



Victoria Police Four Wheel Drive Club Newsletter

January-February 2006

President's Report - January 2005

Hi Fellow Members,

Welcome to a new club year, which started with a club day trip into the Cobaw State Forrest on Sunday 29th January. See the trip report on page 5.

New Member

At the February meeting we welcomed Adam Forehan to the club. Adam is looking forward to getting out in his 4 Runner on a few club trips. Once again Adam, welcome to the club.



Club Website

The club website has been updated and now includes a full calendar of upcoming events. Not just club events but major events being hosted by other clubs with links to the relevant information. The website is now being administered by Steve and myself and will continue to be updated and developed as our skills develop in the use of the software. So you should all visit the site regularly to keep up to date with what is going on in the club.

Training Program

The club training program will be advertised within the next month. It will include 4WD Proficiency Courses, First Aid Course, Trip Leader Course and Winning Course. Keep an eye on the newsletter and club website for the announcement.

Vacant Committee Position

The Secretary position is still vacant and needs to be filled. This position is one of the positions that is required to be filled by an employee of the Police Force. The position does not require a lot of work, the main duties are attending the club meetings, the compiling of the meeting minutes and clearing the club post office box (if working at the VPC). There will be the occasional letter to send out but I do all my own typing, so there is not much to do.

This is an important position but because of the way the club's administration is set up there really isn't a lot to do. So how about someone putting their hand up.

Review of Club Rules and By Laws

A small sub-committee so Rod Kayler-Thomson, Bronco Milic-Zumberski and myself has been set up to review our rules and by laws. If you have any suggestions for changes to them, give me a call or email any of us and your suggestions will be looked at by the sub-committee.

Rod K-T Email: rodkt@swiftdsl.com.au Bronco M-Z Email: bmiliczu@optusnet.com.au

Wayne Morgan
 President
 Mobile 0417-054-108
 Email webdmorg@exemail.com.au



Upcoming Trips:

More trips are needed to be planned.

Contact the Activities Coordinator for assistance to plan your trip.

In This Issue	
President's Report	1
Your Committee	2
From the Editor	3
Read the Fine Print	4
Cobaw Forrest Report	5
The Amazing Race	7
Tallarook 4x4 Roundup	8
Club Calendar	9
Discounts Available At:	10
Sponsors	11



OUR COMMITTEE

President - Wayne Morgan

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Vice President - Marcus Nash

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Secretary - Vacant

Treasurer - Barbara Tabaka

barbara.tabaka@police.vic.gov.au W: 9247 6239 M: 0402 990 486

Equipment Officer - Marc Drew

Activity Co-ordinator - Ron Levett

ronlevett@bigpond.com.au M: 0412 480 917

Training Co-ordinator - Corey Kelly

corey.kelly@ses.vic.gov.au W: 9684 6641 M: 0407 466 351

Public Relations Officer - Steve Aicher

aicher@melbpc.org.au W: 9665 4348 M: 0411 082 434

Ordinary Committee Member - Gary May

themays@vtown.com.au W: 9661 8106 M: 0415 400 101

VP 4WDC CLUB

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TWO SIZES - LARGE (3'') + SMALL (1.5'')
 SELF-STICKING WITH ONLY LETTERING ON WINDSCREEN.
 AVAILABLE FOR ONLY \$5 - ALL PROCEEDS TO CLUB.



From the Editor

Hope you all had a great Xmas and New Year. Probably like me you ate and drank just that little bit too much! Time now to get back in to some serious 4WD'ing.

By the time you are reading this I will be somewhere in exotic India. We will probably either be fighting our way through 15 million Bombayites, oohing and aahing at the Taj Mahal, riding a camel in Pushkar, looking for tigers in some remote National park or some other particularly Indian activity. Looking forward to some interesting eating!! Hopefully I will be able to give a bit of a report about our trip in the next newsletter.

In my absence President Wayne has agreed to complete and distribute the newsletter. Hope to see you all soon!!

Steve Aicher—Public Relations Officer



and



**STEREO
974**

Present the

Four Wheel Drive *RADIO SHOW*

10 am—11 am every Saturday with Peter Dwyer

ESSENTIAL LISTENING FOR ANYONE WITH A 4X4

Read the fine print

Imagine this: you are in the outback and your engine has died. You manage to contact the Australian National 4WD Radio Network base at Alice Springs, where Ken Metcalfe puts your call through to your road service organisation emergency number. You've paid extra to get the top road service plan so you'll be right. Think again!

After you convince the operator where you are, you are told that the service plan does not cover you on 4X4 tracks, or the free towing benefit has only a limited distance and you are outside of it. Oh, well,

and 100km-a-day distance limit. Anything more and you pay the balance – also, you'll probably be up for the cost of returning the hire car to Uluru. The result? A ruined holiday and a big waste of money.

