



Southern Trails Newsletter

May 2016

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Brad Wells
Rob Donaldson

General meetings are held at the Canberra Deakin Football Club, Grose St, Deakin at 7.30 pm on the second Tuesday of each month.

Next Meeting -10th of May 2016
Guest Speaker - MacPac, Wilderness Equipment

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President's Post

April was a very busy month for the club with day and night drives in the Brindabellas, trout fishing at Tantangara Dam and a number of events at Talooge. These included a Grade 4 trip awareness session for those members interested in driving the more challenging terrain, a muster at which a number of substantial tasks were undertaken (details in the property coordinator's report), two basic driver training courses and a winching and recovery course.

Great to see club members enjoying the trips, participating in maintaining the property and undertaking the club's quality driver training. And of course good to see our great property being used for leisure as some members take advantage of the beautiful autumn weather to relax, drive the tracks and enjoy the bush. May will also see a number of activities occur at Talooge with the regular muster and also photography and camp oven cooking sessions.

On the club management side of things, the committee is progressing the review of the governance documents (constitution and by-laws) and working on tasks to

President's Post



develop the strategic plan. New advertising packages have also been developed for marketing to businesses interested in advertising with the club. The committee has also agreed to renew the club's membership of 4WD NSW and ACT (the association). This enables the club to receive the insurance coverage accessible through association membership and other benefits including an upcoming agreement with the NSW NPWS and efforts to have another MoU put in place for driver training accreditation at a reasonable cost.

Hope to see you at the May meeting or at the Talooge muster.

Jim Anderson

Lynne's Latest

Wow, I could not believe the amount of Members and visitors at the April Club meeting, it's fantastic to see so many there enjoying the evening and the company of other members.

If you could all remember to make the visitors/new members feel welcome. Go up to them and say hi J

Rob and I are heading to Talooge this weekend (29/30 +31st) which we are both looking forward to. I will have the Cruiser packed high with blankets and warm clothing as it is starting to get cold. I think a nice warm stew will be in order for dinner on Saturday night.

If you do not have a round State Association sticker or 2016 date sticker please come and see me at the meeting.

We have had 3 new members join this month:

Ken Sullivan & Fay Steward – Toyota 70 Series

Stuart Watts – Toyota 105 Series

Ken & Vicki Ullman – Ford Ranger XLT

Below are the numbers for Memberships:

Ordinary – 218

Life – 9

Associate – 2

Partners – 180

Family – 5

Total memberships – 414

It will be a busy year with the **40th Anniversary** of the Club. If you know of any old members that you are still in touch with, please tell them to email or give me a call so that I can put them on the mailing list to invite.

Please put your name up on the website so that we can get an indication of numbers.

We are also after any old photos for the night. Scott Cumming has kindly agreed to organise the slide show for the evening, if you could contact him by phone 0490 000 913 or email property@st4wdc.com.au if you have anything for him – it would be muchly appreciated.

Looking forward to catching up with you either at a meeting or on a trip.

If you have any membership queries at all, please contact me.

Safe travels.

Lynne.



Talooge Park

Author: Scott Cumming



The April Muster was mainly about completing the fence around the absorption area which was a bit of hard work setting the posts in during the prior weekend so that it was good to go with the fencing team headed up by Graeme Booth and Jamie Walker. Seven vehicles arrived on the Friday and set up camp. There was Jim Anderson, Rob Calvert, John & Julie Reis, Stephen Hayward, Terry Walls & Jim Roberts. Great to see such an enthusiastic hard working crew!!

A 150mm deep by 95m long trench was hand dug by members of this crew so that the base of the fence could be made relatively animal proof. Jim's Prado and winch were put to good use straining the wire mesh and Terry with Jim R did a good job disguising the posts using woodland grey paint which Graeme & Jamie nearly wore for scratching the newly painted posts. Thanks to Peter Butterfield for donating a wire feeder which certainly made it much quicker. By Sunday morning, the fence was completed and looking great!

