



May 2019

Southern Trails

Next Club Meeting

Tuesday 14th May

Deakin Football Cub

12 Grose St Deakin

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President's Report

Andy Squire

So... here we are in May and another newsletter. Things are chugging along in the club and it is fantastic to see the number of trips listed. Thanks to all the members willing to lead these trips, without you the opportunity for all our members (especially the newer members) to get out and about would just not be there. I understand the Cape York trip planning is progressing well and looks to be well subscribed – hopefully the weather will be good and the trip a success.

After the two cyclones/deluges in Queensland, Lake Eyre is filling and the Channel Country is underwater and greening up. This meant that the mini-around Australia had to make things up on the fly, but looks like they had a good time, and that the Red Centre trips scheduled for May/June has had to be re-organised both in timing and proposed routes. Who would have thought that floods in the desert could disrupt plans so much? There was an interesting article on the ABC website detailing the issues facing the Channel Country and the impact of floods on the local communities, but the general desire is to let the rivers flow naturally – let's hope it stays that way.

Work has commenced on the changes to the club's Constitution and By-Laws to fit with proposed changes to membership (changing from a January – December membership to a 'yearly from joining' model), and while we had hoped to have this ready for the June meeting, it looks like it may take a bit longer to ensure we get it right (another example of things being a bit more complex than first thought). We will keep you posted on this one.

We have received notification from the NSW Four Wheel Drive Association that as a consequence of 'alleged theft of money by the previous Treasurer and the flow on effect that this has had on the councils committee' in the National Association, the NSW chapter has proposed to 'become un-financial until we see some responsible governance and prudent financial behavior.' We are not sure exactly what the implications are for our club, but delegates will be attending the Association meeting next weekend (18 May) to find out exactly what is going on. We will report back. By all reports, the NSW Association's Jamboree over Easter was a great success with a few of our members attending.

Thanks to some great work by Glenn Watts and Michael Patrick our relationship with the local National Park and Wildlife Services seems to be re-establishing, with some opportunities to participate in the volunteers program that was first mooted about 2 years ago. Hopefully there will be more information available at the club meeting, and keep an eye on the trip register for the program – the first activity proposed will be working at Burrinjuck to control some pine wildlings, with the reward of accommodation and a short trip into the reserve areas. This is a great opportunity for the club to demonstrate responsible four-wheel-driving and community service.

We've also just come off the back of another successful Basic Driver Training. Thanks to all the Driver Trainers (and students) who braved the cold, windy and wet conditions to get another 14 members trained. Despite the weather I believe a great time was had by all. Speaking of winter, once again a number of our members have headed north to warmer climes to escape the cold – wish I could be one, but being self-unemployed means I don't quite have the means....

And on that note, I will leave you with this thought....."Doing nothing is hard, you never know when you're done".

Trips and Events – Michael Patrick

Start Date	End Date	Activity	Type	Leader
16-May-19	16-May-19	Trivia Night - Put your thinking cap on !!	Social	Lynne Donaldson
19-May-19	19-May-19	Bushwalk Carillion to Jerrabomberra Wetlands Loop	Social	Andrea Szabo
24-May-19	26-May-19	Intermediate Winching and Recovery Course	Training	Peter Butterfield
25-May-19	25-May-19	Basic Winching and Recovery Course	Training	Peter Butterfield
01-Jun-19	31-Aug-19	The Red Centre 2019	Grade 3	Chris Nicholls
02-Jun-19	02-Jun-19	Jellore State Forrest	Grade 3	Andy Wall
22-Jun-19	23-Jun-19	OziExplorer Nav X	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
06-Jul-19	07-Jul-19	Camper Trailer Workshop	Grade 3	Glenn Watts
06-Jul-19	07-Jul-19	Christmas in July	Social	Lynne Donaldson
13-Jul-19	14-Jul-19	Trip Leader Workshop	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
20-Jul-19	21-Jul-19	Overnight At Mt Coree Campground	Grade 3	Matt Maddigan
24-Jul-19	24-Jul-19	Advanced OziExplorer	Training	Michael Patrick
12-Aug-19	23-Aug-19	Canberra to Cairns - the scenic option	Grade 3	????
14-Aug-19	14-Aug-19	Basic Training 4WD Vehicle Evaluation	Training	Peter Butterfield
17-Aug-19	26-Aug-19	Flinders Ranges 2019 - An Introduction	Grade 3	Dim Veteri
22-Aug-19	22-Aug-19	Trivia Night - Put your thinking cap on !!	Social	Lynne Donaldson
28-Aug-19	12-Dec-19	Cape York	Grade 3	Matt Warmington
31-Aug-19	01-Sep-19	Games Night at Talooge	Social	Sue Phillips
07-Sep-19	08-Sep-18	Chain Saw Awareness Training	Workshop	?????
11-Sep-19	11-Sep-19	Pre Safe One Basic Driver Training Evening	Training	Joe Brigulio
13-Sep-19	15-Sep-19	Safe One Basic Driver Training at Talooge Park	Training	Peter Butterfield
22-Sep-19	22-Sep-19	Brindabella Ramble	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
05-Oct-19	07-Oct-19	Wombeyan Caves and Yerranderie Township	Grade 3	Lynne Donaldson
09-Oct-19	09-Oct-19	Basic Training 4WD Vehicle Evaluation	Training	Peter Butterfield
19-Oct-19	20-Oct-19	Talooge Workingbee	Muster	Peter Reynolds
30-Oct-19	30-Oct-19	Pre Safe One Basic Driver Training Evening	Training	Joe Brigulio
01-Nov-19	03-Nov-19	Safe One Basic Driver Training at Talooge Park	Training	Peter Butterfield
09-Nov-19	09-Nov-19	Brindabella Ramble	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
15-Nov-19	17-Nov-19	Student Driver Trainers Validation	Training	Joe Brigulio
21-Nov-19	21-Nov-19	Trivia Night - Put your thinking cap on !!	Social	Lynne Donaldson
23-Nov-19	29-Nov-19	Victorian High Country Ramble Vers 4	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
30-Nov-19	01-Dec-19	Christmas Party	Social	Lynne Donaldson
10-Apr-20	13-Apr-20	Mungo National Park	Grade 3	Matt Maddigan

