



Victoria Police Four Wheel Drive Club Newsletter

January-February 2007



Upcoming Trips:

Monthly Meeting—7th March

Warburton trip —17th to 18th March

Ballarat Adventure W/ End — 17th & 18th March

President's Report - February 2007

Hi Fellow Members,

Welcome to a new club year. To start it off I would like to welcome Robert Garside onto the Executive as the Club Secretary. Rob has stepped up to fill this important position that has been vacant for some time now, he is being assisted by Lorraine Walker, who has been taking the minutes for the club meetings whilst the Secretary position was vacant but has offered to continue doing so. Thanks Lorraine.



Future of the Club

Recently there has been a bit of disquiet amongst some members of the club and the Executive about the future direction of the club and the lack of member participation in club activities.

At the March meeting I would like to have a discussion to try and identify the issues and causes and see if we can come up with a few solutions to improve the club and assure its future.

We are still a young club and need to continue to work hard maintain the club's successful beginning.

Club Equipment

At the February meeting it was decided to purchase large air jack (bull bag) and we are getting prices on chainsaws, which will be decided whether we purchase one at the March meeting.

All club equipment i.e. sat phone, handheld UHF radios, air compressor, first aid kit is available from the club Equipment Officer, Marc for use on club trips and activities.

Training Courses

The 2007 club Training Calendar is included in this newsletter and available from the club website. Proficiency and Intermediate Driver Training courses, Winch Recovery, Chainsaw, Trip Leader and First Aid courses are available for all club members to attend at a much discounted price.

If you are interested in attending any of the courses, contact the club Training Officer, Cameron Sanderson (see the calendar for contact details) to book yourself in.

See you soon

Wayne Morgan

President

Mobile 0417-054-108

Email webdmorg@exemail.com.au

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OUR COMMITTEE**President - Wayne Morgan**

wayne.morgan@police.vic.gov.au W: 9247 6769 M: 0417 054 108

Vice President - Marcus Nash

marcusnash@dodo.com.au W: N/A M: 0410 249 183

Secretary - Rob Garside

robert.garside@police.vic.gov.au

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 W: N/A M: 0412 480 917

Training Co-ordinator - Cameron Sanderson

cameron.sanderson@police.vic.gov.au M: 0414 765 662

Public Relations Officer - Steve Aicher

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

Ordinary Committee Member - Gary May

themaze@aapt.net.au W: 9661 8106 M: 0415 400 101



Changing Address or other Contact Details!!

Please advise Club Secretary or President.

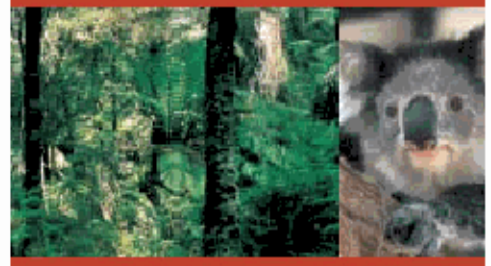


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From the Editor

Welcome to the first edition of the club newsletter for 2007.

We seemed to have got the year with a good start with a couple of club trips organised by Vice President Marcus but more trips are needed. If you have an idea for a club trip but are not sure how to organise one why not speak to Activity Co-ordinator Ron or any of the committee members and lets get more trips organised.

It is great to see we have a longer trip on the books (see page 7) - so why not consider a trip to the Birdsville races. Sounds like a great trip so why not support Barb and Ed in their organising efforts.

Our club training calendar is included in this issue (see page 8) and full details are on our web site. Also the event calendar has been up dated, however if there are any dates of events that you would like included can you let me know.

As usual I am looking for some articles, photos, etc for this publication. So why not submit something and get some points for the club member award for 2007.

Hope to see you soon.

Steve Aicher—Public Relations Officer



and



Present the

Four Wheel Drive *RADIO SHOW*

10 am—11 am every Saturday with Peter Dwyer

ESSENTIAL LISTENING FOR ANYONE WITH A 4X4



Request to FWDV clubs for bushfire recovery assistance

Hi All,

As you would be aware many clubs have contacted FWDV expressing an interest in assisting in post fire rehabilitation stages. FWDV is currently involved in re-opening strategies with Parks Victoria and DSE, however it is envisaged that volunteer work opportunities won't arise until late March or early April. In the meantime, the Pajero 4WD Club has formed a Rural Response Group and offered assistance to farmers through contacting a number of Shires' Emergency Recovery Centres. The Pajero Club has been inundated with calls for help and we've mobilised a number of volunteer teams to assist but they cannot respond to all calls. The Pajero Club is seeking assistance from other Clubs to help the unfortunate farmers - and the help is needed immediately.

Please read Doug Hammerton's email below - consider what your 4WD Club can do and if you are willing and able to organise some volunteers then please call Doug Hammerton directly on 0409 381 699, or Zac on 9857 5209 during business hours.

Kind Regards,

Zac Powell
 Four Wheel Drive Victoria
 P.O. Box 1015G
 BALWYN NORTH
 VIC 3104
 tel: 9857 5209
 fax: 9857 5260
 mob: 0409 053 484
 email: Zac.Powell@fwdvictoria.org.au
research@fwdvictoria.org.au
 web: www.fwdvictoria.org.au

[Email from Doug Hammerton, Coordinator, Pajero Club's Rural Response Group](#)

Attention Zac Powell

Hi Zac, this time I am requesting your help.

