



# SOUTHERN TRAILS

## ISSUE 356 February 2009



### C O N T E N T S

Directory	2	Report—Deniliquin Ute Muster	22
Ro's Ramblings	4	Report—Christmas at Talooge	24
Talooge Topics	5	Report—Micalong Ck	26
Events & Trips	6	Annual General Meeting	29
Trips and Events Calendar	9	By-Laws	30
Sunraysia Issues	14	Letters	33
Report—Talooge Flora	16	Unclassified Ads	34
Report - Blue Waterholes trip	18	Service Directory	35
Report - Brindabella Ramble	20	New Member Application Form	36

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

### Next General Meetings— 10th February at Canberra Deakin Football Club

A Trip Report with a difference  
our David Whight will discuss his travels in Africa

The deadline for material to be included in the next issue  
of *Southern Trails* is the Friday following the General Meeting  
i.e. 13th February 2009

Many members contribute articles and photos to Southern Trails; the role of editor is shared.

This month's magazine is compiled and edited by  
Richard Nipperess, Bob and Sylvia Allen, Val. and John Wiseman.

Front Cover Photos by Lynne and Rob Donaldson, Richard Brand

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All magazine correspondence should be directed to the Publications Coordinator.

Trip reports & articles of interest are very welcome. Contributions may be edited.

**We gratefully acknowledge the support given to this magazine by our advertisers and encourage our readers to support and patronise them whenever possible.**

# SOUTHERN TABLELANDS FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB INC.



## Directory



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**General Meetings** are held at the

**Canberra Deakin Sports Club, Grose St, Deakin**

at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of each month.

General Meetings are a focal point of the club where members can meet and get information about past and future club activities. Meetings are structured with a minimum of formality. Meetings regularly feature talks from experts on topics of interest ranging from vehicle mechanics to bush lore. Reports on past trips are presented and new trips are announced. Visitors introduce themselves, there is a raffle with generous prizes and a coffee break for catching up with other members. Don't forget to wear your name badge.

Ideas for guest speakers are welcome. Contact Vivian Henderson if you know of someone who could make an interesting and topical presentation. Many members gather before and after the meeting to enjoy a meal or drink at the club.

### **Publications**

**Website** [www.st4wdc.org](http://www.st4wdc.org). The site is used to provide timely information regarding Club activities and variations from previously announced plans. When visiting the site, always check the "What's New" page for recent announcements and current news. Especially, check for any last minute variations to trips you are undertaking.

**Southern Trails** is the ST4WD Club monthly Magazine.

Trip reports, and articles that are relevant to Club members are welcome, as are photographs and illustrations.

Closing date for all material is the Friday following the monthly meeting. Send contributions to [publications@st4wdc.org](mailto:publications@st4wdc.org)

### **Talooge Park**

Talooge is the Club's 600+ ha bush block in rugged country east of Bredbo. It is used for training and other club activities, and members are welcome there for private camping, recreation and the simple pleasure of enjoying the bush. Several areas have been set aside for basic bush camping. Some have firewood and long drop toilets, but no other services – no water, no electricity, no phone, very limited mobile phone coverage. Pets and the discharging of firearms are not permitted on the property. Visitors should assume that they are solely responsible for their own wellbeing and be conscious of the risks of fire, snakebite, etc. In an emergency, neighbours Mr Richie Southwell and his sons, can usually be contacted using UHF channel 18.

Many details are on the Club's website, and intending visitors should check there for current access details and other information. Committee members can advise regarding the combination locks securing the gates.

## Code of Ethics

These are the rules of conduct that we should all observe when using our vehicles in the bush. We should all take them to heart. Image is a difficult thing to change!!

1. Obey the laws and regulations for Recreational Vehicles that apply to public lands.
2. Respect the cultural, heritage and environmental values of public/private land, by obeying restrictions that may apply.
3. Respect our flora and fauna. Stop and look, but never disturb.
4. Keep to formed vehicle tracks.
5. Keep the environment clean. Carry your own, and any other, rubbish, out.
6. Keep your vehicle mechanically sound and clean to reduce the environmental impact.
7. Adopt minimal impact camping and driving practices.
8. Seek permission before driving on private land. Do not disturb livestock or watering points, leave gates as found.
9. Take adequate water, food, fuel, basic spares and a first aid kit on trips. In remote areas travel with another vehicle and have Royal Flying Doctor Service, or equivalent, in radio contact.
10. Enjoy your recreation and respect the rights of others.
11. Plan ahead and lodge trip details with a responsible person.
12. Support four wheel driving as a responsible and legitimate family recreational activity. Consider joining an affiliated four wheel drive Club.

## Training

The Southern Tablelands Four Wheel Drive Club is devoted to providing the best driver training possible. The Driver Training Team provides a range of courses throughout the year. Students are assigned an instructor over the period of the course. The 1:1 instructor/student ratio ensures maximum transfer of skills and experience.

The current courses are:

### Main Courses

Basic Driver Training,  
Very Difficult Terrain, and  
Advanced Recovery (for Grade 4 and 5)

### Supplementary Courses

Water Crossing,  
Sand Driving,  
Mud and Snow,  
Practical Map Reading,  
Navigation,  
Route Planning,  
GPS, and  
Other specific training relating to Club activities such as camper trailers etc may also be introduced..

### Training for Driver Training Instructors

Trainee Instructor,

Assistant Instructor,  
Instructor, and  
Chief Instructor

Visit the ST4WDC web page for full details which are expanded on in detail in the Driver Training Policy document located under the Training menu tab.

**Partners** are encouraged to undertake the Basic Driver Education course, and any of the other courses offered from time to time. Unfortunately couples cannot undertake the course at the same time as only one driver per vehicle can be instructed during a training course. Training of a member's child is subject to approval by Club management and only when spare places are available. Couples may attend the Navigation, Map Reading & GPS courses.



Camping at Talooge

# ROSEMARY'S RAMBLINGS

Rosemary Orr



Welcome to 2009. Happy New Year to you all, may 2009 bring safe journeys and happy times.

As you all know our membership year starts on 1 January – so that means it's renewal time. You will have received your renewal form with the December magazine (and again under the address label this month), so pay your money and come and have a great time with the club for another year. It would be great to see you all again at our activities in 2009.

Just as a reminder of the benefits of our membership. Your membership entitles you, your partner, and your adult children still living with you to do your driver training. It also entitles you to do the sand and water crossing course and for those who are a bit more adventurous you can do the advanced driver training. (The advanced driver training is only run if there are enough interested members.)

In addition, all members are able to go to our property "Talooge Park" to camp and relax at any time. There does not have to be an event on at Talooge for you to go and enjoy yourself. I personally feel that Talooge is a wonderfully relaxing and healing place and I always feel refreshed after a visit. All you have to do is know the combination to the locks on the gates (ask any committee member), and just go and have a good time.

When you are purchasing vehicle equipment and camping gear, if you present your membership card at many stores you will receive a 10% discount. We have also been notified that all club members will receive a 12% discount on any purchases from Camping World at Tuggeranong.

And then there are just all of us good guys, lots of fun and lots of laughter – companionship and camaraderie – so it would seem to me that "it pays to belong".

Another very important part of our club is our Committee. Our AGM will be held at our March meeting and at that time all committee positions will be declared vacant. With this magazine (under the address label) there is a

nomination form which will allow you to nominate someone (with their approval) for the committee or if you would like to be a part of our committee ask someone to nominate you! Our club has been well served in the past by its committee members – there is always room for new faces and fresh ideas. The motivation for me joining the committee all those years ago was the fact that I had got so much from the club I thought that I would like to give something back and to help keep the club one which others would like to join. So do it! Get elected! Join the hard work but also the fun and good times. Play an active part in the future direction of your club.

The planning for Promo weekend 2010 is now underway. If you would like to join the committee, lend a hand or find out more about the Promo weekend – please contact me or other members of the committee. This event is a major effort for our club and every two years we are asked for an extra effort to make this weekend a success for all the clubs participating. Have a think about it and if you are interested please let us know.

I am really looking forward to 2009. There is lots happening and many trips and events to look forward to. I look forward to seeing you all in the near future. Until then safe traveling.

Rosemary

## Membership Renewal time

The Club's membership year is January to December, so it's time to renew your membership.

Renewals after the February general meeting are considered "late" and may attract a late fee. Members not renewing before the end of February will be removed from the *Southern Trails* mailing list.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in

March, and any renewal not received at least 10 days prior to the AGM may lead to that membership being terminated.

So..... It's time to renew!!! Please complete the renewal form **enclosed behind the address label** of this magazine and return it to the Membership Secretary with your renewal subscription.

# TALOOGIE TOPICS

John Kjar



## Calendar of Events at Talooge

Please advise additions or corrections by E-mail to [Property@st4wdc.org](mailto:Property@st4wdc.org)

From	To	Activity	Contact	On
28 March	29 March	SES Chainsaw Training, tbc	John Kjar	<a href="mailto:Property@st4wdc.org">Property@st4wdc.org</a>
4 April	5 April	Working Bee	John Kjar	<a href="mailto:Property@st4wdc.org">Property@st4wdc.org</a>

The Talooge “transformation” continues! With our “Fergie” tractor in A1 condition and the reconditioned mower (both per kind courtesy of Mark Adanson) we have started to transform the vista across Home Paddock and Thurbon Flat. Where there were ugly black weebum sticks and green stalks sprouting all over the areas we now have nice smooth (well almost) lawns. Areas hidden by dead trees and fallen logs are gradually being cleared and revealing pleasant shaded camping areas. Areas previously covered with serrated tussock (a noxious weed) have been sprayed and the weed is gradually being brought under control. A lot of this transformation is due to the many days of hard work by the Land Care group led by Graham Kruse. Thankyou Graham and your team.

I have previously reported on the work by club volunteers in constructing a new shelter on Thurbon Flat and enhancing the sheds in the Driver Training Unit (DTU) area. Your support and ideas have encouraged me to propose another major work program for 2009 that will enhance the value of our Talooge, provide a wider range and better services for members, and better protect our equipment and environment. To this end, we have agreed to conduct another working bee at Talooge on 4 and 5 April to which you are invited – both for your good company as well as hopefully the effort you can contribute. And in return we promise some good food and some great jobs.

Tasks are generally small (eg one to two person-days to complete) and do not require special skills.

They include, for example some necessary work to the Thurbon Flat shelter area, including levelling the area around the shelter, constructing some drains, building some log seats around the shelter, and constructing a fire pit. In the DTU area we will install a floor and construct some storage areas in the new equipment shed, convert the old shed that contained Lurch (the trailer) into a new shed for the Land Care group, finish lining in the sun-room area and paving outside the sunroom. We will, subject to weather, do some burning off of dead serrated tussock and more weed spraying etc. And there are lots more! As a bonus, contact me early and you can select your favourite task.