SOUTHERN TABLELANDS 4WDC

&

NSW NATIONAL PARKS

I'm glad to announce that after just over 12 months when we lost our Queanbeyan Ranger Sarah Chubb contact to the NSW South Coast she is back.

Sarah was helping Michael Patrick and myself develop a relationship with NSW NPs and ST4WDC. You may remember we had entered into an MOU assisting the parks with Pine Wildling removal within the Brindabellas NP. Unfortunately to seasonally bad weather and Sarah moving to the coast it came to a standstill due to Sarah not being replaced.

Well things are looking up we have now two Queanbeyan based rangers that are enthusiastic with getting together and assisting with volunteer works around the local area including Brindabella NP, Tallaganda NP and Burrinjuck NP.

Stay tuned as some trips will be coming out in the next week with the first assisting NPs in reopening a walking track to Burrinjuck Hill and removal of some pine wildings.

I will give a full report at the members meeting 14th May, in the meantime please find below a link and instructions to complete the online volunteers registration which will be required to be completed prior to attending any of the ST4WDC and NSW NP volunteer trips.

Glen Watts

Volunteer Registration

NPWS has a new online volunteer management system called VIP. Please follow the instruction below to register in the system. The process should take 5-10 minutes.

1. Go to this link: <http://bttr.im/6cw27>
2. Hit the YELLOW "FILL IN APPLICATION" Button on the right of the screen.
(red circle in screen shot below)



3. Create an account by filling in the form "I am new to MyImpactPage.com" (See this area in red rectangle to right). Use your **EMAIL** as your username. Click yellow **SAVE AND CONTINUE** button when you are finished.

4. Fill in the **CONTACT INFORMATION** form to the best of your abilities. The fields with **FLAGS** are required. Then Press the yellow **SAVE AND CONTINUE** button at the bottom of the page (red arrow in photo to right - you might need to scroll down to see it).

5. Another screen will pop up with multiple questions. Fill in the questions. Ones with **FLAGS** are required. Put N/A if it is required but you have no answer. Scroll down and continue to answer questions. After you have filled in the questions to the best of your ability, you will find the "SUBMIT APPLICATION" yellow button at the bottom of the page. Press this button and an **APPLICATION COMPLETE** confirmation screen will appear.

The Mystery Tour

A Mystery Tour to places unknown. Appealing.

Trust in the leader. Easy - Glen has run many trips and everyone I've been on has been a cracker.

A sense of adventure. Yep - particularly when adventure means spending time with likeminded enthusiasts looking for challenging four-wheel driving without damaging their vehicles. Count me in!

And so, we headed off for a 1000km four-day trip through some of the most spectacular country in Australia. About half that distance in four-wheel drive, and most of that in low range. Perfect weather, breathtaking scenery, good company and brilliant 4WDing! Pretty hard to beat.

The 'adventurers' were (in order of their nominations) Glen Watts (trip leader), Andy Hall, Scott Cumming, Tony Warren, Jeremy Guerin, Andrew Squire, Michael Loberger, Jake Vanderstok and Bronwyn Squire. Eight capable vehicles and a group of nine people with the collective benefit of a couple of hundred years of driving experience. A good start.