Julie and I sorted out many of the weeds behind the Machinery Shed and near the Clubhouse which pleased Andy Squire no end when I said that we needed to get rid of them on the fire!! He just kept smiling more while Bron frowned as the flames rose higher but obviously in a safe controlled manner... Sort of

Saturday afternoon saw us way ahead of plan so I took a few helpers down to Thurbon Flat to attempt to move the ablution block up to the site we had cleared near the machinery shed. Fergie did pretty well until she didn't have enough weight

over the front wheels even with me sitting on her as the wheels slowly lifted off the ground. Time for plan B and with the GU Patrol Tractor attached there was no problem getting the shed up the hill. Some basic adjustments were needed using winches to get the two sheds roughly in the correct position so now we can level the sheds and complete that project soon.

New LED floodlights were installed on the Clubhouse and facing the shelter near the toilets so hopefully no more tripping over those rocks at night that seem to move when you least expect it.

Michael Patrick donated a 6 burner bbq with a hood and wok side burner so I placed that one beside the original bbq under the shelter. Michael will now be providing Roast dinners and more gourmet delights from now on to all members and guests during their visits. Thanks Michael!!



Aerial weed spraying to around 8Ha along Wombats Flat and from the offset mounds through past hole in the wall was completed on Saturday 23rd of April concentrating on Serrated Tussock so hopefully we should start to see some good results by the end of May. At \$82 per Ha is a very cost effective way to join in with the neighbours and cover a large area in a very short space of time which gives us a good head start heading into Winter and means less work in Spring. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aca_2BBJBGO



A new modern microwave was also placed in the Clubhouse and thanks to a great deal from Harvey Norman for sorting out a reduced price to \$130 just so Peter Butterfield can heat up his dinner a bit quicker and continue with the great job he has been doing fitting more members into the driver training program. No more slow heating up of food anymore!!



Talooge Gate Security Codes: On April 3 2016 the gate security codes were changed. A reminder that before travelling to Talooge you should always contact one of the

relevant officers for the updated gate codes.

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Jim Anderson president@st4wdc.com.au 0408 283496

Peter Butterfield education@st4wdc.com.au 0417 480856



Talooge Security: In Early March unauthorised tree felling on Rayner's fire trail where more than 35 trees have been cut down along the track beyond the start of track 6. We have filed a report with Cooma Police, notified all neighbours and Cooma Council. Investigations have been completed and we will follow up with the Police, should there be any further unauthorised activity on the property. If you are visiting Talooge and notice any suspicious behaviour or a vehicle you don't recognise, its your property and you have the right to politely ask who they are and what they are doing. Report any suspicious behaviour to either myself or Jim Anderson.

I have received some excellent ideas from many members as to what they would like to see at Talooge Park and I encourage you to continue to provide your suggestions as to the 5 Must do's, 5 Wishes and 5 Don't wants so we can continue developing our One, Three and Five-year plan. The top ideas will be referred back to members for discussion once all are collated for review by the committee.

Talooge Park "it's your property" and we do have some fun at the musters so if you haven't been out there for a while or are a new member and are happy to help support our club or even if you are amongst a number of regular helpers I encourage you all to join us at Talooge Park for a little bit of work and a lot of fun. The nights

are getting cooler now but the days are picture perfect at this time of the year and the camaraderie is always good.

Talooge Park Musters – May 14th / 15th , June 11th / 12th

See you at Talooge Park. Scott Cumming - Property Coordinator
property@st4wdc.com.au

To Always Look Over Our Great Environment

ST4WDC's "Talooge Park"

Its your property

Many current and past members have spent plenty of hours over the past 10 years not to mention blood, sweat and some tears planning and developing Talooge Park to what we can all enjoy today.

It's time to develop a One, Three and Five-year plan for our property so that we can continue to develop and improve this for the benefit of all members so please include your wishes below to help us formulate a plan of action.

Club Member's Name _____

Contact number or Email _____

List 5 Must do's at Talooge Park:

List 5 Wishes for Talooge Park:

List 5 Don't wants at Talooge Park:

Comments:

Happy Crew—Brindabell Adventure



New Drivers receiving Certificates



Tech Talk

Apps—LunaSolCal

Chris Nicholls

We live in the age of smartphones and apps, and some of these are very handy for campers and 4wd'ers! In the next couple of newsletters (with the editor's permission!) I'll share a few that I find really useful.