Several people have contacted me recently offering to donate items to the Club. Subject to our needs, we have accepted many offers including a slow combustion stove (Peter Fenwick), pavers and timber (Jim Raleigh), timber (Graham Kruse), work bench (David Campbell), curtain track (Ros Hanigan) and curtains (Catherine Panich). Thank you all. But we need more – especially a good motor mower, garden and vehicle tools, grease gun for the tractor/mower, solar panel to keep our (vehicle) batteries charged, a camp oven and stove, wire for tree guards etc etc. Offers gratefully accepted.

Looking forward to seeing you at Talooge – and especially on 4-5 April.

John



Meet the Committee at Belowra

# EVENTS AND TRIPS

Richard Brand



The Christmas Party was our first chance to try out the big shelter on Thurbon Flat at Talooge Park, and it worked brilliantly. If you have been in the club for a few years, you will remember the opening Blockbuster event where about 150 people were accommodated in the 'toe' of Thurbon Flat, which has really not been used since. People have naturally congregated and camped around the driver training shed area, so it was great to see so many on the lower areas, even if the toe itself was still unused. The big advantages of Thurbon Flat include lots of flat camping spots, good river views, shelter from the wind and minimal dust.

Obviously we need a good fireplace closer to the shelter – one of the tasks for the working bee planned for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> April.

## Camping Tips

The previous event had been the Bush Skills weekend, and it was really instructive to wander as a group to each campsite, and find out what people liked and disliked about their own setups, and why they had chosen that particular spot to camp. Most were on the slopes near the driver training sheds, and most were very exposed. As if to illustrate the point, the wind sprang up and those in the open got sand blasted. At least one dome tent collapsed completely and was unusable. Awnings on camper trailers had to come down. A K-mart special dome tent turned S-shape.

With a big area like Talooge Park, it is worth taking the time to select a really good campsite, especially for tents where level ground is important for a good night's sleep. Camper trailers and caravans can always be leveled by setting the axle across the slope, and winding the jockey wheel up and down. Tip: glue a spirit level to the drawbar near the jockey wheel.

Having found a level site, what is the chance that it will become part of a watercourse in rain, or worse still, flood? Dry river beds are usually flat, but no fun if a wall of water crashes down from flash flooding higher up. Digging ditches to divert rivulets round tents in the middle of a rainy night is also no fun.

I remember a club canoe trip down the Clyde where we camped on level grass in the caravan park at Nelligen. During the evening meal at the Nelligen Hotel, the skies opened and just about the whole park was flooded a couple of inches deep in water. Many trip members abandoned their tents and slept in vehicles or barbeque shelters. My snow tent's tub inner floor

was floating on the water, but kept fairly dry all night.

## Nasties

The next thing to check is danger from falling branches and wild animals. I have had to hurriedly decamp in Spain because I was too close to an ants' nest. In Africa the dangers include big cats, elephant herds and hippos, plus enterprising locals. During a massive storm in the Congo, we sheltered in the vehicle while opportunists slit the side of the tent and stole all our bedding. Up north in Oz, I like to keep away from river banks and camp high. Crocs are reported to gallop down banks and swish large animals into the water with their tails.

## Wind

Having selected a reasonably level site away from falling branches, flood and hostiles, check for shelter from prevailing winds. Nearby trees and plants will most likely be permanently bent by the wind, so face your camp the same way. A gentle breeze when you pitch camp in the evening is no guarantee against storms during the night. I remember being too exhausted one night to bother fully erecting or pegging out my camper trailer, only to spend half the night awake as a gale whipped at the loose canvas.

Many years ago I spent a frightening night on the lower reaches of Mount Cook in New Zealand. We had taken over an Australian light tent – a two pole ridge tent with a bell end and a flysheet. The ground was so hard, it was difficult to get pegs in and I spent most of the night piling rocks around the edge to try to hold the whole thing down. With two young kids to worry about, this was no joke. The next tent I bought was the New Zealand snow tent, wind tunnel tested to 100-kph.

## Expect the Unexpected

On beautiful Christmas Day this year, I had my canoe down by Lake Ginnindera when the adjacent picnickers were hit by a willy willy, which picked up chair covers and carried them up high and right across the lake. Out west, my camper trailer has also had a direct hit from a willy willy. Although the corners of the living area can be pegged down, I normally just put a heavy box at each corner. After the hit, all the boxes were jumbled in the middle, and a tarp had ripped from its attachments. A near-by dome tent was damaged with contents strewn all

over. Wind had totally destroyed a caravan parked in the area, stripping everything above the floorline.

A few years ago we had about 50 vehicles on a trip to Stockton Beach to experience real sand driving on dunes. This is the only time I have deliberately had my truck completely airborne – and there is another trip going on 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> March! As we started driving back to the caravan park, radio calls started coming through about high winds. Many of our tents were being punished – pegs ripping out, dome tent hoops turning into S-shapes, flysheets ripped. The snow tent was rock-solid.

On another trip to the Blue Mountains, the adults drove to a bush walk. On the way back, the sky darkened and we got radio calls from the kids in camp. The gist was that it was OK, nobody was hurt but a tent was full of water. Turned out the tent was a popular square rig tent with centre pole. The catch was a tarp that had been rigged from the back of a truck over the tent doorway. During the downpour, the tarp filled with water until one end gave way under the weight. It was the doorway end, and the tarp just funneled its load straight into the tent. This proved that good tub floors can keep water in as well as out.

**Next**

Adverse camping incidents like these are actually very rare, and I do not want to put anybody off camping! Since the invention of the sewn-in floor, I have never had to deal with unwanted water inside a tent, and good designs can withstand very high winds if properly sited and pitched.

After nearly two decades making do with just a camper

trailer and a snow tent, a mid-size frame tent got added to the collection this Christmas. My next article will include some thoughts on selecting camping gear, the lies manufacturers tell, and great ideas from other club members.

Our next big camping event is Meet-The-Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March at Belowra, and you will not be troubled by any of these issues! Belowra is a stunning private camp-ground on the banks of the picturesque upper Tuross River, with lots of level, sheltered, mown grass areas to camp on. Great for canoes, too.

Everybody should plan to get there – I look forward to catching up.

Richard Brand  
Events and Trips Coordinator

## **WANTED      TEST TRACK CO-ORDINATOR**

In preparation for Promo weekend 2010 we would like a volunteer to act as Test Track Co-ordinator. This is what you have to do:

- Design the test track;
- Arrange for volunteers to build the test track;
- Liaise with suppliers to provide the rock and other material for the test track;
- Be on hand to take delivery of the material for the test track;
- Arrange for the test track to be bedded in prior to the promo weekend;
- Arrange for a Test Track Organiser for the promo weekend;
- Arrange for the maintenance of the track during the promo weekend;

At the conclusion of the weekend arrange for the material to be removed/returned.

There will be many others available to offer support and advice – there will be many others available to lend a hand. **We need someone to co-ordinate the whole thing.**

Please contact Rosemary on 0414 568 358

# ABOUT TRIPS

## TRIP GRADING

For trips in the club's calendar a grading system of levels 1 to 5 is used to assist members in deciding which trips they would most enjoy and which grade suits the driver's level of skill and experience. This system of grading is a guide only. The grade assigned to a trip may change due to weather conditions, and the trip leader should be consulted in such circumstances. The trip leader has the right to deny a request from a driver who is considered not to have the necessary level of skill in 4Wdriving, or whose vehicle is deemed inadequate.

- \***GRADE 1:** very easy with little, if any 4wdriving involved; will usually consist of a scenic tour or a trip to camp. No 4WD skills are needed.
- \***GRADE 2:** a relatively moderate 4WD trip with winching and/or towing unlikely. Moderate level of 4WD skills needed, as well as completion of Basic Driver Education Course.
- \***GRADE 3:** a medium 4WD trip which requires cautious driving; winching should not be required. Good level of 4WD skills needed, as well as completion of Basic Driver Education Course.
- \***GRADE 4:** a moderately difficult 4WD trip with some winching and/or towing almost a certainty. High level of 4WD skills needed, as well as completion of both the Basic and Advanced Driver Education Courses.
- \***GRADE 5:** an extremely difficult 4WD trip. Participants must be experienced at traveling over difficult terrain. Winching and/or towing will definitely be required and participants must have all their own recovery equipment. Skill levels the same as Grade 4.

## DRIVER EXPERIENCE

Conditions on some trips at Grade 3 and above may prove too difficult for inexperienced drivers. Please advise the trip leader of the level of skill, and vehicle equipment when signing up for such a trip. Members must have attended the 'Safe-One' Basic Vehicle Operation Course before driving on a Club trip above the Grade 1 level, unless they have satisfied the Club's Education Coordinator that they have the necessary experience.

## TRIP PLANNING

If you are planning a Trip or Social Event for the Club contact the Club Trips Co-ordinator, preferably at least two months in advance of your chosen dates. This will allow time to give your event a 'good plug' in the Southern Trails, and it helps to avoid clashes with other people's plans. However, if a good event opportunity comes up at short notice our rules are sufficiently flexible to enable a quick approval. Club policy requires that a Club event shall be publicised in the Club magazine, or at a General Meeting of the Club, or on the Club's website in order for it to be considered a formal Club event and so be covered for the purposes of insurance, subsidies and so forth.

For a trip using tracks that are not public roads it is Club policy to confirm with the appropriate authorities that access is permitted on the chosen dates. This includes National Parks, State Forests as well as private property.

## CB RADIOS

The Club strongly recommends that a UHF radio be carried to facilitate convoy procedures. UHF channel 14 is used as the standard channel for trips.

## FIREARMS & PETS

Firearms are not permitted on club trips. Pets are not allowed in National Parks, otherwise refer to Trip leader.

# TRIPS AND EVENTS



## 6 Feb **Brindabella Sunset**

(2009-021)

Trip Leader: Warren Shardlow  
Email: warren.shardlow@hotmail.com  
Phone: 0409 321 213 (m)  
Vehicles: 8  
Grade: 3  
Start: 6:00 PM  
Departure: Uriarra Homestead  
Requirements: Basic Driver training, basic recovery gear, UHF, good tyres, well maintained and reliable vehicle.  
Description: A short drive to end the week. We will do a couple of tracks during the daylight. Stop for some supper whilst we watch the sun set from an optimal viewing point. Then do some night driving. About 4hrs duration overall.