Day one took in a predominantly black top drive down to the Snowy River national park and an overnight stay at Jackson's crossing on the Snowy River. A big sandy beach next to the water and we had the place to ourselves. Not much of a flow in the river but still very nice.

Day two commenced with an enjoyable scrambling drive out of the valley - which would quickly become impassable in the wet. From there it was on to the Alpine National Park via the iconic Haunted Stream track. Not at its best with a distinct lack of water in a good number of the 54 river crossings - it's clear the drought is biting in the high country. Despite that we found a crossing or two which needed some thought and a lengthy, muddy, rutted section of track. Again, this track would be very different with rain. During the day we drove through many hectares of burnt out country. Quite surreal scenery, it really brought home the devastating power of fire. We camped overnight in another scenic spot, on the banks of the Tambo River - again we had the place to ourselves. Enough water in this river for most of us to enjoy a very pleasant dip.

Day three saw us heading toward Omeo via various tracks, but the planned route had to be changed to avoid an active fire front. We came within 15km of the fire, and that was close enough. Again, a reminder of how hard the drought is hitting, and the widespread impact of fire in Victoria this year. We made our way along the Limestone Road, camping the night at Native Dog Flat.

Following a little rain overnight day four began with mountains shrouded in mist. A challenging drive today, taking in the Cobberas Trail, McFarlane Flat Track, and finally the Ingeegoodbee Track. A serious rock ledge or two and some long, very steep climbs make this a great drive. We finally popped out on the Snowy River Road and then on to our third National Park, the Kosciusko. The Barry Way provided the chance to enjoy the scenery over the upper

reaches of the Snowy River – sadly, again, very little water.

Four days. Mystery revealed.

We trusted our leader – and still do.

And we enjoyed the adventure. Looking forward to the next trip!

Tony Warren

I enjoyed the concept of a mystery trip. Just the fact of a requirement of a 2 inch lift, full recovery equipment and provisions for a remote trip was enough to get me signed up.

Heading South through Cooma, Nimmitabel and Delegate led us into a part of Victoria that I hadn't driven before, so that was a bonus.

The first part of the trip didn't have any difficult 4wding but, it was interesting to check out the different sights. Driving through burnt out forest was an eye opener and a little confronting.

Howling in the night when we were camped at Wild Dog Flats made me make sure I wasn't leaning against the tent wall.

For me the most fun and memorable tracks that we drove were Haunted Stream Track and Cobberas Trail.

Andy Wall





Touring Around Tilba (Tilba inlet trip)

What a terrible trip, let me tell you all about it

On the long weekend 10 March 2019, 10 vehicles met at Braidwood on the Saturday morning at the somewhat late time of 9am. The weather was an ominous sign, with light rain and fog descending between Canberra and Braidwood. The late start time luring a couple of the vehicles into a false sense of security, including myself, who as you can tell, was last to the meetup point (by a lousy 2 minutes) and the Trip Leader emphasised that last there is responsible for the trip report. I should have turned around right there, rather than endure the next two days.

With all of us together, the trip leader told us that this would be a leisurely drive down to a private camp ground and that the rules of the campground would be explained once we got there.

We set off down through the Araluan valley towards Moruya. Along the way, it appeared as if someone knew we were coming and painted a belated birthday wish to Debbie on a large rock on the side of the road. Debbie thought it a fabulous and thoughtful thing to do and appreciated the effort.

We pulled over on the side of the road at Araluan and aired down for what was going to be an uncomfortable road if we didn't. So much for it being a leisurely trip as stated in the brochure by the trip leader. The views throughout this section of the trip were so ordinary. Luscious green fields, blue tinted mountains in the background made concentrating on the road so hard to do. A more thoughtful track might have been better. The Trip Leader in his oblivious mind set, reported that there was no dust ahead. Well, another lie. The dust was everywhere, with trip members asking for him to be considerate enough to water it as he went, but oh no, that was never going to happen.



We continued along, when typically, on a trip, we came across some MAMILs. Why in the world would you want to ride a bike up hill, on a dusty track, littered with rocks and having to contend with at least 10 four wheel drives flicking the rocks at you is lost on me.

Anyway, the trip leader was apparently getting hungry so decided that we should pull up for morning tea. The spot by the slow moving river covered with a filtered sunlight, where all 10 vehicles could fit easily was a bad choice. It led to the crew boiling billies, settling in with cups of tea

and coffee and talking to each other. Like there wasn't already enough chatter on the radio. Don't these extroverts know how tiring they are!



Once everyone had had their fill and started to re-tell the same stories, we headed off towards our destination, when suddenly we turned right onto some other road through these disgustingly beautiful valleys. The road to the bitumen had we not turned off was only 10 kms, but oh no, more dirt tracks and picture like views causing drivers to concentrate. This kept being interrupted with calls like oncoming traffic, cows on the road on the left, a dog is chasing me as you go around the corner with the house on the right, meant that we were all prepared for what might happen up ahead. So much for surprises.