Our Pajero Club Rural Response Group is now overloaded with requests for assistance from burnt farms, so we would appreciate it if you would issue a call to FWDC clubs asking for their assistance in the form of bushfire recovery working bees. The assistance we are looking for is for clubs to organise and/or participate in working bees to assist farmers burnt out during the recent fires. If we could get a list of interested clubs and contact names, we will explain to them how they could best assist.

As per my previous emails to you, the Gippsland 4WD club is already active, we know LROCV is activating, and I have been in contact with the Nissan Club.

The following is a summary of the present situation. All these fire areas listed below need as much assistance as Clubs can give.

Tambo Crossing. A number of farms were burnt out and both the Pajero Club and Gippsland 4WD Club have already held working bees in the area. To date most of the work has involved demolition of burnt fences prior to the re-construction of fences. One farm alone lost 20 km of fences. The Pajero Club has another working bee scheduled for the weekend of 3-4 March. We are working closely with the East Gippsland Shire's Emergency Recovery Centre which is very appreciative of work of done so far.



Licola. We are aware of about 10 farms having been burnt in the Licola area. The Pajero Club is planning a Labour Day weekend working bee on four farms involving about 40 of our members. One farm lost 21 km of fences, another over 100km. The Pajero Club's involvement followed a call for help from one of the farmers after he was directed to us by the Wellington Shire Council's Emergency Recovery Centre.

Toongabbie. Many farms and houses were burnt in this area. The Latrobe City's Emergency Recovery Centre contacted me last week and asked if the Pajero Club could assist with a working bee the Centre is planning for 3rd March. They already have Rotary and Lions clubs involved. They plan to work on 12 to 14 burnt farms. Because of our Tambo Crossing commitment that weekend, we told them that we cannot assist that day but we offered to check the availability of other FWDV clubs. The Centre was hopeful that the Gippsland 4WD Club could assist, but its President Dave Mapleson has told me they cannot assist that weekend either. Dave is suggesting that 4WD clubs offer a combined working bee in that fire area. He will most likely communicate directly with you.

Wellington Shire Council. The Shire's Emergency Recovery Centre told me last week that they are preparing a list of burnt out farm requiring assistance. They expect to give me that list in about a week. I think those farms will be between Toongabbie and Licola.

Tatong area. The Benalla City's Emergency Recovery Centre directed a farmer to ask us for help. We received that call last Saturday. He has a 300 acre burnt farm and to date has not received an offers of assistance from anywhere. He initially wants assistance with removal of burnt fences. Our Club has commitments for the next three weekends, so we told him we would try to obtain the services of another FWDV club. That was the best offer he has had so far!

Please ask other clubs for assistance. Feel free to forward this email to any Club that may be able to assist either in the immediate short term (next month) , or in the longer term. As we all know from past experience at Mitta Mitta, Omeo, Grampians etc, the farmers need for assistance continues for months after bush fires, but they will appreciate whatever we can give. Clubs members do not need any prior experience. All they need is a willingness to help these farmers.

Doug Hammerton

Coordinator, Pajero Club's Rural Response Group

Phone 0409 381 699

The last photo I ever took was.....



Computer v Cars



For all of us who feel only the deepest love and affection for the way computers have enhanced our lives, read on.:-

At a recent computer conference Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, "If GM had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25.00 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon".

In response to Bill's comments, General Motors issued a press release stating: " If GM had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics :

1. For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash twice a day.
2. Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
3. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull over to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it, and reopen the windows before you could continue. For some reason you would simply accept this.
4. Occasionally, executing a manoeuvre such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
5. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive - but would run on only five percent of the roads.
6. The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single "This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation" warning light.
7. The airbag system would ask "Are you sure?" before deploying.
8. Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.
9. Every time a new car was introduced car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.
10. You'd have to press the "Start" button to turn the engine off