## 7 - 8 Feb **Bird watching and Pink Pyjamas in the South East Forest NP**

(2009-001)

Note: **Date change since December magazine**

Trip Leader: Vivian Henderson  
Email: vivian@st4wdc.org  
Phone: 02 6288 3629 (h); 02 6289 4670 (w); 0407 969 057 (m)  
Vehicles: 6  
Grade: 2  
Start: 7:30 AM  
Departure: Williamsdale  
Fuel: Full tank, refuel at Candelo  
Maps: Badja 1:25000  
Belowra 1:25000  
Requirements: Basic Driver Training, Basic Recovery Gear, UHF radio, good tyres, well maintained vehicle, drinking water, binoculars, bird book, pencil and happy hour nibbles  
Description: This trip will traverse rocky fire-trails, Tuross River, Postman's Track and the rolling plains of Belowra – taking in the scenic views of the Wadbilligia and Deua NP's. The trip is aimed at those who wish to gain more 4WD experience without the pressure from the other half and go bird spotting or wildflower hunting, bushwalking or just relax and read a book. Not suitable for young children (too noisy for the birds and too boring for them). Please see Vivian if pink pyjamas are a problem.  
Comments: **Fellas - don't rush out to buy pyjamas - this trip is for the ladies!**

## 15 Feb **New Members Picnic**

(2009-023)

### Travel Tips

Don't carry egg rings! Use a mug as a cutter to remove the centre from a slice of bread.

The centre is for toasting, the outside is your edible egg ring!

For a colourful edible egg ring cut a ring slice from a capsicum!

# TRIPS AND EVENTS



Trip Leader: David Whight  
Email: tdavidwhight@hotmail.com  
Phone: 0438 882 696 (m)  
Vehicles: unlimited  
Grade: 1  
Start: 8:30 AM  
Departure: Queanbeyan Red Rooster car park  
Maps: South Coast Forest Map  
Requirements: UHF radio is recommended. Bring your own morning and afternoon tea, and salads for lunch. The club will provide sizzling bits for lunch.  
Description: This is a gentle meander through the Tallaganda State Forest, designed for new members and old members alike. Lunch will be at the Lowden Park historic site where relics of a logging camp are scattered throughout the park, including a waterwheel and header ponds originally used to generate electricity. The surrounding native bush of Tallaganda State Forest includes majestic stands of brown barrel. Bird watching is also popular, with the rare olive whistler a possible sighting. Lunch walks include a short nature trek through magnificent ferns, a visit to the header ponds, or exploration of old traction engines and logging gear. The tracks should be suitable for soft-road 4WDs.  
Comments: Driver training is not necessary, and existing members are welcome. Early bookings to assist catering numbers, please.

## **21 - 22 Feb Yerranderie Ghost Town & Silver Mines (2009-005)**

Trip Leader: Ian Goodacre  
Email: newtricks@bigpond.com  
Phone: 0403 304 505 (m)  
Trip Leader: Ben  
Vehicles: 6  
Grade: 2  
Start: 8:30 AM  
Departure: Car park behind Shell Service Station, Mitchell  
Fuel: Full tank at start  
Maps: 1:25000 Richlands, Mt Armstrong, Bindook, Yerranderie, Gurnang  
Requirements: Basic recovery kit. UHF radio. Drinking water, Happy Hour supplies. No pets or trailers  
Description: Yerranderie Township is a privately owned historic township and wildlife sanctuary within an extinct volcanic crater in the Blue Mountains National Park. It is 44kms due west of Camden, on the opposite side of the Burragorang Valley. The camping area is within the village precincts and has a hot shower and flushing toilets. Onsite firewood (fire restrictions permitting) is supplied by the caretaker. For a small fee a fascinating guided tour of the village can be arranged with the caretaker on arrival. For the more active and energetic there is a walking track up to the peak of the volcanic core with its (reportedly) stunning views. As we leave on Sunday we may choose to visit the historic cemetery and Government town near the airstrip. Yerranderie website: <http://www.yerranderie.com> (also Google Yerranderie for other websites and information.) Note the Limeburners Flat detour option is closed to vehicles indefinitely for regeneration.  
Comments: Deposit of approx \$6/adult required to confirm the campsite booking one week prior to the trip. Full camping fee is \$12/adult

## **21 - 22 Feb "Safe One" Basic Driver Training at Talooge Park (2009-024)**

Note: New since December magazine

# TRIPS AND EVENTS



Trip Leader: Peter Reynolds  
Phone: 6251 1258 (h); 0428 623 458 (m)  
Start: 8:00 AM  
Departure: Bredbo Service Station  
Description: This is the Club's official and accredited basic driver education course

## **1 Mar "Safe One" Basic Driver Training Course Follow-up Day** (2009-025)

Note: **New since December magazine**

Description: This is day three of the basic driver education course on the 21st and 22nd February and MUST be attended before participating on any Club trips where the proposed route is expected to be at Grade 2 or above

## **7 - 9 Mar Canberra Day Weekend - Trailer Trip to Bendethera** (2009-004)

Trip Leader: Greg and Vickie Taylor  
Email: vickie.taylor@bigpond.com  
Phone: 6241 3547 (h); 0411 281 087 (m)  
Vehicles: 8+ (two convoys can be arranged if necessary)  
Grade: 3  
Start: 8:30 AM  
Departure: Braidwood – side of service station down from pie shop  
Fuel: Full tank (Fuel at Bungendore and Braidwood)  
Maps: South Coast Forest Map (1:150 000)  
1:25000 maps of Araluen, Snowball, Bendethera, Michelago, Colinton, Tinderry, Jerangle, Whinstone, Burrumbela  
Requirements: Basic driver training, basic recovery gear, UHF radio, good tyres, well maintained and reliable vehicle, camping gear.  
Gas stove for cooking (in case of fire ban), food and water, happy hour and pot luck dinner supplies. A blind/tarp may be necessary for water crossing.  
Off road camper trailers are welcome and should have good all terrain or off road tyres.  
Description: We plan to travel via Araluen and have morning tea at Dry Creek or Deua River Camping area. We will then head to Wamban Rd just before Moruya and then head up Little Sugarloaf Rd. Side trip through Wamban Fire Trail and back onto Little Sugarloaf Rd with lunch stop at Hanging Mountain. Collect firewood and descend to the valley and camp. A pot luck dinner for Saturday night and Sunday will be free to explore, swim or just laze around. There is an old Homestead site and the Bendethera Caves to explore (this takes three plus hours and torch water necessary). Monday can be a slow start with return home via Dampier Fire Trail, Minuma Fire Trail, Middle Mountain Road and Krawarree Rd. There is a large camp ground in the valley with pit toilets. Kids and Teenagers are welcome and will enjoy this trip. Where more than one convoy is planned there may be opportunity for a second convoy to travel across Deua River at Dry Creek and travel via Mericumbene Fire Trail

## **7 - 9 Mar Stockton Beach** (2009-024)

Trip Leader: John Kjar  
Email: kjar@optusnet.com.au  
Phone: 6287 7574 (h), 0432 737 440 (m)

# TRIPS AND EVENTS



Vehicles: 8  
Grade: 3  
Start: 8:00 AM  
Departure: Shell Service Station at EPIC on the Sydney Road  
Fuel: Full tank at start  
Requirements: Basic Driver Training, Sand Driving training, basic recovery gear including snatch strap, strong recovery points on vehicle, UHF radio, good tyres, well maintained vehicle.  
Also required will be a long pole attached to the vehicle with a flag. Porta-potti or similar if possible.  
We would be grateful for any offer from an experienced sand driver to co-lead this trip  
Description: Stockton Beach is a popular venue for sand driving. It tests to the full the skills learnt on the Sand Driving course and stand you in good stead for an assault on the Simpson Desert, Canning Stock Route etc. We will drive to Newcastle on Saturday, returning on Monday, leaving us a full day (or more) of driving on sand. We will camp at the campground on Stockton Beach on Saturday and Sunday nights. We also need to purchase permits for the beach/sand. Costs for the permit and camping to be advised, but we need to book early. Please note, sand driving can be dangerous and we will not compromise on safety. This trip involves two days of driving on bitumen and one day of fun on the beach and dunes. The Canberra Day long weekend has been selected as it is the only long weekend for ACT only, and hence not as crowded as other holidays. Camping trailers are welcome, but not on the sand!  
Comments: We will use the M7 tollway. You can pay the toll via a phone call after using the tollway or purchase an electronic tag from either the RTA (<https://ols2.rta.nsw.gov.au/myEToll/>) or Roam ([www.roam.com.au](http://www.roam.com.au) or ph 13 8655 )

## 7 - 15 Mar      **National Autumn Balloon Spectacular**      (2009-019)

Trip Leader: Dennis Collins  
Email: [margden1@actewagl.net.au](mailto:margden1@actewagl.net.au)  
Phone: 6292 7423  
Vehicles: Unlimited  
Grade: 1  
Description: The club has been asked to provide crew support for the National Autumn Balloon Spectacular! For many members, this is the best time of the year, with glorious mornings and spectacular sights around the city and the lake. Crewing for part or all the event means early starts to assist pilots set up, follow and retrieve their balloons. Many people do this before heading off to work, but it is more relaxing to join in the social events or just hang out with the pilots. Consider booking your holidays to coincide with this event.  
Comments: Full details will be provided as they become available.

## 10 Mar      **Annual General Meeting & Monthly Meeting**      (2009-008)

Start: 7:30 PM

## 21 - 22 Mar      **Meet the Committee at Belowra**      (2009-022)

Trip Leader: Richard Brand  
Email: [trips@st4wdc.org](mailto:trips@st4wdc.org)  
Phone: 0418 568 358 (m)  
Vehicles: unlimited

# TRIPS AND EVENTS



Grade: 2  
Start: 8:30 AM  
Departure: Williamsdale  
Fuel: Full tank  
Requirements: Basic recovery gear. UHF radio. Happy hour snacks. Pot luck main course for dinner on Saturday  
Off-road trailers welcome, preferably with tyres matching towing vehicle, and working brakes. Canoe if you have one  
Description: A major club tradition is to welcome the new committee in some style. This year includes a great 4WD journey to a fabulous destination. The Club has booked a delightful sheltered campsite on private land at Belowra, close to the coast near Bodalla and right alongside the beautiful Tuross river. Outbound convoy options will include a detour to the Cascades, and for the energetic, a walk to Turross Falls. Home bound convoy options include a coastal return via Tilba, Moruya and Araluen, or easy and harder 4WD inland trails. On Saturday night there will be a formal black tie dinner, restaurant-style with maitre'd, candelabra, plus sumptuous desserts provided by the Club. Only your top half needs to be black tie – shorts and thongs are fine down-under. Please book as soon as possible so we can confirm the campsite booking, dessert catering, and convoys.  
Comments: Camping fees \$10 per adult, \$6 for under 15 and \$4 for under 5 years old.