We finally got to Bodella and again the trip leader was hungry, so again we stopped. We all had to keep him company by going into the milk shop and ordering lunch as we didn't want him to think he was special or anything. Anyway, the food, especially the pies and toasties, not to mention the milk and cheese, were absolutely no good for my diet. This again, another inconsiderate action by the trip leader. I

have no idea what they teach on the trip leader course, but obviously keeping the crew members happy isn't taught. I've seen the curriculum, it says dealing with difficult people, so far, just the trip leader was being difficult.

Off again, at least now on the bitumen, until 200 metres up the road, we turned right onto a dirt road again. Now I am not sure where or how the leader got such disgustingly nice views from. These were beginning to become so boring, that around every corner was another call of *"oh, look at that"* from my passenger seat. Yeah, whatever!



As we came out of Tilba, and crossed the highway, the sun was beating down. The reflection from the ocean was blinding, so much so, that I had to put sunglasses on to look at it. If I wanted to hurt my eyes from bright light, I'd weld without goggles.

As we entered this private property, the owner mentioned that there were rules. Here we go, a long list of rules that we would have to abide by. Apparently, we couldn't die as she was responsible. Apparently, we couldn't drive all over the pretty grassed areas and tear it up. Apparently on the way in we had to slow down at house who didn't like dust, well, they should have been with us earlier.

Apparently, there were ticks on this property, so many in fact, that in the house situated on the property, 300 metres from the camp ground with hot water and multiple toilets, was a tick removal kit. If we got bitten by one or many of these rogue blood suckers, then we would have to put the ether on the tick which would put it to sleep apparently, thereby not letting it pump its vomit into us which makes you sick. Not only ticks, but a lecture on how to successfully remove the dastardly critter.

We came to a complete stop again, longish grass all around filled with these tick things. Apparently, we all needed to walk down to the campsite and decide how we were going to play Tetris because campers were welcome on this trip, and Rob and Deb had brought the **Queen Mary** with them. Dim's, Scott's and my little campers of course didn't make any difference. On getting down there, and seeing that there was plenty of room, we all trudged back up the hill and placed our camp sets ups in our self designated spot. I cannot believe that there was no pre designated spots rather allowing people to deciding where they wanted to go. Perhaps another upgrade to the Trip Leader's course is needed, autonomy surely does not make people happy.



Anyway, people got set up. The sun was out and the awning of my camper ended up only being 3 metres from the water. When I say water, I should tell you the full story. This is a tidal inlet, that has the ocean 500 metres along a secluded beach. This private property has a couple of private beaches, so private in fact, that it used to be some sort of nudist camp. It was your typical hippy retreat. No road noise to lull you to sleep, just the noise of the ocean and the jumping fish making a racket all night. Secluded from the rest of the world, giving you a sense of being alone in the big wide world. The town of Tilba is only a couple of clicks away, but I may as well have been in the Simpson desert.

The weekend was so bad, and some members knew it would be. For instance Dim even deliberately left his jockey wheel at home so that he had an excuse to keep his camper hitched to the tow vehicle to allow for a quick getaway!!!!

Did I mention that people then started to act like children, by getting into their swim gear, laying on their back and floating along with the outgoing or incoming tide. I would also like to mention to the committee that the club rules need to be changed, and fit people like Selwyn should not be allowed to join. Although Selwyn; my physique means that I am a better floater than you and if I did want to have fun, which I didn't, it would have been far more peaceful of a float than yours.

The fish and bird life in this dump of a place was everywhere. We saw a white eagle looking thing (the bird lovers informed that this was in fact an Osprey) and apparently it was special because people took off with a camera to shoot it. Others were so bored that they went fishing along this uncrowded spot. We were near a flight path for a hang glider and seaplanes.

No fish were caught but there were several sightings along with a few Stingrays.

Night fell, the fire was lit and at first we couldn't have it big because some people wanted the coals to cook dinner. Camp ovens came out, and while dinner was cooking the extroverts decided that we would have happy hour and sit around and talk to each other as if we liked each other. After the boring drive, many people were so bored and tired they went to bed early. As I said before, a terrible sleep took place, due to the sounds of silence.

When I woke up in the morning, all I could see was the inlet and the ocean. How could I compare camper trailers or other 4 wheel drives from this remote place.



After a hearty breakfast, I thought we would be racing off to drive more tracks. Oh no, a leisurely morning where the only thing to do was chat to people or sit and look at the natural beauty.

At 10 am, yes, 10 am, some of the ladies had had enough and decided that as the weekend was a laid-back affair lots of people were keen on several different activities.