Do not assume your 4X4 will gain similar benefits from road service plans or comprehensive vehicle insurance policies as two-wheel drives. Before paying extra cash for "Plus" plans check the fine print in the conditions of service for location, distance, cost and weight limitations. The holiday you are planning may place you



Don't be left stranded by your road service plan

at least they can get your family accommodated while your vehicle is recovered and repaired. Sorry, unless there is a regular transport service available at or near the disabled vehicle, you're on your own.

So, you get a tow to Uluru where repairs can be arranged. Now the extra service plan kicks in, right? Well, no. There's a limit on the benefit – it covers accommodation (up to five nights) and car hire (excluding insurance), and travel home. You leave your car to be repaired and shipped home, while you take the car-hire option to get your family home. But now you are told there's a five-day car hire

outside the reach of benefits you have paid for. Even normal towing benefits in suburban and regional areas may have weight limits that put your 4X4 beyond the "free tow to the nearest workshop" benefit.

Insist on seeing a copy of the policy or conditions of service. Why pay extra on a road service plan or insurance policy if you are unlikely to be able to access the benefits when you need them most?

When travelling in remote areas, travel in company and go well prepared. Make sure your vehicle is in top condition and don't set off if there is any doubt about the condition of any component.

Reprinted from 4x4 Australia—August 2003



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Report suspicious or destructive behaviour which puts land, property or people at risk. Privacy Protected

132874 24 hrs/7 days

Call the
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to report suspicious activity



COBAW FORREST TRIP REPORT

Sunday 29th January 2006



The day was hot and humid but the tracks were rocky, a bit rutted and lots of fun. Barbara started the day off by badly scolding her hand when filling a thermos for the day, which meant that Eddie had to do all the driving and then they were late arriving at the meeting location as they stopped to assist at an accident that occurred in front of them. Eddie assured us that he didn't cause it.

The day trip was to the Cobaw State Forest, which is not a big forest but it has some good tracks for the beginner and intermediate driver, a bit of rain would make it more interesting and an inexperienced driver would need to choose their tracks carefully.

After airing down we looked for some tracks to have some fun, the first track we went down was rocky with a few ruts to make it interesting. After that we were forced to turn left and the track we wanted to go along was blocked by a fallen tree, this caused us to end up back to where we started.

After a couple of hours getting a bit disorientated as most of the tracks we drove were not sign posted so we had to continually re-orientate ourselves when we came across a sign post.



COBAW FORREST TRIP REPORT Continued



We came to a track that Ron and I decided was too rutted to attempt as we would probably bottom out the diffs but Scott and Mark decided to give it a go and got stuck where I thought we would have. Mark tried another line to get out but couldn't get out and in reversing back bent the rear left plastic bumper on the side embankment of the track. A bit a digging around the bumper and a slow snatch and they were back in the middle of the track and were able to reverse out.

A number of the tracks had us out of the cars having a good look at the line to take, some looked worse than they turned out to be once driven. We all had a great days driving and look forward to heading up to the Cobaw again. After a good days driving we barely covered some of the tracks in on a third of the forest's area, so there is more to see on the next trip.





The Amazing Race!!

14th–17th April 2006

Just like the TV show but in your 4WD, you look for a clue at a GPS location. There will be an instruction to do a novel 4wd activity then instructions to find your next destination. Over 3 days you will experience the Sunset Country & the Big Desert in Victoria's Nth West. This will be right up there with the greatest 4wd adventures you can have with family and friends. **It is not a timed event, so it will not affect your vehicle insurance.** Road tyres are very suitable for this event as well.

You will be navigating, looking for clues, follow instructions and conducting bizarre exercises along the way. There will be all sorts of twists and surprises but unlike the TV show, nobody gets eliminated.

So long as it is reliable, virtually any 4WD & AWD will be up to this one. There should be no need for scratching or damage and even off road camper trailers can be dragged along. There are no classes or limitations and all we need is for drivers to be licensed and vehicles to be registered. Road tyres are also acceptable for this event.

We will be having one base bush camp so you don't have to pack up each morning and take everything with you. No night activities other than social camp fires. We will have games & prizes for the kids. No catering provided so BYO food, water, etc... except for presentation night. The course layout will accommodate service stations/general stores for refuelling and supplies. LPG no problem.

What do you need? Firstly, it is one 4wd/Awd vehicle per team, although there is nothing wrong in pairing up. But all vehicles must have a GPS, UHF radio, basic recovery equipment, and a great sense of adventure. Winches and diff locks **will not** be required. Greater detail will be available upon entry.

What is supplied? Other than an excellent time, all maps, notes, etc are provided for each vehicle.

Where do we start? The start will be near a town/locality of the Big Desert Region of Victoria.

What prizes are for offer? Prizes and trophies are awarded up to 10th place. Presentation of awards will be made on the conclusion of the event around a huge bonfire with food, drinks and alcohol provided. Detailed prizes announced early 2006. **However 1 set of ProComp tyres is up for grabs for 1st prize.**

Entries will close when we reach the maximum quota. The cost is \$320 per vehicle, regardless of how many people you squeeze into it.