## Stop Press - 28-29 March—Geehi in Kosciusko National Park

**Details next month**

### 4-5 Apr Talooge Park Working Bee (2009-026)

Note: New since December magazine  
Trip Leader: John Kjar  
Email: property@st4wdc.org  
Phone: 6287 7574 (h), 0432 737 440 (m)  
Vehicles: unlimited  
Grade: 1  
Start: 8:00 AM  
Departure: Williamsdale  
Requirements: The Club will provide lunch, plus morning and afternoon tea on both days, and dinner on Saturday night. Bring your own drinks, happy hour food and breakfast. Also, if possible bring your own hand tools etc to be able to complete the job(s) assigned to you.  
Description: There are lots of small tasks to be done at Talooge – and most of them do not require more than just bush skills and basic tools. Some are listed in the report on Talooge Topics – more details and additional tasks can be obtained from John Kjar. Where possible, we will assign tasks to volunteers prior to the weekend so you can give it some thought and we can purchase and bring any necessary items.

### 10-13 Apr Easter Break ()

### 27 Apr Anzac Day long weekend ()

### 8 Jun Queen's Birthday long weekend ()

### 29 Jun - 18 Jul Dash to the Centre (2009-002)

Trip Leader: Ian Brown  
Email: brown271@bigpond.com  
Phone: 6241 9468 (h); 0412 148 096 (m)  
Vehicles: 6

# TRIPS AND EVENTS



Grade:	2
Start:	8:00 AM
Departure:	Gungahlin
Fuel:	Full tank at start
Maps:	Hema Australia 4WD Raster Map Collection
Requirements:	Basic driver training, basic recovery gear, UHF radio, good tyres, well maintained vehicle, dinking water
Description:	Canberra to Uluru via the Oodnadatta Track and Alice Springs. Along the way visit Lambert Centre, Fink, Chambers Pillar, Kings Canyon, Uluru and Kata Juta. Return home via the black top visiting Coober Pedy and Woomera

## Sunraysia Rims—Safety Issue



There are at least 4 manufacturers of Sunraysia rims, ROH, Mauler, King and **Speedy**. Some of those by **Speedy** have been found to develop cracks which can lead to catastrophic failure. **Speedy** rims are identifiable by red and blue stripes around their circumference.

The cracks develop from the inside out so the rims need to be removed from the vehicle to fully inspect the integrity of the mounting base. These cracked rims will often appear to be completely normal from the outside.

The problem was initially identified at a mine, but then found also in near-new rims not necessarily subject to hard work.

Details are at

[http://www.dme.qld.gov.au/zone\\_files/Mines\\_Teri/safety\\_alert211.pdf](http://www.dme.qld.gov.au/zone_files/Mines_Teri/safety_alert211.pdf)



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**STUCK IN SOFT SAND...**



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# Talooge and its Flora #2

November 12, 2008

Graeme Kruse



Graeme Kruse & Pam  
Don Wiltshire  
Adrian Gallman  
Ian Goodacre  
Bob & Sylvia Allen  
Gary & Sue Caitcheon  
Jim & Ros Hanigan  
Brian & Jenny Delroy  
Gordon Baker & father  
David & Carol Buckley  
Ros Cornish

John Wilkes  
Jen Shallcross  
Steve Saunders  
Anne Phillips  
Merren Sloan  
Doreen Godtschalk  
Janelle Chalker  
Alan Ford  
Kath Arthur  
Andy Russell  
Warick Daniels

Shirley Daniels  
Peter Ormay  
Jean Geue  
Barbara Daly  
Cindy Roysten  
Roger Farrow  
Christine Kendrick  
Martin Butterfield  
Frances Butterfield  
Jean Smith  
Bob Small

I don't hear any rain. Gazing at the curtains it looks bright outside. I part the curtains, it's sunny and the wind is calm. It's going to be a great day for a trip to Talooge with the Wednesday Walkers! Leon's off to school and Pam and I drive down to the shops at Calwell and find half the people are there waiting. I begin handing out name labels and its not long before all have arrived. Drivers are called out one by one and I then call out their respective passengers. Everyone is accounted for so we leave the car park at Calwell Shopping Centre and head off to Talooge. As we head down the Monaro Highway and pass Michelago Christine and Roger join the convoy. We pick up Jean and Bob at the Bredbo turn off and the convoy is now 12 vehicles. As we wind our way along the Jerangle road the size of the convoy draws

the attention of the occasional farmer seen in a distant paddock. Martin and Frances are waiting at the 'gate' on the Jerangle road. We now have our full complement for the drive along Strike-a-Light Fire Trail – 40 people travelling in 12 vehicles. I assign them to a driver (they're leaving their Foresters just inside the gate) then call everyone together to tell them where we will stop for morning tea.

Driving along the fire trail I notice that the track has had recent clearing work done on it (very recent by the appearance of the bulldozer tracks) and the drainage improved. We soon pull up at the highest point of the fire trail (approximately 1200m) where there is a clearing that gives extensive views to the southwest. This is our morning tea stop. Within moments of stopping and



before even taking hold of a cup of tea, WW's are investigating nearby flora and naming them – they just can't help themselves! People eventually sit down on nearby logs that were in the shade of the overhanging branches of trees (Narrow Leaved Peppermint and Candle Bark) with views to Clear Range – the range of mountains on the western side of the Murrumbidgee River and about 17km away.

With morning tea over the group is called together. I tell the group that we are not yet on the Club's property but it is an interesting area and we will begin our walk along the fire trail from here. Without hesitation the group spreads out on both sides of the track and begins identifying the plants. There are calls from both sides of the fire trail, 'Ros (WW's recorder), have you got .....; what about .....' Ros replies yes or no. And, if there is a call 'Ros, come and look at this' then most of group move to the point of interest to see what has been found. After covering about 300m of the fire trail drivers walk back to their vehicles and drive along to meet the group. I plan to move some distance along the fire trail so we can sample a different part of Strike-a-Light.

Our next stop was on Talooge, several hundred metres past the top gate. The geology was quite different at this point with shale becoming dominant and topsoil much thinner. Talooge is much dryer than nearby Jerangle, which gets the tail end of moist coastal clouds that are driven up the eastern face of the coastal ranges by on-shore winds. The forest here is more open than at 1200m with the change in tree and understorey species reflecting these different attributes. Of particular note in this area was the extent of the abundant seed heads on 1m to 1.2m stems of Red Anther Wallaby Grass. We spent about half an hour in this area recording plant species then moved on to within about 400m or 500m of the tee intersection with Rayners Fires Trail.

Above the sound of general chit chat and calling out of new plant names several of us heard the sound of a small truck. Turning around and looking up the fire trail a fire truck appeared. Several of us walked up to meet the fire truck and were greeted by a couple of the lads from the Jerangle Bush Fire Brigade. They were out to have a look at the work done on the track over the past few days by the bulldozer and see where work had progressed. The lads were very surprised to meet up with a convoy of 12 vehicles and 40 people on the fire trail. After trading explanations of our presence they returned to the fire truck and continued on, squeezing past our convoy parked in the middle of the Strike-a-Light.

Our next stop was the Off-set Mounds for lunch. This area is looking quite good now with much of the Serrated Tussock eradicated on this side of

Hole-in-Walk Creek – must get into the weeds on the opposite side of the creek at some stage, but how to get there is a problem! WW's find it difficult to sit still in a new area and it was not long before expert eyes were examining the flora around this site with more names being added to the already extensive list.

Time to move on. Drivers, find your passengers. Passengers, find your drivers. One more stop for the day and this was to be over at Hole-in-Walk Creek before heading up one of the driver training tracks to get back onto Strike-a-Light Fire Trail and head out. When we got there I showed some of the people where the direct seeding had taken place and how the heavy rains of December 2007 and January 2008 had scoured out much of the direct seeding furrows. If you looked hard some furrows had seedlings growing in them but we were not sure if this was the result of the seeding or natural regeneration from nearby trees and shrubs. While this stop is only several hundred metres up from the Off-set Mounds more plants were being added to the list.

For the last time today I called all drivers and passengers to their cars. A quick check and all were accounted for then we wound our way through the trees up along the track to Strike-a-Light Fire Trail. Turning up hill for the way back out to Jerangle Road I felt the day had been very successful.

Thank you to all the ST4WDC members who made the day possible by volunteering to transport the Wednesday Walkers of the Australian Native Plant Society, Canberra. Also, a big thank you to all the WW's who gave so freely of their knowledge and time to help our Club build up a list of plants found at Talooge – 117 species on this trip plus the 70 species from the first trip. In addition to the plants on this trip one of the WW's is a 'birdo' and Martin spotted 17 different birds. To see the list of plants (including some photos) and birds go to <http://nativeplants-canberra.asn.au/Uploads/Strike-a-Light418.pdf>

It never ceases to amaze me that given a bit of time to explore the bush you will find an amazing amount of plants. While the plants may not produce flowers that are 'in-your-face' in regards to size and scent or produce spectacular autumn displays they are never the less quite impressive in their own right.



# Blue Waterholes

November 29-30 2008

Lynne and Rob Donaldson



Greg and Vickie Taylor (Trip Leaders)  
Elliot and Frank Wolfe  
Doug Ram  
Robert, Lynne, Daniel (8) & Gemma (6) Donaldson  
Tony and Jan Preston–Stanley

Patrol GU  
80 Series Cruiser  
80 Series Cruiser  
Nissan Navara  
100 Series Cruiser + Trakmaster

*Objective - To have a relaxing weekend and get to meet some club members.*

Michael Patrick had organised the trip but due to family reasons could not make it so Greg and Vickie Taylor led the trip. We met at Point Hut crossing at 8.30 am on Saturday morning – Michael came to meet us and wish us a good weekend. After much discussion on who would do the trip reports (verbal and written) it was settled and we were on our way.

It was a sunny morning and we were really looking forward to seeing the huts and that part of the country.

We headed off through Tharwa and along the Naas Road. First stop was Brayshaw's Hut – the hut was built in 1903 and restored again in the 1990's. We had a chance to get to know our companions a little bit more and have a quick cuppa. Next stop was Adaminaby for a quick walk and a stretch of the legs. Adaminaby was moved to its present location because of the damming of the Eucumbene River for the Snowy Mountains hydro-electric scheme. Over 100 buildings were dismantled and re-erected at the new site. There is a giant trout opposite the Adaminaby hotel for anybody wanting pictures.

Upon leaving Adaminaby a police car went rushing ahead of us. We knew there had to be something wrong up ahead somewhere! A motorcyclist had come off his bike and was injured on the side of the road - you can never be too careful on the roads.

As we were heading along the Snowy Mountains Highway we could see looming clouds – we wondered if we would make it to camp to set up in time. We stopped at Long Plain Hut for a coffee and lunch. Long Plain Hut was built in 1916.