Scott and Maryann went for a drive to Bermagui, some went walking around the property, others went swimming and fishing, and others did nothing - just relaxing.

Sue and Debbie went into the metropolis of Tilba, several hours later after exhausting every shop they returned. Janet read her book then tinkered with her car.

Others decided that they would continue to do nothing in the campsite, other than childishly swim in the inlet or walk on the beach.

Four trucks with 5 people decided to for a drive with Rob to try and get to the top of Mt Dromedary. Now this is where I think the trip leader successfully passed his course. As we drove along, apparently, we needed to do two turn arounds. He said he was just following Michael Patrick's tuition on the Trip Leaders Course that every trip needed to have turnarounds. Not dissimilar to Michael's migratory caves the track had migrated further north for summer. After a stop on the side of the road, where Dim and the two Robs had the map upside down, we took off and found a good track to drive, called the Dromedary track.

Ultimately, we came to a sign that stated “locked gate.” Dim had been reading all the trips coming up in relation to bushwalks so off he went to practice under the disguise of seeing if the gate was in fact closed. He only got 50 metres up the track and disappeared out of sight and then came back and said that it was apparently up a hill but that he couldn’t see it.

Now committee members, this is where you need to consider my earlier calling for fit members to be banned, perhaps they can be honorary members or something. Selwyn said, I will go check, and just to show off, started to sprint away. Five minutes later he came back and said it was locked. So a third turn around and every trip should have a Selwyn.



Dim demanded we go fishing. All four trucks headed into Narooma so that Dim could have his way. We pulled up down on Wongonga Inlet, and after about 15 minutes we found ourselves staring out at the blue azure of the water like kids in Lolly shop, slowly eating the fish that Dim had caught. Miraculously, the fish all came with hot chips wrapped in paper and a cold can of coke. All we could do was again talk to each other before heading back into the tick infestation and acting like kids again. Some of us even had to be romantic and walk along the beach with our partners, sit on the beach in solitude and look out to sea.

Night time came, and again more of the same.



Some people even smelt so bad that they had to walk the 300metres to the hot showers or to the toilets.

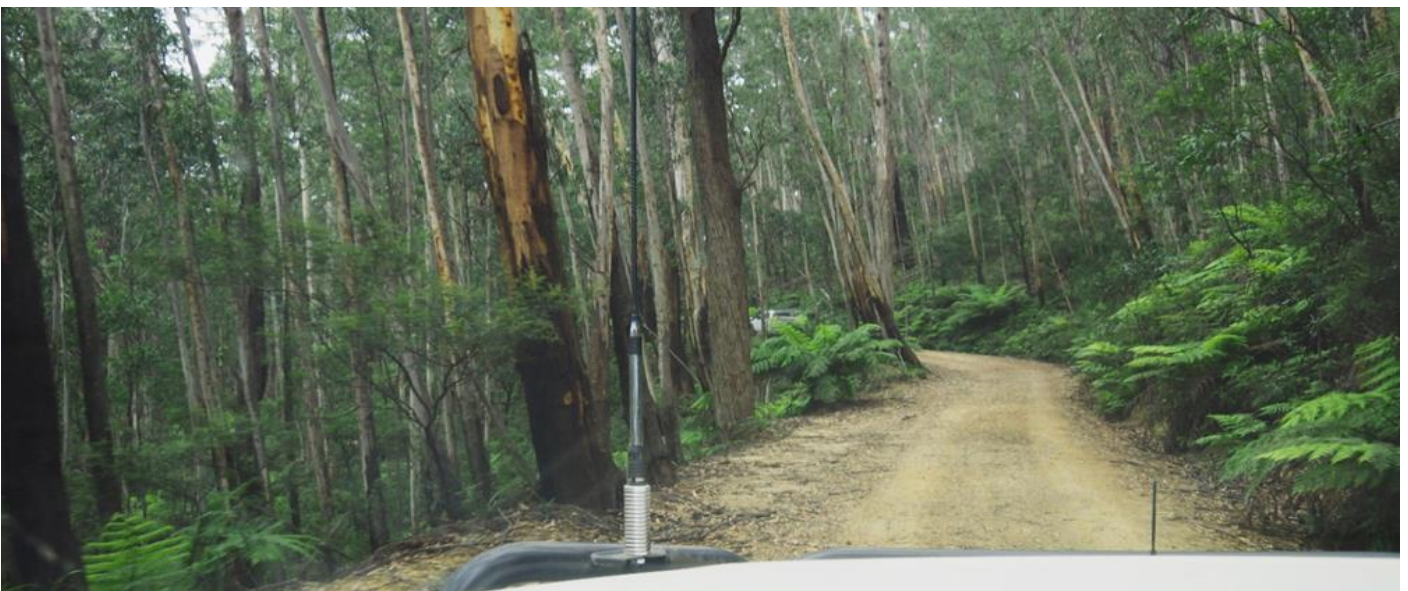
Again, this happy hour stuff happened, and people then retired for the night.