LunaSolCal is an app that will calculate and display where the sun and moon are going to be in the sky at any place and time. For us campers this is especially useful for working out where you should set up your tent to catch the most of the morning sun, so it will dry off before you pack up. Let's see where the sun is going to rise on Sunday 15 May, at Talooge (for the camp-oven cooking weekend).

First is the OVERVIEW screen, which shows the selected location (your current location, or a different location stored under Places), selected date (current date or another selected date), and a summary of sun and moon rise and set times.



You can change the date by scrolling with the arrows, or by selecting the date itself with a long press.

Note the little icons either side of the "Talooge" location coordinates – we'll come back to these later.

These pics show it running on my Android phone, but it is also available for Apple devices including iPad.

The SUN page shows you more detail of the sunrise, sunset and meridian /transit times, as well as twilight times.

On Sunday 15 May at Talooge the sun will rise at 6:52 am at 67.1 degrees (true)

You can see the set of four dots below the information display. That tells you there are more screens of information you can scroll to by swiping right to left. These show a graphic display of the rise

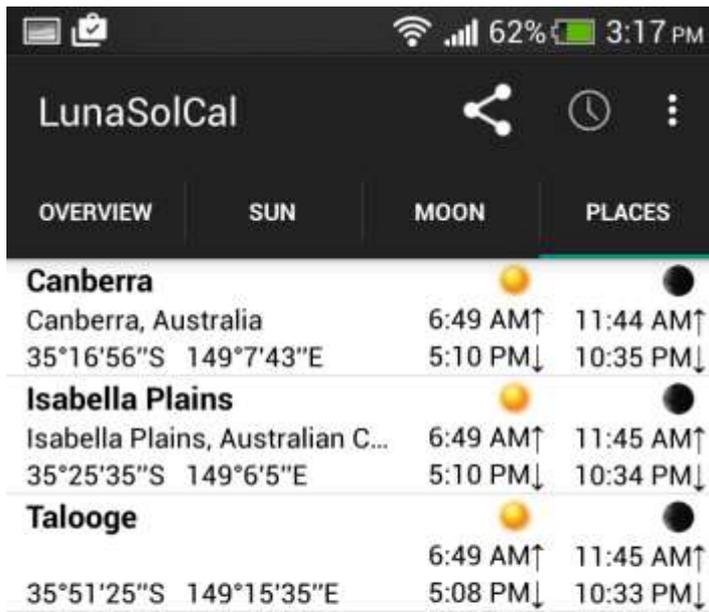
Tech Talk

and set times, the same information in table form (scroll up and down to see more dates), and a screen with equinox and solstice dates.

There is a similar information for the moon under the MOON tab.

The PLACES page shows you the locations that you have saved in the app. These can be created from a searchable pick list or selected on a map (if you have 'net access), or manually entered.

You can also use your built-in GPS to choose your current location (with that



little target icon next to the location coordinates on the OVERVIEW screen) then edit and save that to your list of locations.

Finally here is the MAP screen. This is displayed using the pin icon found to the right of the location coordinates on the OVERVIEW screen.

Here you can see it is showing a yellow line to indicate where the sun will rise, a purple line to show the transit (mid-day) direction, and a red line to show where the sun will set.



Tech Talk

The blue line shows where the sun will be at the selected time (with the time set to 7:52 am).

I used this screen to find where the sun will be when it gets to about 10 degrees above the horizon (to clear some trees to the east of my campsite). I first set the display time to the sunrise time by pressing on the yellow time figures for sunrise (above the yellow bar). Then I advanced the time by pressing the scroll arrow to the right of the display time, until the "Altitude" showed 10 degrees. With 10 degrees altitude, the display time read 7:52 am and the azimuth (blue line compass bearing) to the sun showed 57.7 degrees.

If you don't have 'net access the map background shows blank, but the direction lines still display. With net access the MAP display can show a google map or a satellite photo view.

With this information I will be able to check along that bearing with my trusty pocket compass (allowing for the true/magnetic difference of 12.6 degrees) or with the compass app in my phone.

Next month I'll show you a inclinometer app that I use to check the angle to the top of the trees that are shading my campsite, and the angle of the slope that I need to winch a bogged vehicle up.