On the way to Blue Waterholes we met the ranger on the track. Greg talked to him and he advised that due to the recent rains he would prefer that



we did not go back home via Broken Cart fire trail.

We decided to head straight down to Blue Waterholes to set up camp ahead of the rain. Along the Long Plain track we came across a foal in the middle of the road. It would not move and was getting further away from its mother. After much shooing it finally left the track and we proceeded to Blue Waterholes.

With not much time to spare we set up camp. There were very different set up's amongst us: there was a roof top tent, a camper trailer, two tents and one Trakmaster caravan.

The evening was unusual as there was sunshine then there was rain and this carried on all evening and into the night. In between the rain and sunshine we got to know everybody a little bit better. Doug shared several packets of



water leaves the ground to flow down through the spectacular Cave Creek gorge. Upstream from the waterholes, Cave Creek was dry and rugged.

The next day we leisurely packed up camp and enjoyed the morning together. We stopped on the way home at the Coolamine Homestead, which was built in 1892 and is well worth a look.

We decided to head to Tumut for lunch and then to drive home through the Brindabella Mountains.

Thank you everyone for a relaxing couple of days.

Smith's chips with us that hit the spot nicely. During our stay there were various groups of walkers from Outward Bound trekking past our campsite throughout the day and night.

The Blue Waterholes has great walking tracks and caves to explore and the camping grounds are well kept with clean pit toilets.

The Blue Waterholes are actually where subterranean



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# Brindabella Ramble

11th January, 2009

Trish Crossley



Peter Fenwick (very revered trip leader)  
Brian Brodie & Trish Crossley  
Richard Nipperess and Oung Niennattrakul  
and their guests, Rick and Shirley

White Pajero  
Red Patrol  
Green Pajero

The day dawned with brilliant sunshine, and stayed perfect weather for this trip, which included a jaunt to the top of Mt Coree, famous for its spectacular views.

To set the leisurely pace of the day, our fearless leader was five minutes late arriving, although he did radio us. He was forgiven as we were all merrily doing getting-to-know-you, getting re-acquainted, networking and viewing Oung's fantastic start to the photo opportunities with a photo of a magnificent eagle spotted on the way to Uriarra Homestead, our meeting place.

The convoy proceeded to Mt Coree via Blue Range Road. Two minutes after deflating tyres, Richard called a halt, a warning light warranted investigation. Rubbing their hands gleefully at the opportunity, the four males joyfully jumped into the obligatory huddle under the bonnet, used a couple of spanners and test lights just to prove they were actually doing something, declared all would be well for the day at least, and we re-started. To give them their due, all did go well for the whole day.

Along Blue Range, and then Two Sticks Roads, we noticed lots of fallen timber from recent storms, many more than two sticks. There was lots of interesting radio chatter too, as we exchanged stories of past ventures on Mt Coree in different weather conditions of snow in summer, one metre visibility fog at Easter,

rain and slippery rocks on the summit road, etc. Today it proved to be at it's best in the sunshine, with 360 degree views, and we had a welcome morning tea stop on the summit, with lots of photo taking.

I was also noticing lots of wildflowers, pink, yellow, white, mauve, some quite alpine ones, and these prevailed the whole day. Peter especially was bird watching (it's OK Catherine – only the feathered kind), and we saw yellow and black parrots (a type of rosella perhaps?), a variety of finches, heard unseen cockatoos, which Peter thought may have been black ones, and late in the day, another eagle.

I was devastated to see an empty beer bottle, chocolate bar paper and broken glass lying around on the summit. That sort of thoughtlessness is what spoils the reputation of responsible four-wheel-drivers and gets tracks closed to us.

We dropped down from Coree and onto the Powerlines Trail, thence onto the very dusty flight of stairs called Webbs Ridge Road. So dusty that our colourful white, red, and green convoy all looked the same indistinguishable colour by now. We were heading down to Flea Creek, so enjoyed more fantastic valley views, deep gullies and splendid rock formations. I never remember to add my geology, flora and bird books to the map bag for these trips until too late, and can never take photos quickly enough from the vehi-



*On top of Mt Coree*

cle.

The intention was to have lunch at Flea Creek, but it was peak hour, packed with campers and day trippers. We only saw about four or five trail bikes all day, and none here, most unusual. Richard said he knew where we might find a quieter spot for lunch, and we set off up Gentle Annie, via a quick stop to inspect an amazing sighting. Flea Creek has a very new, very posh long drop toilet, one toilet in the corner of a concrete slab big enough for four pans, in a corrugated metal toilet shed with a trendy sloping roof. Yeah, I know, the roof is like that for the rain and snow to slide off, but it looks trendy! There is even a timber-sided formed track up to it. What are the Brindy's coming to!

As Peter remarked, Gentle Annie's a highway compared to days of not-so-long ago, and we soon reached Brindabella Road, Piccadilly Circus, and onto Mt. Franklin Road, then Bendora Dam Road. Richard led us to a fantastic peaceful little spot on the Cotter River, before we reached the Dam. An unlocked gate allowed us to do a shallow water crossing and park in a lovely spot for lunch.

We enjoyed an hour of eating, chatting, looking at the river and surrounding bush and its features. I counted nine different varieties of bushes within arm's length of where I sat. Oung even had a paddle and brought out (spotted by our sharp-eyed trip leader) some small white egg-looking objects. Very interesting, but we couldn't quite identify them.

Time came to start the homeward journey. Turning off Brindabella Road, Peter took us through The Quarry. Even with road tyres he managed the "jump" at the top well. It was interesting to note that each of the three drivers chose a slightly different route and approach, but none of them encountered any real difficulty.

From there we proceeded to ply our way through Uriarra Forest, mostly along or around Warks Road, with a couple of interesting detours where Peter showed us places that he had been in the past, on training days or otherwise, now closed off.

Some were quite challenging, and great views all the way. Well, I thought they looked to be challenging, but I do have a distinct lack of accuracy in spatial vision, which, combined with hearing impairment that means I miss many words on the CB, gives me the excuse to let Brian do most of the off-road driving!

I am good for taking notes though, so volunteered to bore you with this trip report, although our revered trip leader did deem it just a nice day out, and was going to let us off doing a trip report. It was most certainly a lovely day out. We met Brindabella Road at the end of Warks Road, inflated tyres, said our goodbyes to each other and many thanks to Peter for a great day, and for being a most genial trip leader, and headed for our respective homes. Many thanks go to Richard also for leading us to a great lunch spot, to all of the drivers for their responsible and capable driving, and to all of the crew for their terrific company.



## Calling for recipes!!!!

The Club published a recipe book many years ago and it's time to do it again.

We want your favourite, tried and true camping recipes, including any hints on food storage, transport, preservation etc. and care of cooking equipment. The recipes can include favourite snacks, cakes/biscuits/scones, meat and vegetarian dishes and desserts. The main criterion is that they can be cooked on a camp/gas stove, BBQ, on or in an open fire and include ingredients fairly commonly carried when camping in the bush or travelling to remote regions.

Please email your recipes and ideas to Catherine Panich at [capan@homemail.com.au](mailto:capan@homemail.com.au). If you wish to be part of the team that puts this recipe book together please let Catherine know



# Deniliquin Ute Muster

2-4 Oct 2008

Jan McGuinness



Jan and Bryan McGuinness  
Ellen McGuinness and Tanya Smytheman

Mum's Toy Boy  
Yee Haa

Toyota 79  
Toyota 79

Bryan and I had a leisurely drive from Canberra, arriving at the Conargo Pub about 4.30, the Girls had overnighted at Swan Hill on the way from Adelaide. They had already checked out the local winery and declared it very drinkable, especially the white cab sav! The goal at Conargo was to view the cruising and check out the utes that were gathering to camp near the pub overnight. There was a community run BBQ and live music for the evening. Before dark we moved to the line waiting for the gates to open at 6.00 Friday. The table drain was 100 m wide so everyone parked in rows, rolled out their swags and camped between the vehicles. The neighbours were all very static but excited and noisy- **biggest problem** - NO Loos!! **Discovery** – those huge antennas are for the flags! (*I bet they're not even connected to a radio!!*)  
Friday morning – 0500 reveille by air horns signaled

the migration to the camping area, 0530 Le Mans start and moved forward 5 metres! We had cleared the security check and were in the camping paddock within 20 minutes. In years past apparently, the confiscated grog was piled high. First to arrive from each group was using pegs and Telstra rope (where would we be without the blue and yellow rope!) to mark out reserved sections. When choosing our spot we avoided the banks of portaloos and the few trees (potential fire hazard); in no time we had setup for both sun and rain. We had packed our portaloos and shower tent; it was a great asset, especially with Bryan's mobility issues. Late comers had trouble getting a camp space and the gates to the ute paddock were closed just after lunchtime.

Beyond our control were our neighbours. Luckily all very friendly (even if they did seem to think that the rails on our utes were for supporting their swags and sunshelters). And the weather? Well it rained for 8 hours on Friday night. The tracks all became porridge consistency and some bailed on Saturday morning. (I think that they forgot to zip up their swags!) Most were dried out by mid morning and the organizers were handing out towels. We had listened to the Friday night concert from our warm/ dry swags – luxury!

Saturday activities –The bars both operated on tickets, one queue for the tickets and then another queue for the grog (not a bad way to budget- buy your tick-



*Look out Roos!!.....*



The Campground

ets early and then drink until the tickets are gone). Ellen and Tanya joined in the blue singlet gathering for a world record. There was music all day long, bull riding, whip cracking competitions, circle work, plenty of shopping, you could even have custom printed stickers done while you wait (my new sticker was \$7). The food variety was fantastic from Indian curries to healthy stuff to dagwood dogs and chips. Saturday night's concert was excellent and went into the wee small hours. We went to the Casey Chambers set then heard the following acts from our swags!