On waking the next morning it was pack up time. Instead of packing up quickly, the trip leader decided that 11 am was set off time. People were back in the inlet floating, walking on the beach, sitting around enjoying themselves instead of getting going.

Finally, away we went. As we travelled through these very steep valleys with cows in the fields and a river running along the edge of the road. The only joy I got was waiting for the Queen Mary to put a wheel over the side of the track. Then, we started to go up very long climbs. We had to stop occasionally to take in the view (whatever) or to allow Janet (now known as Steptoe) to collect all this camp gear that had fallen onto the side of the road.



The view and the road were shocking. The sound of bellbirds were so loud that I had to turn the car stereo off. We stopped again, this time for lunch. Apparently, the Queen Mary was the on-trip toilet and like a football match at Canberra stadium, people (ladies) lined up to use it.





Dim hated the trip so much he refused to uncouple his camper. He also tried to escape by walking away!

Editors Comments

Really Dim



Walking

We drove along, when I saw bent camp poles being shot up at Janet behind me. My camper pole storage had broken due to one of those rogue rocks and I had lost 5 or 6 poles, which Steptoe didn't bother picking up, apparently because they were all bent.

The trip leader should have realised that this could have been the case, making us drive on fairly well maintained tracks. Whilst the trip waited for me to do some repairs, Selwyn decided he needed to keep fit and decided that the piece of metal in his tyre meant he should change it for the exercise. Anyhow, finally the weekend was turning out ok as we hit Cooma and headed down the black top back to Canberra. Ah, the serenity, cars everywhere, all trying to speed back to Canberra at the end of the long weekend. Someone was calling on the UHF who was apparently from a 4wd club and he had recognised us as being from the same club. I think he said he was Pelican or some other bird, and he then went on to tell us all about his trip down to the high country where they had to dodge bushfires. I am sure we will hear it in their trip report, but it sounded so much better than ours.

If this trip is ever put up again, do yourself a favour and disregard it. You won't enjoy it so you may as well save some time and energy and completely forget about it and let other suckers do it.



Post Script

So fellow trip members, I think I have dissuaded all readers from even contemplating this trip when it is next run. We should all be able to get on it again and enjoy this little piece of paradise.

This was one of the best trips I have done, peaceful driving, beautiful views, and a variety of things to do. Sincere thanks to Janet for sharing her piece of nature and allowing us to use the facilities of the house which is in a movie set like environment. This camp site was pure heaven.

To Rob and Sue, many thanks for putting the trip together. The drive was fab, the campsite great and your

preparation and Reccie really paid off. The pace of the trip was appreciated, allowing us to rest for once. To the rest of the trip members what a fabulous group and many thanks for a great weekend.



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Pelican's Backyard Explorer

24 Mar. 2019

On a cool, crisp and sunny Saturday morning, a keen, unnamed 4WDer headed out to meet the group in the Cotter Reserve and was greeted by an empty carpark. It turns out that every other person, including the trip leader, had forgotten that the trip was on the following day...

On a cool, crisp and not-so-sunny Sunday morning, an eclectic collection of capable 4WDs (with the odd Toyota in the mix) met at the Old Cotter pub site and were greeted by a light rain. The esteemed trip leader, Pelican, broke the good news and told everyone that we would have the fortune of adding bush stripes to our cars during a day of exploring tight and interesting trails in the area. Every single person barely controlled their excitement at the opportunity to scratch their 4WDs and tackle trails with the added challenge of rain. With fair warning of what the day would bring, nine cars aired down and headed off into the Cotter area.

The first few tracks were a nice warm up with a couple of easy but steep climbs and descents. The rain moved on and we were greeted by dam good views of the Cotter Dam.

From there, Pelican led the group into the lower Brindabellas with just enough moisture to keep the dust down – with the rain coming and going throughout the day. For many of us, this was a new area to explore and the scenery was surprisingly lush and picturesque compared to some of the higher areas in the Brindabellas. We quickly transitioned from open fire track and, with a last warning about the upcoming tight scrub, entered onto a VERY tight and overgrown track that provided the much-loved symphony of branches squealing down car panels. Despite the grumblings, it was a great alternative to the main road with some more interesting driving.

After a quick Morno stop, Pelican walked the group up one of the old advanced driver trainer tracks. Everyone was thankful that we weren't attempting this very steep climb that had car swallowing ruts and some pretty dodgy cross-over points. After the normal grumbling about having walked up and down a hill, the group got back on the road.

