

“Responsible Four Wheel Driving And Family Touring”



JUNE 2021

Newsletter

TRACK TORQUE



Inside this issue:

The President's Page
General Meeting Minutes
Trip Reports
Advertisements (Sponsors)
Trip Calendar

www.wangaratta4x4club.org.au



WANGARATTA 4X4 CLUB

Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club

Committee Members

Executive-

President	Neville Sonogo
Vice President	Irene Jones
Secretary	Beryl Strang
Treasurer	Mick Maher

Other Committee Members-

Newsletter editor	Bev Maher
Publicity Officer	Bev Maher
Trip Coordinator	Damian O'Connor
Membership	Manfred Wagner
Graham Abotomey	
Sue Abotomey	

Non-Committee Positions-

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

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 \$80.00 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 – JUNE 2021.

As usual the birthday dinner meeting was most enjoyable. It was great to be able to catch up with members in an informal social setting. It was also an ideal setting to welcome our guests/prospective members into the club.

Members need to keep up to date with changes to Parks Victoria about changes to requirements when working with them eg. Working with Children check.

For those members heading away to warmer areas, safe travels and we look forward to some interesting trip reports and information on new places to add to our future excursions.

President.

Neville Sonogo.

Club Contact Details

Name and Position Held	Mobile Number	Email Address
Neville Sonogo (President)	0427 251 576	nsonogo1@yahoo.com
Beryl Strang (Secretary)	03 5728 1825	jbandbj.strang@bigpond.com
Mick Maher (Treasurer)	0419 533 898	mick@maher.net.au
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 4x4 Club Meeting Minutes

Tuesday May 11th 2021

38th Birthday Dinner meeting at The Wangaratta Club

Welcome/Present: to the 38th birthday meeting of the Wang 4x4 Club.

Sue & Graham Abotomey, Charlotte & Andrew Brown, Kristen & Craig Cheetham, Monica & Neville French, Irene & Noel Ham, Irene Jones, Bev & Michael Maher, Robyn & Glenn Norton, Tom, Kerry & Damien O'Connor, Barry Richardson, Penelope & Mark Schirmer, Christine & Neville Sonogo, Beryl & John Strang, Fiona & David van Zanten,

Congratulations to Craig Cheetham & Neville French, who were at the first meeting 38 years ago and are still active members.

Welcome Guests: Lesley Temme & Gary O'Keefe, Peter Gay.

Apologies: David & Kay Blore, Ron Grant, Gary & Janine Jordan, Paul & Robyn Kelly, Gill Sydes, Manfred Wagner & Narelle Cula, Allan & Jeanette Wallace, Howard Wicking.

Acceptance of previous Meeting Minutes as presented in Track Torque (IronMan)

Moved: M French

Seconded: S Abotomey

Carried

Business Arising:

- From Committee

ParksVic re now compulsory for all volunteers to have current WWC. Details will be in the June Track Torque.

Treasurer's Report: Mick reported

- there had been no changes to the Club's finances since the April meeting.
- David batten would be happy to sponsor the Club; \$100 sponsorship invoices will be sent to Batten Electrical, ARB and Iron Man.
- Beryl also will contact Adventure Camping & Fishing, Benalla Car Wash and A1 Tyres about possible sponsorship for 2021/22.
- Membership subscriptions are due by June 30th. Mick has invoices prepared. These will be sent to members this week, before Mick & Bev drive off to the west.

Calendar/proposed trips:

- The July general meeting will be a social meeting. Venue to be arranged – Beryl will check the McEvoy Tavern in Eldorado.
Details to be announced at the June meeting, at Tarrawingee Car Club.
- Damo's Craig's Hut trip on Saturday May 29th is fully booked.