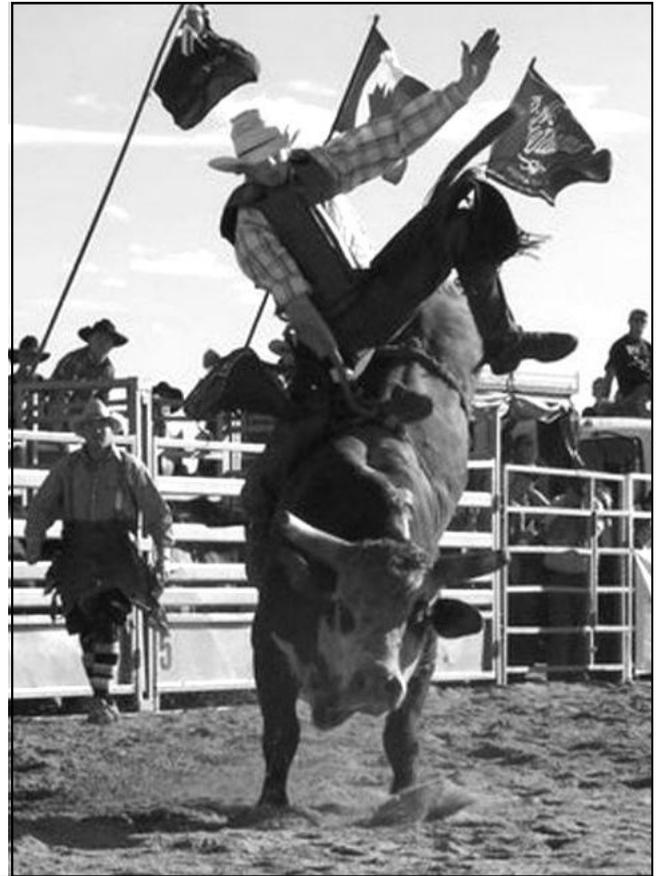
We had a leisurely pack up on Sunday morning and watched the hordes queue up to exit the campground (it is surrounded by irrigation channels, so there were limited exits). We drove straight out the gates at 11.00



*Smart Tow Truck variant*

and retired to the winery for the girls to resupply, then did lunch in Conargo before we started homeward. Yes we will do it again!! However, we will add some items to the packing list: Flags - bigger the better, (I will have to look around for some unwanted antennae!!) A brazier made of a washing machine bowl

with legs under it and firewood (or \$\$ to buy at the site).



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# Christmas at Talooge

6-7th December, 2008

Catherine Panich



After a wet week the weekend dawned clear and sunny. Last year's event was cancelled due to flooding so we looked forward to this year's party with great anticipation. Twenty six or so vehicles attended with an average of three people per car. Camps were scattered all round Thurbon Flat. The grass, shade, temperate temperatures and minimal dust were greatly appreciated. The early part of Saturday was spent settling in and relaxing, and then the fun began.

Many thanks to Marj Jones and Vivian Henderson for organising the games. We played boule, had a cross ways tug of war, maliciously burst balloons, tied to our wrists, while trying to protect our own, threw raw eggs at each other, and finally, this game being only for couples in loving relationships, using only our teeth and with no prompting, hunted down pegs strategically placed on our partner's clothes while blindfolded. The audience had as much fun as the participants.

Santa (our own Bob Allen) arrived on the fire truck. It had trouble negotiating the hill. I don't know



whether it was the bag of presents or Santa that weighed it down. All the children including the ones too old to believe in Santa enjoyed receiving a present.

Then it was the adult's gift giving time. This is the very special ST4WDC's idea of gift giving and not to be missed! There was much coveting, grabbing, hogging and laughter. Drinks and chocolates seemed to be much in demand all making the maximum three exchanges. If you want to know the rules comes to this year's Christmas party. We then scattered back to our cooking pots to prepare for the pot luck dinner which was held under the new shelter on Thurbon Flat. The shelter is so big it could have accommodated twice the number.

A special delight was a quartet, thanks to Carol Buckley, her daughter and friends.

It was truly a million star restaurant and I still maintain that the best cooks belong to our club. We had



the usual table and people decorating competition with outstanding entries which ensured a perfect ambiance.

On Sunday morning 16 drivers and their navigators participated in the Funkhana. There were six events, the skills of both driver and navigator being put to the test. The first event called 'balls up', had us race up a hill around very tight corners, stopping frequently as close as possible to poles so that a ping pong ball could be placed on top. Observers made sure no one cheated. Both driver and passenger had their share of running and ball placement; the driver also had to hook up a tricky beer bottle (empty) using a stick with a hook. It was interesting watching the different tactics employed by the teams and I'm sure a few new tricks will be copied in this year's competition.

Peter Fenwick assisted by Catherine Panich won this event. Wendy Holland assisted by Rick Holland came second and Catherine Panich assisted by Peter Fenwick came third.



The second event called 'spear a spud' looks easier than it actually is. The driver had the easy part, merely driving leisurely around the course and stopping near a pole around which were gathered a bunch of innocent potatoes. The passenger with a wicked looking tool (nail taped to a broom handle) had to lean out of the window spear as many spuds as possible in 3 seconds and bring them into the car without dropping them or doing damage to the vehicle or driver. Penalties were awarded for taking longer and points awarded for each potato captured. Rick Holland assisted by Wendy and Carol Buckley and her team tied first and Peter Fenwick assisted by Catherine Panich came third.



*Blindfolded driver negotiating a tortuous course under radioed direction of dyslectic wife who's facing the wrong way !!  
**This is fun?? ... Yes!!***

The third event called 'go to whoa' tested our knowledge of where our hubs are. Drive a set distance - at speed towards a pole and stop when you judge that your hubs are lined up with the pole. Tricky!! Rosemary didn't give any clues except to say "back, forward, back" for as long as you wanted with the stop watch ticking away. Julie Buttress won this with Peter Fenwick second and David Whiteside third.

Hines came third.

The overall winner of the 2008 Christmas funkhana, the proud owner of the 'knob' for one year is Peter Fenwick. Carol Buckley came second and Wendy Holland came third.

This year a twist was added to the event when the driver, blindfolded with the navigator evicted this time, had to drive slowly the same distance and stop at the second pole. Rosemary huffed and puffed alongside keeping us in a straight line. I don't know how we were expected to know when to stop! All I can say is that it was lucky there was a huge paddock extending beyond the pole. Carol Buckley and Bob Allen tied first for this, the others - well?

Another successful Christmas party at Talooge Park was over. It was time to have lunch, break camp, clean, pack up and wander home. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this a wonderful weekend, and thanks to all participants for just being there and ensuring the success of the weekend.

The fifth event was called 'dartboard and pendulum'. With a weighted string attached to the bull bar we had to drive over a dart board and stop when you thought the string overhung the bulls eye. Well- some didn't get anywhere near the dart board let alone the bulls eye. This was won by Julie Buttriss with places taken by Richard Brand, Rick Holland and Rob Lejsek.

And finally, the 'blindfold/navigator' event. Each driver had to drive blindfolded between poles along a curved route, do a right angle turn, park and back 20 meters into a parking bay with the navigator, usually your loved one, telling you over a hand held radio where to go!

Some navigators stayed cool, others used colourful language. Fortunately no one could hear what the drivers were saying! At the end of the event a participant asked me if marriage counselling was being offered. Richard Brand won this event directed by Wendy Holland, Catherine Panich directed by Peter Fenwick came second and Mick Hines directed by Jayne



# Micalong Creek

24-25 May 2008

Kerry Lejsek and Greg Taylor



## Trip Leaders

Greg, Vickie and Kane Taylor Nissan Patrol / Tvan Camper

## Participants

Michael Patrick and James	Suzuki
Warren Shardlow	Holden Rodeo
Allan and Lynn McDonald	Landcruiser 100 Series
Phil and Julie Henderson	Landcruiser 100 Series / Camel Camper
Rob and Kerry Lejsek	Landcruiser 80 Series
Brian Fleming	Hilux

Saturday 24 May turned out to be one of those beautiful autumn days which start with a frosty morning and turn into a calm clear day where you can see for miles. A perfect day for a tour through the Brindabella Ranges and a camp out at Micalong Creek before the permafrost of winter sets in.

13 of us in 7 vehicles met up at Uriarra homestead at 830 on Saturday morning. Some of the driver training team also assembled there; they were preparing to scout out suitable tracks for the follow up day "Safe One" Basic Driver Training Course which was planned for the next day.

We set off in convoy up the Brindabella Road and then down the very Gentle Annie Fire trail. Contractors have been building road drainage and toilets down at Flea Creek and the Fire Trail has been graded to accommodate them.

We proceeded up Webb's Ridge Fire Trail to much discussion over the radio about how Webb's Ridge



got its name. Some suggested it was named after a local fellow known as Stumpy Webb. Others suggested it was actually called Webs Ridge because of the large spider webs found across the track – These were made by huge man-eating killer spiders – some on the trip have been reading too much Harry Potter... (or perhaps it was just Michael Patrick!)

However, sometime over the morning it became clear that if anything went wrong then it was James who was



responsible. This started when Charlie (Michael Patrick and James) could not be reached by radio. Michael explained when he finally came back on air that it was all James' fault and this became a pattern – James has broad shoulders. Lucky he likes the father-in-law (recent marriage still bonding into the new role).

**Note:** The Suzuki has been found to have dodgy wiring to the aerial on several trips now. Still, Michael keeps saying he will get round to

it (where do you buy a round tuit?).

A search of the web (no pun intended) turned up the following story which probably explains where Webb's Ridge really got its name from...

The following story was published by John Gale, in *The Queanbeyan Observer*, in 1903: There were two brothers William and Joseph Webb, of Uriarra, who were mustering cattle in the rugged country on the north side of Brindabella, and at the close of one days muster, sat in the twilight enjoying their evening meal. Presently the quiet was broken by the rush of a herd of cattle from the valley below. Following the stampeding cattle was a man-like thing, whose coat was as hairy as that of a gorilla. Though challenged by the surprised brothers, the thing neither spoke nor turned. A shot was fired in the direction the thing had taken, and then there was silence and undisturbed repose for the rest of the night. The next morning the brothers followed the course taken by the stampeding cattle and their hirsute pursuer, they found distinct traces of blood, but no sign of anything living or dead. This is apparently the story told two men of well-balanced minds, the very antitheses of hysterically-disposed individuals.

More information can be found on *Dean Harrison's Australian Yowie Research* website at: [www.yowiehunters.com.au](http://www.yowiehunters.com.au)

Morning tea stop was at the 'Tree of Knowledge' which is the intersection of Webbs Ridge fire trail and Waterfall fire trail. Still cool and some frost left in the shadows but starting to warm with the sun.

Good time to check out trucks and stretch the legs. Brian showed us some of his home made bits on his Toyota including the snorkel among other bits and pieces – very interesting what you can do without buying the commercial accessories.



Continuing on the Waterfall fire trail we turned right at the junction with the Macintyre's Hut fire trail. This trail leads onto Foley fire trail and eventually back onto Webbs Ridge Rd and Doctors Flat Rd to head into Wee Jasper. The trails were interesting with some steepish up and down bits with a shale section on Foley that could get difficult with rain – as with most tracks! Phil said this was a good shakedown for his newish Camel Camper. The trailers were fine we just needed to be aware of any oncoming traffic to pick the best spots to pass. We didn't really encounter any oncomings other than several trail bikes.