From there, Pelican took the group through a combination of easy graded fire roads interspersed with interesting tracks. Some of the standouts included a short, steep and rutted section with some drivers slipping into ruts and testing the nerves as well as the suspension. Another great track was a longer descent with ruts, rocks and a couple of step-downs. Here the group had to give plenty of spacing between cars as each driver very slowly navigated their way down thanks to Pelican's calm guidance.

The real highlight of the day was watching Pelican's almighty 80 series Landcruiser get completely stuck going... downhill. Thanks to Pelican's highly precise driving and line choice, he managed to bottom out in a rut and lose the ability to move forward or backward. Luckily for this daring Toyota driver, he was being closely followed by Andy in his more capable Mitsubishi Challenger. Andy (and the rest of the group) showed true restraint and didn't make any comments about Toyotas and calmly and easily recovered Pelican back up the hill. After more careful line choice, the group got through this 'tough' section and re-grouped for a lunch under a now sunny sky.

After some easy driving, Pelican finished the day with some interesting tracks to slowly work our way back toward the tar. The final challenge was a long and steep climb that had been freshly graded and was covered in fine loose dirt. With a group of motorbike drivers watching, each driver put their foot down and held it at full power to get up the hill with wheels spinning in the soft stuff. Only one car had some trouble and stalled halfway. Again, Pelican calmly talked them through a steep hill start and got them back underway with full acceleration and no problems.

After the sad but obligatory end of the dirt roads and the airing up of tyres, the group headed off and debriefed at a local watering hole with a cool, bubbly beverage and concurred that a good day was had by all.

A big thanks to Pelican for organising an interesting day out in the local area and for taking the time to plan and check out the trails beforehand.

Jeremy Guerin







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Members should use these account details in all transactions with the club, including for membership fees and clothing purchases when using direct deposit.

MEMBERSHIP MOMENTS

INFORMATION ON CURRENT MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Membership report – April 2019

Membership figures as at 31 March 2019

Membership Type	Number	Comments
Ordinary	234	Reduced by 8, test memberships
Life	10	
Subtotal	244	
Family	163	
Total	407	
Members not renewed	68	

Final figures Year Ending 31 December 2018

Membership Type	Number	Comments
Ordinary	292	
Life	10	
Subtotal	302	
Family	207	
Total	509	
Members not renewed	46	

Current membership compared to same time last year (March 2018)

At 31 March 2018 we had 239 full members, 9 Life members and 174 family members for a total of 422 individual members compared to 407 this year

At the same time last year, we had 30 new full members for the year compared to 11 this year. There were 51 members who had not renewed by the end of March 2019 Compared with 68 to the end of March this year

New members March 2019

Tom Bustin driving a Mitsubishi Challenger

Tracy Ennis and Roger Butcher driving a Jeep Cherokee

Welcome all

For Sale

ARB Fridge Slide

ARB Fridge Slide to suit 35/47 litre fridge, or any fridge with the external dimensions of approx. 650mm x 360mm.

This is a genuine ARB Heavy Duty Fridge Slide and is in near new condition only used once. Selling as I replaced it with an MSA Dropdown fridge slide.

More info on the slide is available from ARB website at <https://www.arb.com.au/press-room/arb-full-extension-fridge-slide/>

Retails for around \$359 will **sell for \$200**

Contact Dim on 0401 990 855

Email – dimmail89@gmail.com



For Sale

Hannibal Jumbo Roof Top Tent

This is the 1.4m wide model. It has an annex and a new vinyl cover. There is also a canvas draft barrier, for around and under the vehicle. (Made for Toyota Prado). It's made with heavy-duty canvas so sleeping-in is a possibility when camping!

The roof top tent is 9 years old but only used occasionally, and stored in a carport.

See <https://www.hannibalsafari.com.au/product/hannibal-jumbo-canvas-tent/> for more information on this model.

Price \$1000.

Contact Ian on 0448 132 060 or e-mail immcnaught@bigpond.com



For Sale

Cavalier Camper trailer 2003 off road 7x4

Water tank with electric pump– 80 litres

Electric brakes

12 volt battery plus Anderson plug for car charging

Large pull out kitchen/ pantry

2 burner gas cooker

Double foam mattress

Off road tyres

Treg hitch

9 kilo gas bottle

2 x 20 litre Jerry Can carriers

New canvas soft top cover

Draw bar tool box

Stone guard

Currently Registered till 2/8/2019

Price \$2500.00

This is a great 1st camper, we have recently upgraded to a new camper.

If you are interested, please call Rob on 0407 072 573



For Sale

Four Highway Terrain Tyres

Four (4) Bridgestone Dueler H/T 265/65R17 for sale.

Would be ideal for a work ute or around town vehicle (these tyres not suitable for 4WDing)

Tyres are off a Hilux (but would fit any vehicle with this size tyre - eg Prado) and have only done around 2000 km.

