOTE- THE WANGARATTA 4X4 CLUB WILL HOLD ITS AGM on **TUESDAY MARCH 10TH** at the NORTH EAST CAR CLUBS ROOMS- TARRAWINGEE AS PER BELOW-

Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.

Notice of Annual General Meeting 2020

The AGM of the Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club will be held on Tuesday March 10th in the North East Car Club rooms at Tarrawingee. The meeting will commence at 8.00pm. The election of office bearers for 2020-2021 will be held at the AGM.

Members are invited to use the form below to nominate candidates for the various positions. If nominating for one of the six Committee positions, nominees should express a preference for any- one, or several, of the tasks listed below the nomination form. The incoming President will allocate tasks to committee members according to expressed preferences and to circumstances from time to time. The position of Sergeant at Arms is determined by a separate process and is not necessarily held by a committee member. The composition of the current committee, and the allocation of tasks to committee members, can be found on the inside cover of the club newsletter. Completed nomination forms should be forwarded or handed to the Secretary prior to the commencement of the AGM. Election to positions will be by a show of hands on the night.

NOMINATION FORM – *please tick one*

Position	Nominee:	Nominated by:
<input type="checkbox"/> President		
<input type="checkbox"/> Vice President		
<input type="checkbox"/> Secretary		Seconded by:
<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer		
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee (6)		

Committee preference – please tick one

<input type="checkbox"/>	4WD Vic Regional Rep	<input type="checkbox"/>	Editor/Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Merchandise
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ANYONE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING ANY POSITIONS PLEASE CONTACT EITHER

Neville Sonego- President nsonego1@yahoo.comSue Abotomey- Secretary susieabotomey@hotmail.com

2020 – Trip & Event Calendar

MARCH 2020

TUESDAY March 3rd	Committee Meeting		N/A	Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	6.00pm
TUESDAY March 10th	General Meeting	NE Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee		Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	7.30pm for 8.00pm start
THURSDAY March 12 th - March 16th	Little Desert National Park Trip	KIATA Camp-grounds As per Report		nsonego1@yahoo.com 0427 251 576	

APRIL 2020

TUESDAY April 7th	Committee Meeting		N/A	Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	6.00pm
TUESDAY April 14th	General Meeting	NE Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee		Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	7.30pm for 8.00pm start
Thursday 2 nd April- Sunday 5 th April	Man from Snowy River Festival	Cooryong	N/A	Graham Abotomey 57273427 or 0427273427 www.bushfestival.com.au	

MAY 2020					
TUESDAY May 5th	Committee Meeting		N/A	Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	6.00pm
TUESDAY May 12th	General Meeting	NE Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee		Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	7.30pm for 8.00pm start
JUNE 2020					
TUESDAY June 2nd	Committee Meeting		N/A	Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	6.00pm
TUESDAY June 9th	General Meeting	NE Car Club Rooms, Tarrawingee		Sec: Sue Abotomey E: susieabotomey@hotmail.com	7.30pm for 8.00pm start

AUGUST 2020- HANNS TRACK & THE WESTERN DESERTS –
More details as per Calendar

Four Wheel Drive Victoria - Volunteers Supporting Fire Effected Communities.

Four Wheel Drive Club members are currently out in the far reaches of the state in fire effected areas working to assist farmers and communities with their needs.

So far, 4x4 Club members have accumulated over 2,780 work and travel hours supporting fire effected communities and farmers.



Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club Inc –MARCH 2020

CLUB APPAREL



Black or Bottle green,
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TRACK TORQUE



MARCH 2020



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“Responsible Four Wheel Driving And Family Touring”