We stopped to collect firewood (you can't beat a fully empty ARB roof rack on the Patrol for this – just leaves a heap of bark and rubbish in the roof gutters though) then another stop for a fallen log. You know the type, right across the fire trail and someone had chain sawed a gap through – but only just wide enough for their vehicle – which seems to be a Suzuki! If the log is the same diameter (roughly) can anyone explain why the people that clear these trails only cut it wide enough for a skinny vehicle?? Anyway, Vickie jumped out with a hand held radio to help people through and Greg took off to make room for the other vehicles. Phil and Julie kindly gave Vickie a ride for a while – not the only Taylor in their car on the day...

For lunch, we stopped at the Wee Jasper general store and picnicked in the car park. There were all sorts of food varieties including salad rolls with mince – yummy. Some bought lunch at the store and Kane disappeared into the store for an ice cream. T'was a little bit too far to continue to the camp and we were going to have a look at Carey's Cave too. This was abandoned in the interests of setting up camp and relaxing! What a bunch!

So, we pack up after lunch and headed off for the camp at Micalong Creek. Radio crackles 'Greg, haven't you forgotten something?' Greg and Vickie had set off while Kane was still trying to buy his ice cream. He had not been getting far in trading money for the ice cream (been there a fair while actually) when he sees mum and dad drive off - so he bolts out of the store. No room with Charlie (Michael and James are still bonding) there are two seats and nothing else! So, it is Phil and Julie to the rescue to give yet another Taylor a ride!

Camp was set up next to the creek and close to the (flush) toilets (but cold shower) – almost civilized.

Michael and James set up a pair of swags in front of the Suzuki with a tarp attached to the bull bar over both to keep the frost off. A good arrangement, very cosy together as long as no one drives off! You could tell that they were just related (more bonding)!

Otherwise there was an assortment of tents and the Camel and Tvan demonstrating that you can have all the comforts of home while roughing it. Lynn and Allan had left the Ultimate at home...and camped away from the group and so did Rob and Kerry – I wonder... Warren was comfortable in the Wolf (looks like a spider when setting up) and Brian again showed us how to use ingenuity with his own take on roof-top camping.

He had improvised a frame on his roof rack with tarps and a swag which gave him an interesting roof



top tent!

A roaring fire was set and happy hour with countless stories and jokes that seems never to tire us. We are a social lot.

On a separate fire of heat beads, Greg and Vickie started a rolled roast of pork on their Auspitt. There is a photo of this on the inside rear page of the July Southern Trails – this camping caper spoils you doesn't it?

**Footnote:** One of our members lost their pet on this trip due to suspected 1080 poisoning. This apparently happened at the Micalong Creek camping area which is a pet friendly area. This raises the question of the potential for secondary poisonings where the primary bait taker may take the poison into untargeted areas through the loss of body fluids etc. 1080 poison is indiscriminate and largely untreatable once ingested. Death is usually certain if poisoned. Take care with pets even in pet friendly areas. There were many signs around the Wee Jasper district warning of 1080 poison but still, this was unexpected where we camped.



The night was cold with a beautiful clear morning. Many of us walked to the falls and climbed to the lower swimming hole. No, no one was that brave to have a swim! The Sunday was a glorious day which most of us spent lazing in the sun and yakking. A lazy lunch while we were all slowly packing up. Eventually, we headed off up the mountain on Not-



tingham Rd, through the farmland and forests to Brindabella Rd and home. Airing up a Uriarra we were passed by the driver training crowd who had been out for the day on their follow up for the basic training.

Micalong Creek and Wee Jasper is such a great spot and not too far from home for a weekend away.



# Annual General Meeting



In accordance with By-Law 31, notice is hereby given that the 2009 Annual General Meeting of the ST4WDC Inc will take place at 7:30PM on Tuesday 10th March **at the Deakin Sports Club**. In accordance with By-Law 18, Owner Members, Family Members and Life Members are eligible to join the Committee, however only Owner Members and Life Members are eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

Members are also reminded that in accordance with Rule 25(1)a of the ST4WDC Constitution, nominations for positions on the Committee "shall be made in writing signed by two members of the Club and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination" and must be lodged with the Secretary by Saturday 1 March (10 days before the meeting).

The positions to be filled at the Annual General Meeting are:

President	Secretary
Treasurer	Membership Secretary
Education Coordinator	Events & Trips Coordinator
Publications Coordinator	Property Coordinator
Membership Secretary	Public Relations Coordinator
General Committee Members (four positions)	

For the information of members and particularly potential nominees, relevant extracts of the current Constitution and By-Laws are reproduced below.

## Extract from the Constitution of the ST4WDC Inc.

### 25 Election of Members of Committee

1. Nominations of candidates for election as committee member - (a) shall be made in writing signed by two members of the Club and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination), and (b) shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Club at least ten days before the date fixed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting.

2. If there is only one nomination received for a committee position the person nominated shall be deemed to be elected.

3. If there is more than one nomination received for a committee position then a ballot shall be held

4. The ballot for the election of a committee member shall be conducted at the Annual General Meeting in such usual and proper manner as the committee may direct.

5. If insufficient nominations are received to fill all the vacancies on the committee then further nominations as per rule 25 (1)(a) shall be received at the Annual General Meeting.

## Extract from the ST4WDC By-Laws

### PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

#### • Structure

3. For the purposes of the Committee's management functions the following teams shall be maintained -  
Driver and Trainer Education  
Events and Trips  
Publications  
Public Relations  
Club Property  
Membership
4. The **Driver and Trainer Education Team** shall be responsible for implementing an education program for club members so as to -  
improve driver skills with particular regard to safety and environmental issues;  
improve the standard of trainers;  
provide a training timetable to integrate into the Club Events and Trips calendar;  
train Club members wishing to participate in 4WD trips to a minimum driver skill standard, as defined by the committee from time to time;  
ensure that four wheel drivers operate their vehicles in a responsible fashion, regardless of terrain;  
promote awareness of the environment through appreciation of flora, fauna and landforms and their conservation; and  
Support the Property Coordinator in the management of the Club Driver Training facility.
5. The **Events and Trips Team** shall be responsible for an Events and Trips Program for members to enable members to participate in the sport of four-wheel driving, and must:  
provide a calendar of ongoing Driving trips to integrate into the Club Events and Trips calendar;  
publicise the established Club policy and procedures related to the running of Club events and trips;  
maintain a register of trip leaders and promote the clubs trainee trip leader program by fostering the interest of members in trip leadership;  
monitor Club trip activity to ensure Club trip leaders do not take members, or friends of members, on Club trips as drivers, unless they have met the Club's minimum driving standard, as published from time to time;  
seek endorsement of all events and trips by the Club Committee.
6. The **Publications Team** shall be responsible for:  
ensuring the publication and distribution to members and other nominated recipients, the Club magazine;  
ensuring the development and maintenance of the club website;  
encouraging articles from members and others on various topics aimed at promoting and encouraging the sport of four wheel driving for inclusion in the magazine and on the Website;  
soliciting and managing appropriate advertising for placement in the Club's magazine and on the website. Submit to the Club committee for ratification an annual schedule of advertising charges;  
overseeing the production of any promotional materials that depict club activities and which encourage and promote the sport of four wheel driving;  
submitting to the club committee for ratification proposed major changes to material displayed in the magazine and on the Web site.
7. The **Public Relations Team** shall be responsible for -  
all Club pronouncements of a public nature including -  
written submissions to statutory authorities, governments, and other organisations and individuals  
press releases  
liaison with State and National Four Wheel Drive organisations, National Parks, Forestry and Lands authorities, Emergency Services, and other similar authorities;  
ensuring that good relations are maintained between the Club and other organisations or individuals;  
oversighting design, production and sales of Club stickers, badges, logos, posters;  
providing a calendar of community based events to integrate into the Club Events calendar;  
organising Club participation in externally-organised community events, and other charitable and community service activities with a view to encouraging and promoting the sport of four wheel driving amongst the community;  
welcoming visitors and members to club meetings.

8. The **Club Property Team** shall be responsible for:  
 management of the Club Property TALOGE (meaning To Always Look Over Our Great Environment) commonly known and henceforth called Talooge Park, with the support of the Education Coordinator, including:  
 preparing policies on management and use for approval by the Committee  
 preparing and maintaining development plans  
 promulgating the approved Talooge Park usage and development plans to the wider membership  
 coordinating routine maintenance  
 preparing budget proposals for any recurrent and/or capital expenditure on Talooge Park  
 managing the relationship, where related to Talooge Park, between the club, its neighbours, local council and authorities  
 managing the Club's assets by:  
 maintaining a register of assets  
 maintaining the assets in good working order  
 ensuring secure storage of all assets  
 overseeing asset use by Club members  
 developing budget proposals for any recurrent and/or capital expenditure on assets  
 arranging for club members, the competitive bulk purchasing of goods relevant to the activities of the Club.
9. The **Membership Team** shall be responsible for:  
 managing Club records, including , but not limited to, membership details, details of Club magazine advertisers, interested organisations lists (eg. other 4WD Clubs, 4WD Associations, Government Authorities and Instrumentalities);  
 providing the Publications team with mailing labels for each issue of the Club magazine;  
 publication of financial member lists from time to time as directed by the committee;  
 authorising access rights to the Club Web site for all members upon membership approval by the committee;  
 promoting the Club to prospective new members.

• **Duties of the Committee**

10. For the purposes of paragraph 24(1)(b) of the Club Constitution, the members of the Committee other than the Officers of the Club, and their titles and duties are defined as follows -  
**Education Coordinator** who shall chair the Driver and Trainer Education Team;  
**Events and Trips Coordinator** who shall chair the Club Events and Driving Trips Team;  
**Publications Coordinator** who shall chair the Publications Team;  
**Property Coordinator** who shall chair the Club Property Team;  
**Membership Secretary** who shall chair the Membership Team;  
**Public Relations Coordinator** who shall chair the Public Relations Team;  
**General Committee Member** (four positions) who may be responsible for one or more tasks as agreed with the President. Tasks may include, but are not limited to:  
 organising venues for meetings  
 organising the General Meeting such as, the physical venue, suppers, guest speakers, slide and video presentations, demonstrations of equipment  
 assisting Public Relations team with welcoming of visitors and new members to Club meetings  
 managing Club social functions and undertaking fund-raising activities  
 assisting in the provision of a calendar of social activities to integrate into the Club Events and Trips calendar.
11. The duties of the Officers of the Club shall be defined as follows -  
 The **President** shall be responsible for the general coordination and management of the club including:  
 chair of the Club Executive  
 chair of the Club Committee  
 chair of the general meeting  
 chair of AGM.
- The **Vice-President** shall deputise for the President in his/her absence and:  
 nominate and brief delegates to national and regional association meetings with which the Club is affiliated  
 oversight and assist, where appropriate, the activities of the Public Relations Team

undertake duties as Club Insurance Officer  
undertake duties as Sergeant-at-Arms.