- Tasmania Trip 2022, led by Fiona & Dave van Zanten. Details in May Track Torque. No limit on numbers but it is recommended that Ferry bookings be made ASAP.
- David Blore is working on a repeat High Country/Cobberas Track trip, in the last week of November.
- Chris Sonogo told everyone about the recce she and Nev did last week. The Harrow Sound & Light Show is a ticketed event, \$60 per person, only available on Saturdays in Spring. Chris has selected Sat. Nov. 6th as a Club date. **An email will be sent to members soon**, as tickets are selling fast
- Chris explained that she & Nev would head west on Wednesday November 3rd, with camping spots planned along the way. Other Club members may prefer a more direct trip, but tickets for the Show will need to be purchased in advance.
- Newsletter: Bev will be away from last May until mid-August. She will kindly continue to create Track Torque, so please send any items to her at: editor@wangeratta4x4club.org.au Please send as promptly as possible, as communications may be a bit delayed.
- 4WDVic: Camp Hosts are being sought for the Queen's Birthday long week-end.
- Four Wheel Drive Victoria is always thankful to the clubs who put their hand up to hold a camp host and once again are looking for clubs to do so. If you have a location in mind, please let us know and we will help set this up otherwise, if you are eager to host but don't have a location please ask and we can always suggest fantastic locations. Don't forget the 3-day camp host over Queens Birthday does result in a \$250 payment to your club for your efforts and contributions. Please respond to this email to set a camp host up. Projects@fwdvictoria.org.au

General Business:

- Satellite Phone: Craig brought the Club's sat. phone, and all the attachments, to promote its existence and to explain how the phone is set up. The phone is now 7 or 8 years old and gets very little use. Currently Craig kindly pays for a monthly plan, to avoid each user needing to set up a new plan & SIM card for any use. Anyone who uses the phone pays for that monthly cost and for the cost of any calls (currently \$2 per minute/50c texts) Club trips have first priority for use, then individual Club members. Contact Craig on crackles101@gmail.com
- Graham reported that he had spoken to Wayne Hevey, CEO of FWDVic, about a Working With Children check being mandated for all volunteers with Parks Victoria. Graham asked what FWDVic's stance was on this issue and indicated that he was unhappy with the request.
- Meeting Closed: 7.06 p.m.
- Next meeting: Tuesday 8th June
Tarrawingee Car Club Rooms, 8 p.m. start

CLUB NEWS-

COVID PROTOCOLS REMAIN IN PLACE FOR ALL CLUB ACTIVITIES



**Everyone has a role to play
in slowing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Before you attend any Trips or Attendance Meetings:

- *If you are feeling unwell you should stay at home. If you have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), however mild, you should get tested.*

While you are out with the Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.:

- *Provide your contact details to the Club and Venue to assist should contact tracing be required.*
- *In shared spaces and when moving about be aware of maintaining your physical distance and wear a face mask when unable to maintain adequate social distancing.*
- *Wash/Sanitise your hands regularly*
- *Don't share cutlery, plates or glasses*
- *Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.*

Please Note:

Activities with the Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club Inc. will only go ahead in strict accordance with the Victorian Government's COVID regulations at that time and as such may be cancelled or changed at short notice.

FWDV – Statement from FWDV regarding Working With Children (WCC) Certificates

“The Association was involved in the consultation process and is in full support of these initiatives and we trust you will understand the importance of the Volunteer Manual and the request for volunteers to have a WWCC. We want you to be in a safe work environment when you volunteer and Parks Victoria will, no doubt, appreciate your co-operation.

The issue of Working with Children Check (WWCC) is one that we need to deal with quickly. This is a workplace safety matter designed to ensure that when club members and their children are part of a volunteer group with Parks Victoria, protection and safety for those children is in place. Many club members today and in the past, wish to encourage their children to participate in their chosen family leisure activity. The WWCC provides for Clubs and parents a measure of confidence that as a family their children are part of a safe work environment. Likewise for Parks Victoria, the WWCC gives a measure of confidence of a safe work environment for volunteers or a volunteer group, where thought and assistance has been given to protect children from sexual or physical harm”.

“The procurement of the Working with Children's card is free for volunteers. This can easily be obtained from the web site along with passport photos supplied after visiting your local post office, where they will also be supplied free of charge.

<https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au>”

“We look forward to your support and continued volunteer opportunities for everyone.”