Price \$120 for all 4 (or \$30 each)

Contact Dim 0401 990 855

E-mail dimmail89@gmail.com



For Sale

Toyota Prado 120 Series Land Cruiser

Year 2008

185k km

Roof Racks

Fuel Capacity 180 litres

BFG Mud Terrain Tyres LT265/70R17

Water Watch system

Rhino Roof Racks

Rear carrier Spare Tyre and twin Jerry can holders

Tow bar

Cree Led light bar

Bull bar with new 10,000 lb. T-Max winch Dyneema rope

Rock Sliders

Front and rear diff lockers

Dual battery system

Front canvas seat covers

UHF Radio

VMS in car system

Reversing Camera

Street Navigation System

OziExplorer Off road Navigation system

Hema Off Road maps

In built ARB compressor

Under body armor not fitted

Twin drawers

Fridge slide

Service history

Price \$27,000.00

Contact Michael Patrick

0412 377 941

m-patrick@bigpond.com



Our Club Sponsors

The following local companies support our Club in various ways including by annually sponsoring the Club. As a Club we really appreciate their support, and we recommend that our members support these businesses.

As well as receiving discounts and great advice and service you will be supporting local businesses who support your Club and four wheel driving in general.

Platinum Sponsor



ARB FYSHWICK

188-190 GLADSTONE ST, FYSHWICK ACT,
TEL: (02) 6280 7475



4X4 ACCESSORIES

talk with them about

liability. We



What can we say about ARB that you don't already make and offer some of the most rugged and accessories available for your four- become the

recommend you equipping your vehicle for



all

Gold Sponsor



BATTERY WORLD

95 Grenville Court, Phillip ACT,
Tel: (02) 6282 9884



Mark and Nicole Roberts have been Battery World franchisees since 2004. Apart from selling a huge range of batteries they also specialise in auto electrical service, dual battery systems, solar installations plus camper trailer and van set ups.

www.batteryworld.com.au



Gold Sponsor



MONARO OFFROAD CENTRE

25 Stevens Road, Queanbeyan.
Tel: 02 6297 6006



The folks at Monaro Offroad Centre have been long-time supporters of our club, and look after the vehicles of many of our members. Michael and Rod can look after you with all vehicle servicing, repairs, pre-purchase inspections, trip preparation, new car warranty servicing, and a free courtesy car on request. They can supply and fit accessories from all the well-known brands from leading manufacturers. www.monaroffroad.com.au



Silver Sponsor

CANBERRA CARAVAN & 4WD CENTRE

39 Kembla Street, Fyshwick, ACT, 2609,
Tel: (02) 6280 0655



Canberra Caravan & 4x4 Centre (formally Pride Caravans) has renovated the store & changed their name to widen their already diverse range of products to include Ironman 4x4 range. Their large range of caravan accessories includes towbars, weight

CANBERRA TOYOTA



Silver Sponsor

CANBERRA TOYOTA

Located in Gunghalin, Fyshwick, Belconnen & Phillip



For a great range of new and quality pre-owned vehicles, go team. They can also provide you with genuine servicing, finance, insurance and a massive range of parts & accessories. They are committed to delivering quality, safety and innovation in everything we do; while at the same time finding ways to improve. If you're looking for a Dealership that can take

Bronze Sponsor

WATTS COMMUNICATIONS



68-70 Kembla Street, Fyshwick ACT.
Tel: 02 6280 6416



Watts Communications is a family owned & operated business established in Canberra for over 25 years. They are your one stop shop for all of your two-way radio, UHF CB radio, GPS navigation & GPS vehicle tracking needs. They have an extensive showroom and a fully equipped workshop to undertake installations into all types of



Bronze Sponsor

CAMPERACT

1/9 Maxwell Place, Narellan, NSW
Tel: 0406 379 913



Camperact (formerly Independent Trailers) is the regional representative and dealer for Australian campers from; Track Trailer, Altitude Campers, Trayon Campers, Bolwell RV, BackTrax Sports Utility Rooftents and Stockman (Sydney) Pod Trailers. Their principals, Catherine and Peter, are also long-time members of this club, and are totally

Members should note that many of our fantastic sponsors offer Club members a discount on goods purchased from them. Please ask at time of purchase and have your membership card handy.

Club Clothing

<i>Polo Shirts</i>	\$38.00
<i>Chambery Shirts</i>	\$45.00
<i>Jackets</i>	\$110.00
<i>Hoodies</i>	\$45.00
<i>Rugby Tops</i>	\$50.00
<i>Caps</i>	\$15.00
<i>Bucket Hats</i>	\$15.00
<i>Beanies</i>	\$20.00
<i>Name Badges</i>	\$10.00