The **Treasurer** shall be responsible for:  
budget analysis and review  
correspondence relating to financial matters  
financial management including:  
investment of Club funds  
each cash float for Committee members  
each cash advance to a Club member  
overview of budgeted expenditure  
dispatch of accounts for the Club's debtors  
payment of accounts to the Club's creditors  
subscription fees and/or levies to Club affiliates  
all arrangements with the Club bankers  
all arrangements with the Club auditor.

The **Secretary** shall be responsible for:  
receipt of correspondence and its distribution for action as appropriate  
preparation of general correspondence consistent with Committee policy  
compilation of the agenda and papers, and preparation of minutes of General and Committee Meetings  
role of Returning Officer for Club elections, referenda and surveys; and any legal contracts.

The immediate **Past President**, shall be involved in tasks, as agreed with the President, including but not limited to:  
special projects  
membership of function Groups.

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Download an application from [www.independenttrailers.com.au](http://www.independenttrailers.com.au) or ring Catherine on 0412 866 375 or email [catherine@independenttrailers.com.au](mailto:catherine@independenttrailers.com.au)

## Letter to the editor

It's hard to believe I have been a committee member for almost twelve months and what an extraordinarily busy time it has been with both committee and personal commitments.

I had no idea just what I was letting myself in for when I volunteered to coordinate the raffles and guest speakers especially when I was going to be absent for a good part of the year.

I had long planned a trip to the UK- to be there for my granddaughter's first birthday but then an opportunity came up to join a few friends on an outback trip to the Kimberley. Allan and I were keeping our eye on the trip calendar when by pure accident, we overheard our friends talking about their trip and we simply gatecrashed. We had never undertaken such a trip and were very conscious of our lack of experience, which we wished to rectify ASAP.

Val & John Wiseman have written a fabulous account of our travels for which they are to be commended – I'm sure you all enjoyed reading about our exploits in *Southern Trails*. (Also on line at <http://www.exploroz.com/Members/61493.375/MyBlog.aspx> )

On our return from the Kimberley, Allan and I took off for the UK for several weeks and in total were away for four General club meetings.

Preparing for the two trips and trying to be super organised with guest speakers and raffles was a chal-

lenge but Marj Jones did a sterling job in my absence and I would like to acknowledge the time and effort she put into making it work for the club. Thanks Marj!

It has been challenging to consistently find new and exciting guest speakers and shop for worthwhile raffles prizes. I do hope that my efforts this last year have been satisfactory – I welcome feedback and suggestions for prizes and guest speakers.

I have nominated for a further year as I have found it very rewarding and being the eldest of seven children I am used to being bossy and getting things organized!

We already have some exciting speakers lined up for 2009 from diverse areas such as emergency communications, National Parks, even an international trip report. 2009 promises to be another interesting and rewarding year for the club.

Happy New Year

Vivian Henderson  
General Member

# Club Clothing

The Club clothing or a name badge can be ordered from Kathy Solomos at the monthly Meetings.  
Payment for any item is expected when ordering.

Jackets	\$70.00
Shirts:	\$35:00
Vests:	\$45:00
Caps:	\$15:00
Hat:	\$15:00
Beanies:	\$15:00
Name Badges	\$10.00

Look for the sign on a table at  
Meetings  
Kathy Solomos 0402 051 623



# FOR SALE/WANTED/LOST/FOUND



Advertising on this page is **free to members** but is restricted to **Two Months**. Non-members will be charged \$20 per advertisement for 5 lines for the same period.



**Sewing Machine - medium/heavy duty - available for short term loan.** I have custody of a medium duty Singer sewing machine that is ideal for all those small canvas repair jobs or to create new tent peg bags, tool rolls, billy can bags, camp oven bags, etc. How far does your creative imagination go? The machine will handle up to three layers of medium weight canvas and uses very strong upholstery weight nylon thread that is great for reasonably heavy jobs. Don 02 6161 1880. 0408 649 732

**TrakShak Campertrailer (Canberra).** 2003 Ex Cond. Heavy duty canvas, Coil suspension (spare sub axle), 2 queen sized beds, 3.5 M aluminium tinny, 9.9 HP 2 stroke, Mesh Gazebo, Self contained and portable kitchen, portaloos, 2 X 4.5L Gas cyl, 3 petrol gerrys, 3 water gerrys, Alloy mags, Stone guard, Fishing rod cavity, lockable side cabinet, on board 12V battery. All you need for self sufficient bush camping or that remote fishing trip! \$21,500 ono Contact Chris 0438 253062. [www.trakshak.com.au](http://www.trakshak.com.au)

**Aussie Swag off road camper trailer.** '99 Rover LX model. Camper dimensions 2.3m x 1.7m, approx 4.6m long when set up. Towing length 4.5m. Great off road capability with Treg coupling, independent suspension, near new 265/75 R16 BF Goodrich All Terrain tyres compatible with 80 Series Landcruiser. 3 jerrycan holders, pole carrier and utility box on drawbar. Raised solid floor. Battery Pack. Slide out/swing around kitchen featuring 2 burner stove top and grill and stainless steel sink. 60 litre water tank with lockable cap. Large and small awnings. Loads of under bed storage. A very comfortable and practical "go anywhere" unit for outback touring. Asking price \$15,000.

Contact Rod - phone 0407 456 330

**ARB Roof cage** (1850 \* 1250) and fittings suitable for Nissan Patrol GU. Very Good condition. Price negotiable around \$500.

**Rim (Tubeless, from Patrol)** with BFG AT 265/70 R 16 (about 30% rubber) - Price negotiable around \$200. Perfect 2nd spare for that remote area trip.

Contact: Ron on 02 6254 5928 (home) or 0409 545928

#### For Sale:

**Chain** Five metre ARB chain with 5/16 hook at one end and 8mm pin loop ring at the other. All forged alloy and rated to 5,500 pounds. Never used it ever. About 1 yr old. Still in plastic bucket and brand new. \$50

**Tyre Step Up** Bushranger brand. Place over your rear tyre and use as a step to the roof rack. Folds away for easy storage. Adjustable for all tyre sizes. As new. \$50. Richard 0402 333 747 or

[marketing@emailme.com.au](mailto:marketing@emailme.com.au)

#### For Sale:

**Heavy Duty Roof Rack** suitable for Land Rover Defender or Series II or III - \$300

**Four (4) Factory wide Wheels** for Series II or III with tyres - OHTSU 235/85/16 - 50% tread - \$350

**Bull Bar** for Series II or III Land Rover - \$200

All negotiable - Phone Bob - 0448 329 247

or Email - [jojare@bigpond.com](mailto:jojare@bigpond.com)

#### For Free

Light duty roof rack—4x4 wide (adjustable) x about 90cm long. John Ph 6230 2459

## Grass Fed Beef for sale – minimal chemical

Lowline beef available by the half or quarter. \$12 per kilo for a mixed half

(half of the hind quarter and half of the forequarter), approximate weight 30-35kg.

I use a butcher in Kippax, however, whole beasts can be consigned to a butcher of your choice.

#### How it works:

Order in advance and pay deposit for 30Kg, by cash, direct deposit or cheque, balance after delivery.

Beasts are sent to abattoir, and return to butcher in a refrigerated truck. Meat is hung for at least 7 days, then cut up to your requirement eg. Roasts, mince, sausages, steaks, diced, soup/dog bones as required.

You collect your beef from the butcher.

You package the cuts in quantities that suit your needs. (I recommend freezing flat, to make packing in the freezer efficient).

**JAN MCGUINNESS 6258 2253, 0408 393 192, [janmcp@tpg.com.au](mailto:janmcp@tpg.com.au)**

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### Travel Tips

Wear sturdy, fully enclosed boots when travelling in inland areas. Light thin-soled footwear such as sneakers, don't give adequate protection against rocks, gibbers, savage burrs and the odd reptile.



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# SOUTHERN TABLELANDS 4 WHEEL DRIVE CLUB Inc

PO BOX 661, FYSHWICK ACT 2609

## NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Please forward this form and your cheque / money order to ST4WDC at the above address. Payment can also be made by Cash at a monthly meeting or by Bank Transfer - contact [Treasurer@ST4WDC.Org](mailto:Treasurer@ST4WDC.Org) for details.

**First year membership - \$330.00; Ongoing Years - \$100.00. The membership year is from 1 Jan to 31 Dec.**

Membership entitles the member, partner, and licensed dependants under 21 still resident with their parents, to attend the Club's range of training courses, participation in Club trips and unrestricted use the club 700Ha property Talooge Park,.

Participation as a driver on Grade 2-5 trips requires successful completion of the Basic Driver Training course, or recognised equivalent prior learning / qualification approved by the Club's Education Coordinator. Trip Grading details can be found in **Southern Trails**, the Club magazine issued monthly (except January) to all members.

**Following the Club's acceptance of your membership application, you should contact the Club's Education Coordinator (Mr Peter Reynolds, (02) 6251-1258 AH or 0428 623 458) to reserve a position on a scheduled Basic Driver Training course.**

**Please complete the following** (\* indicates mandatory details)

Preferred first name\*, last name\*

Member 1\*: ..... Member 2: .....

Address\*: .....

Suburb\*: ..... State\*: ..... Postcode\*: .....

Contact phone\*: (H) ..... (W) ..... (M) .....

E-mail: (H) ..... (W) .....

As a means of rapidly disseminating priority information, the Club occasionally makes use of bulk Email to all members with an Email address, or bulk SMS to those with Mobile Phones. You will receive these automatically unless you indicate otherwise:

Bulk Email: **Yes / No.** Bulk Email to: **Home / Work** address above. Bulk SMS: **Yes / No.**

Vehicle Details\*: Make: ..... Model: ..... Registration: ..... State: .....

**Personal Details (Optional):**

Occupation(s): Member 1: ..... Member 2: .....

Potentially relevant skills / additional info: .....  
.....

**How did you find out about the ST4WDC?** .....

If applicable, please provide details of licensed dependants, including date of birth, on the reverse of the form.

**Signature(s)\*:** Upon acceptance of this application, then for the duration of my membership, I agree to abide by the Constitution and By-laws of the Southern Tablelands Four Wheel Drive Club Inc, as they apply from time to time.

Signed: (Member 1)..... Date: .....

Signed: (Member 2)..... Date: .....

**Payment of fees made by** (Please indicate): Cheque (enclosed) / Money Order (enclosed) / Bank Transfer / Cash

**Membership Secretary use only.**

Form & fees received: ..... Fees forwarded to Treasurer: ..... Application Accepted: .....

Joining Fee paid \$..... Total received: \$..... Receipt Number: .....

Membership database updated: ..... Membership package despatched: .....

Other comments: .....  
.....