SPECIAL NOTE- Anyone not receiving FWD Victoria notices please contact Alison McLaughlin directly via office@fwdvictoria.org.au or 0398747222 so she can update your contact details.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees are due BY June 30th 2021

This year they are set at **\$80 per family**

Payable via Direct Debit-

Wangaratta 4x4 Club

Wangaratta Credit Union (WAW)

BSB 803-070

Account – 29894

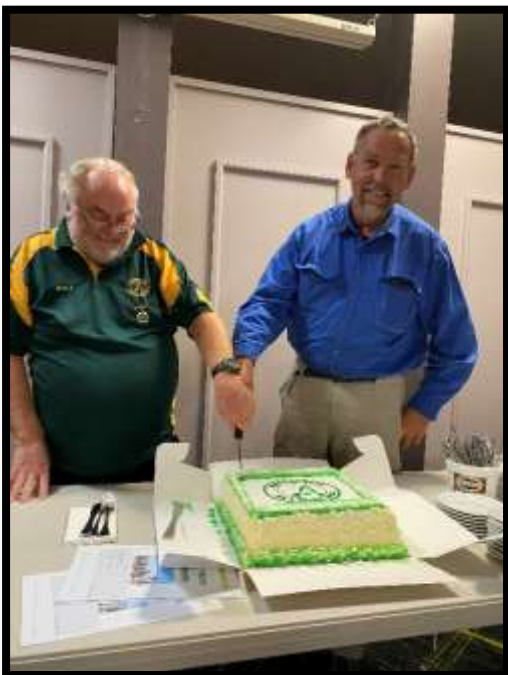
CLUB SATELLITE PHONE- updates as per Meeting Minutes

Club currently has Satellite phone which is available to be used for Club events or other Trips.

Usage and Data costs to be borne by user

Booking Contact is: Craig Cheetham crackles101@gmail.com / 0428 538 478

CLUB BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Last month was our 38th Birthday, which we celebrated with a great roll up of members at the Wangaratta Club.

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
WANGARATTA
4X4 CLUB**



A beautiful Birthday cake courtesy of Fiona Van Zanten and the Howlong Bakery, was cut by 2 of the original members of the Club, Neville French and Craig Cheetham



The occasion also called for a photograph with Craig, one of the original members with Tom, our youngest member.



To round off a great night our driver Trainer Dave Van Zanten, presented the last lot of members to participate in the recent Driver Training Course with their Certificates.

Congratulations all.



Pictured above -Neville Sonego (President) Andrew Brown, Irene Jones, Dave Van Zanten (Educator), Mark Schirmer and Graham Abotomey

CLUB APPAREL – AVAILABLE FROM



TRIP 1 - MAY 29th 2021

CRAIGS HUT TRIP 2021

TRIP LEADER: Damian O'connor

CONTACT DETAILS: 0417526175 or damnkez@people.net.au

Please let me know if you are interested in going on this trip before the trip.

START DATE: Saturday 29th May 2021

MEETING PLACE AND TIME: McDonalds Wangaratta 8am

TRIP RATING: Medium (hopefully there might be some snow by then)

TYPE OF TREAD: Good All terrains or Mud terrains NO ROAD TREADS!! as tracks wont be suitable for road treads

FUEL: Full tank ex Wangaratta

RECOVERY GEAR: Your usual recover gear, UHF radio tuned to **channel 14** and recovery points front and back of each vehicle

PERSONAL EQUIPEMENT: Bring your lunch, drinks, snacks and clothing for all seasons for this trip

MAX NUMBER OF VEHICLES: 6 vehicles plus my own vehicle this will be capped at, first in bested dressed

WHAT EVER COVID 19 RULES AT TIME WILL APPLY TO THIS TRIP

TRIP CURRENTLY FULL

2. Tasmania Trip – March 2022

by Dave & Fiona Van Zanten

Trip Proforma

We expect that by March next year Covid will be under control and hope that it won't play a part but be aware that some bookings can't be cancelled and don't include Covid refunds so you may wish to consider travel insurance to cover such situations.

Trip Title:	2022 Joint Club Tassie Tour		
Trip Dates:	6/03/2022	25/03/2022	
	<small>From</small>	<small>To</small>	
Trip Leader:	Fiona and Dave	van Zanten	0400 936 113
	<small>First Name</small>	<small>Surname</small>	<small>Contact Info</small>
Trip Rating:	Easy Final trip	planning to be confirmed. Planning base camps with our camper and day trips from those locations.	
	<small>Select rating then add notes if needbe</small>		
Number of Vehicles:	No limit		
Suitable for vans/trailers:	Yes. If you wish to tow a camper or caravan I suggest you book the ferry ASAP. On our last trip to Tassie bookings for the return trip were booked out quite quickly.		
Vehicles Must Have:	Tyres	Highway	Winch
	Lift	No	Snorkel
For any off road event each vehicle must have UHF Radio, approved recovery points front and rear and a snatch strap with dampener as a minimum. If you are not self sufficient with recovery equipment check to see if you can borrow club property or ask the trip leader if there is someone with whom you can buddy up.	This is mainly a touring / social trip, nothing other than a UHF for convoy chat is required. We hope to do a bit of 4WDing, nothing extreme. Anyone wishing to join us in that will need basic recovery gear.		
Fuel and Supplies:	There is generally fuel available as required		
	<small>Fuel required, fuel availability, cater for how many meals, spare parts required, etc</small>		
Permits, Camp fees, etc	At this stage the ferry booking is the main thing to get sorted. The trip dates above are the dates of our ferry booking. Much of our camping will be at free sites or locations where charges are minimal.		