Victorian 4WD Show—Sunday 18/2/07


Hot day—but quite a few people and lots of displays



Some "Real" Forbys

4WD's everywhere



	<h2 style="text-align: center;"><u>Birdsville Races</u></h2>
Dates	Saturday 26 th August / 9 th September 2007 (approx)
Description	Climb up the middle of South Australia and explore the Birdsville Track, pausing to have a flutter on the Birdsville Races then return down the Strezlecki Track. Experience Australia with visiting the Burke & Wills Dig tree and the gravesites, Answer the call of the Innamincka Aboriginal Reserve, reset your clocks at Cameron Corner, then come through the Flinders Ranges.
Meeting Place and Time	Melton Police Station 0600 Saturday 26 th August, 2007.
Distance	4,600 km.
Fuel Requirement	Calculations will be given highest priority. Longest distance between fuel stops 450 km, Cameron Corner to Lyndhurst via Strezlecki Track. Note A number of areas do not sell super or gas. Each car will be responsible for ensuring sufficient fuel is carried.
Convoy Limit	Maximum of 10 Vehicles per convoy. No limit to numbers
Trip Standard	Medium to Hard – warning – vehicle damage may occur
Recovery Equipment	Full recovery gear (snatch strap, rated shackles, tree trunk protector, winch extension, drag chain and gloves)
Camping	<p>Mostly desert bush camp which are cool and windy with either no facilities or stations with toilet/shower at a small fee. Stop at caravan park if one available. All areas with facilities have various entry and camping fees.</p> <p>Requirement - South Australian Desert Parks Pass (\$95)</p>
Vehicle	It is your responsibility to ensure your vehicle is fully roadworthy and appropriately set up for the desert trip. Full service recommended before outset as well as taking basic mechanical spares.
Tyres	Road tyres not acceptable. Minimum two spares to be taken as tracks are solid gibber (stones) and sand dunes.
Provisions	BYO food and water. Jerry cans for water will be required.
Equipment	UHF radio required, Channel 10 to be utilized unless advised otherwise. Appropriate club equipment will be utilised including satellite phone.
Pets	Not allowed in S.A. parks
Trip Leader	Barbara and Eddie Tabaka.
Assistant Trip Leader	Volunteer
Contact details	<p>E-mail: barbara.tabaka@police.vic.gov.au</p> <p>Or orangeman01@optusnet.com.au</p> <p>Phone/Mobile: 9327 8773 or (0402) 990 486</p>

Upcoming Training Courses

APRIL			
Friday 27-Saturday 28	Proficiency 4WD Training Course	City and Bayswater North	\$50 (Vic 4WD Certificate)
MAY			
Saturday 19-Sunday 20	Chainsaw Training Course	Warburton	\$50 (Accredited Certificate)
JUNE			
Friday 22 Saturday 23	Proficiency 4WD Training Course	City and Bayswater North	\$50 (Vic 4WD Certificate)
JUNE			
Sunday 29	Winch Training Course	To be announced, depending where most course participants live	\$20 (V.P. 4WD Certificate)
AUGUST			
Sunday 19	Intermediate 4WD Training Course	To be announced, depending where most course participants live	\$50 (V P 4WD Certificate)
SEPTEMBER			
To be announced	First Aid Level 2 Training Course	To be announced (family welcome)	\$50 (Accredited Certificate)
OCTOBER			
Friday 19-Saturday 20	Proficiency 4WD Training Course	City and Bayswater North	\$50 (Vic 4WD Certificate)
NOVEMBER			
Friday 16	Trip Leader Training Course	City	\$20 (V.P. 4WD Certificate)

SEE CLUB WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS OF COURSES AND VENUES

BOOKINGS TO TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR CAMERON SANDERSON



Club Calendar

For Full Notices & All Details, Please Visit:

www.victoriapolice4wdclub.org.au

2007 Calendar

Date	Details	Rating	Trip Leader
MARCH			
Sunday 4/3/07	4x4 Swap Meet Yarra Glen Showgrounds, Yarra Glen	Fun	See Website for details
Wednesday 7/3/07	Club Meeting and Shrine Tour	Serious Fun	Wayne Morgan Mobile 0417 054 108 Email President
Saturday 17/3/07 Sunday 18/3/07	Warburton Weekend Trip	Medium/Hard	Marcus Nash Mobile 0417 054 626 marcus.nash@doi.vic.gov.au
Saturday 17/3/07 Sunday 18/3/07	Ballarat Adventure Weekend 2007	Fun	See Website for details
APRIL			
Wednesday 4/4/07	Club Meeting - South Melbourne - Guest Speaker - Carl Wesley - Eezy Lift Tool	Serious Fun	Wayne Morgan Mobile 0417 054 108 Email President
Friday 13/4/07 Sunday 14/4/07	Tallaroek 4x4 Roundup	Fun	See Website for details
MAY			
Wednesday 2/5/07	Club Meeting - South Melbourne	Serious Fun	Wayne Morgan Mobile 0417 054 108 Email President
** 8-18 May	Typo Station Backup Alpine Hike	Medium	Wayne Morgan Mobile 0417 054 108 Email President
JUNE			
Saturday 2/6/07	Club Annual Dinner	Serious Fun	Wayne Morgan Mobile 0417 054 108 Email President
Wednesday 6/6/07	Club Meeting - South Melbourne	Serious Fun	Wayne Morgan Mobile 0417 054 108 Email President
JULY			
Wednesday 4/7/07	Club Meeting - South Melbourne	Serious Fun	Wayne Morgan Mobile 0417 054 108 Email President
** 10 - 20 July	Typo Station Backup Wyperfeld Hike	Medium	Wayne Morgan Mobile 0417 054 108 Email President



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



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Produce TJM Members Privilege Card available from the club President

www.4wdmegastores.com.au



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www.toughseal.com.au

Time Plus Communications

49 Sydney Road, Brunswick 3056 Phone: 9380 4172
Produce Club Membership Card

www.timeplus.com.au



690 South Road, Moorabbin 3189 Phone: 9532 5558
Produce Club Membership Card

www.allterrain4x4.com.au



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

<http://telstrashopbusiness.com.au>



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Produce Club Membership Card

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