For more details call NavRun Headquarters (Rudi Paoletti) (03) 9789 6985 or email on navrun@navrun.com.au



TALLAROOK 4X4 ROUNDUP

APRIL 29 - 30 2006

JOIN US TO SET A NEW WORLD RECORD FOR THE
MOST 4X4'S IN ONE PLACE
A GREAT WEEKEND WITH SOMETHING 4X4 EVERYONE

4X4 FEST

(SOMETHING FOR THE BLOKES)

RoundUp Yard-Category Competitions-Trade Show-4x4 Club Demos-Wood Chop-Rock Hoppers-Chainsaw Carving-Fly Fishing Demos and a RODEO

4X4 FIESTA

(SOMETHING FOR THE GIRLS)

RoundUp Yard-Quilting Exhibition-Art-Displays-Farmers Market-I made it, I grew it-Local Group Activities-Rock Hoppers-Pamper Me Marquee-Craft Demos-and a RODEO

4X4 FUN

(SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS)

Pantomime Program-Animal Nursery-Pony and Cart Rides-Camels Rides-Craft Demos-Hands on Wood-Fishing Demos-Local Groups Activities and a RODEO

4X4 FEAST

(SOMETHING FOR THE TUCKERBOX)

Food Stalls-Local food from the Tallarook Tuckerbag-4x4 Barrel Bar-Great Wines from the region

4X4 FESTIVAL

(SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE)

Shearing and Wool Demos-Bush Skills Display-Agility Dogs-Bands and Music Bush Dance-Stars Under the Stars-Bush Poetry and Yarn Spinning-Camping Out-Big Outdoor Silver Screen-Swagging It and a RODEO

AND MUCH MUCH MUCH MUCH MORE!

AND WHERE IS TALLAROOK?

One hour north of Melbourne just off the Hume Highway between Seymour and Broadford and within a 2-hour drive of 90% of Victoria's population

ORGANISED BY 4X4 IT INC (a not for profit organisation)

Contact us: (Angela, Gay or Pip) on 5792 3444 (phone) 57921150(fax)

Write to us c/- P.O. Box 4X4 Tallarook 3659

Visit us at tallarook4x4roundup.com.au



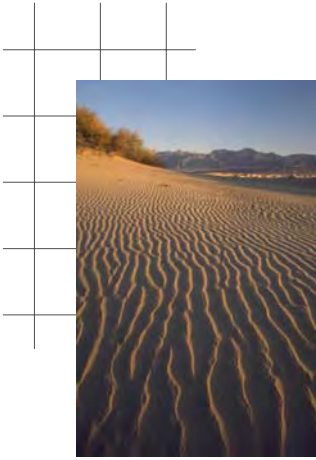
Club Calendar

Date	Details	Rating	Trip Leader
MARCH			
Wednesday 1/3/06	Club Meeting South Melbourne	Serious Fun	Wayne Morgan webdmorg@exemail.com.au
Sunday 5/3/06	4X4 Swap Meet	Bargains	See club website for details
APRIL			
Wednesday 5/4/06	Club Meeting South Melbourne	Serious Fun	Wayne Morgan webdmorg@exemail.com.au
**11 - 20 April	Typo Station Backup Alpine Hike	Medium	Wayne Morgan webdmorg@exemail.com.au
Sat 8/4/06 Sun 9/4/06	CruiserKhana 2006 TLC Victoria, Yarck	Fun	See club website for details
Tues 14/4/06 Fri 17/4/06	The Great Race Big Desert	Fun	See club website for details
Fri 29/4/06 Sun 30/4/06	Tallarook 4x4 Roundup	Fun	See club website for details
MAY			
Wednesday 3/5/06	Club Meeting South Melbourne	Serious Fun	Wayne Morgan webdmorg@exemail.com.au
Fri 19/5/06 Sun 2/5/06	Communications Jamboree Valley Farm Narbethong	Educational	See club website for details
Fri 26/5/06 Sun 28/5/06	Otway Antics 2006 Geelong 4WD Club Annual Event	Easy to Hard	Debbie Kayler-Thomson debbiekt@swiftdsl.com.au
**30 May - 8 June	Typo Station Backup Alpine Hike (maybe Wyperfeld)	Medium	Wayne Morgan webdmorg@exemail.com.au
<p>** Dates mentioned are the Typo Station Hike dates. The dates club members perform the backup duties is up to individual members but the food and water drops need to be com-</p>			

For Full Trip Notices & All Details, Please Visit:

www.victoriapolice4wdclub.org.au





The following businesses offer discounts to all Victoria Police 4WD Club members.



Numerous locations throughout Australia
Produce TJM Members Privilege Card available from the club President

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511 Whitehorse Road Mitcham 3132
Mobile: 1300 72 4 784

& also at:

94 Puckle Street Moonee Ponds 3039
Phone: 9326 0808

At either store ask for Geoffrey De Graf and produce your Club Membership Card

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meetings

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