Trip Notes:

We have a rough itinerary planned at this stage. Anyone wishing to join us is welcome to do the whole trip or portions of it with us. We've been to Tassie a couple of times and there are things we've seen and wish to re-visit, some we don't wish to re-visit, and lots still on the 'to do' list, etc but together we can all plan a trip that suits and hopefully keep it a bit flexible so we can work in with whatever the weather throws at us.

Send this completed form to the trip co-ordinator and the magazine editor. Ensure you enter the trip into the Proposed Trips and Events area on the web site forum or ask the trip co-ordinator to do so for you.

If you wish to go on this trip, ensure you register with the trip leader.

Am I going? Yes / No

Have I registered? Yes / No

2022 Tassie Trip - Rough itinerary outline

Day	Date	From	To	Staying at	Cost	
1	Sunday	6-Mar-22	Home	Devonport	Overnight on boat	\$77
2	Monday	7-Mar-22	Davenport	Liffey Falls		
3	Tuesday	8-Mar-22	Liffey Falls	Launceston		
4	Wednesday	9-Mar-22	Launceston	Launceston		
5	Thursday	10-Mar-22	Launceston	St Helens		
6	Friday	11-Mar-22	St Helens	St Helens		
7	Saturday	12-Mar-22	St Helens	Freycinet		
8	Sunday	13-Mar-22	Freycinet	Freycinet		
9	Monday	14-Mar-22	Freycinet	Near Hobart		
10	Tuesday	15-Mar-22	Near Hobart	Tahune	Tahune	\$10
11	Wednesday	16-Mar-22	Tahune	Tahune	Tahune	\$70
12	Thursday	17-Mar-22	Tahune	Southport / Recherche Bay		
13	Friday	18-Mar-22	Southport / Recherche Bay	Miena		
14	Saturday	19-Mar-22	Miena	Lake St Clair		
15	Sunday	20-Mar-22	Lake St Clair	Queenstown		
16	Monday	21-Mar-22	Queenstown	Queenstown		
17	Tuesday	22-Mar-22	Queenstown	Tullah		
18	Wednesday	23-Mar-22	Tullah	Cradle Mountain		
19	Thursday	24-Mar-22	Cradle Mountain	Cradle Mountain		
20	Friday	25-Mar-22	Cradle Mountain	Home	Overnight on boat	\$77

3. WIMMERA WANDER- HARROW TRIP

by Chris Sonego



Pre-Trip Report Wangaratta 4WD Club

Name of Trip:	Harrow Sound and Light Show	
Date/s:	2/11/2021	8/11/2021

From

To

Timings: Include where to meet, departure time and return time	Melville Caves — Kooreh State Forest camping ground. Leaving Thurs 4 th for the Murtoa Stick Shed. Camping at/near Horsham.		
Trip Details: List things such as Destination, Plan, Expected weather, Sights, Places, Key track names, etc	Arrive Harrow Fri 5 th . Sound and Light Show Sat 6 th . Bluestone woolshed tour Sun 7 th . General activities around Harrow for rest of the time		
Trip Leader:	Chris	Sonogo	0427251576

First Name

Surname

Contact Info

Trip Rating: A brief description of likely conditions to be encountered	Easy	Road tour
---	------	-----------

Select rating then add notes if needbe

Number of Vehicles:	Whoever wants to come			
Suitable for: List type of vehicle, whether campers or caravans can be taken, etc.	caravans/campers			
Vehicle Requirements: 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.	Tyres	Highway	Winch	No
	Lift	No	Snorkel	No
	Click here to enter texts			
Fuel and Supplies:	Readily available			

Brief description of where fuel and other supplies can be obtained if at all.	
---	--

Trip Specific Info: Food, clothing, prohibited items, fire restrictions, other items to bring, etc	Self catering except for meal Sat night
--	---

Permits, Camp fees, etc	To be arranged
--------------------------------	----------------

Send this completed form to the trip co-ordinator, web site administrator and the newsletter editor.

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.

Chris has the following itinerary in mind, subject to adjustment (except for Friday 5th & Saturday 6th Nov at Harrow):

Wed 2nd Nov.(or Tuesday 1st see Note) - camp at Melville Caves. On the map it is the Koreh State forest, near Inglewood.

Note: We liked the look of this so much we decided on 2 nights there, so we will probably go Tuesday- contingent on weather.

Thurs 4th - visit to the Stick Shed at Murtoa. Worth a Google to see about it. Camp at/near Horsham.

Fri 5th - Travel to Harrow to get good camping spot. Look around Harrow and Johnny Mullagh Cricket Centre.

Sat 6th - Drive to Bailey's Rocks. Picnic lunch.
Sound and Light Show and pub tea.

Sun 7th - Morning tea and tour of historic bluestone woodshed. This depends numbers but we should be able to muster enough.
There is a historic settlement at Warrock nearby which might open for us.
Numbers issue again.

Some of these details may change but this is a rough outline. This is a touring trip rather than a 4wd one and is suitable for all vans.

Please respond to sonego48@yahoo.com with numbers by the end of May.

More details and confirmations as they come to hand.



TRIP REPORTS

SNOW TRIP RECCE

Words and photos by Damo, Kerry and Tom O'Connor

With snow falling down low, Jase, Kerry, Tom and I thought we would do a recce trip seeing what Tracks would be like for the up and coming Craig's Hut Trip in 2 weeks time. The Tracks were in good condition and we didn't have any problems even though the day ended up turning into a night snow drive. We checked out the small Evans Creek Hut, Tomahawk Hut, No 3 Hut, Razorback Hut, stopping at King Hut for a late lunch before heading to Craig's Hut. We made it just before dark, which was an experience in itself to see Craig's Hut in the snow at night. Then of course we had a snow drive home.

NB. Just wanted to note that our drive in 2 weeks' time, will be a day trip. We should be out of the tracks and home by dark. On this trip we didn't leave until after midday which accounted for the lateness of the trip.



2021 – Trip & Event Calendar

JUNE 2021

TUESDAY June 1st	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club			6.00pm start
TUESDAY June 8th	General Meeting	Tarrawingee Car Club Rooms			8.00pm start

JULY 2021

TUESDAY July 6th	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club			6.00pm start
TUESDAY July 13th	SOCIAL NIGHT	Venue tba			6.30 pm start

AUGUST 2021

TUESDAY August 3rd	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club			6.00pm start
TUESDAY August 10th	General Meeting	Tarrawingee Car Club Rooms			8.00pm start

SEPTEMBER

TUESDAY September 7th	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club			6.00pm start
TUESDAY September 14th	General Meeting	Tarrawingee Car Club Rooms			8.00pm start

OCTOBER

TUESDAY October 5th	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club			6.00pm start
TUESDAY October 12th	General Meeting	Tarrawingee Car Club Rooms			8.00pm start

NOVEMBER

TUESDAY November 2nd	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club			6.00pm start
TUESDAY November 9th	General Meeting	Tarrawingee Car Club Rooms			8.00pm start
TUESDAY November 2 nd – November 8th	WIMMERRA WANDERER “HARROW TRIP”	As per Pre-Trip Report		Chris Sonogo sonogo48@yahoo.com	
Last week in November	HIGH COUNTRY COBBERAS tRACK	Details to be confirmed		David Blore david.blore@gmail.com	

DECEMBER

TUESDAY December 6th	Committee Meeting	Wangaratta Club			6.00pm start
TUESDAY December 13th	General Meeting XMAS MEETING	Tarrawingee Car Club Rooms			8.00pm start

**Currently several Trips in planning stage as per Meeting Minutes printed above.
Updates on these will be distributed to members as soon as confirmation is received.**

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TRACK TORQUE



JUNE 2021



Wangaratta Four Wheel Drive Club

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“Responsible Four Wheel Driving And Family Touring”
