



SOUTHERN TRAILS

December 2016

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

The December 2016 monthly club meeting WILL NOT be held on Tuesday. We apologise for the late notice but our regular meeting venue is not available at our normal time.

The new meeting time is **7.30pm Thursday 15 December 2016** at the Canberra Deakin Football Club Grose Street, Deakin.

Please let your friends know of this change.

Hope to see you there.

President's Post

40th Anniversary

The celebration held at the Deakin Sports Club on Saturday 5th November was a great success and attended by around 106 current and former members across the club's 40-year period. Good to see former, long term, and relatively new and also young members there enjoying themselves. A big thanks goes to membership secretary, Lynne Donaldson and her team for organising and delivering the event, and all those who helped with the set up and pack up. Also thanks to Peter Reynolds and Robert Tiele who shared the role of Master of Ceremonies on the night. Here's looking forward to the club having many more successful years.

Updated By-laws 6 December 2016.

As mentioned in the November newsletter it was proposed to rescind the motion approved at the September general meeting that any changes to members' entitlements will not be applied retrospectively and replace it with a new motion that any changes to members' training entitlements will not be applied retrospectively. This was approved at the November general meeting and the revised by-laws as approved, including the changes regarding the creation and maintenance of the by-laws approved at the September general meeting, are now available on the website at Information / Governance (By-laws 6 December 2016).

2018 4WD Spectacular Committee

All committee positions for the Spectacular are now filled, and club members Marj Jones (Chairperson), Brad Wells (Grounds Manager), and Rob Calvert and Glen Watts (committee members) represent the ST4WDC. The committee has a lot of work to do in the planning and delivery of the show, so please put your hand up to volunteer when the time arrives. Updates will be provided in the newsletter.

Expression of Interest - volunteer exhibition manager 2018 4WD spectacular

If anyone in the club is interested in volunteering for the role of Exhibition Manager for the 2018 show, please send your expression of interest to Marj Jones (marjjones@rocketmail.com) by the end of December.

Guest speakers

Thank you to Wizard Paint Repairs Fyshwick for coming along to the November meeting and talking about their products, Restore FX and Speedliner. Wizard also donated a voucher to the club to the value of \$990 for their products.

Unfortunately, due to the late change in room availability for the December club meeting, John Wilson from AKZ Vehicle Engineering will not be able to attend. We are trying to get John in as guest speaker in the future.

Raffle to support Beyondblue organisation

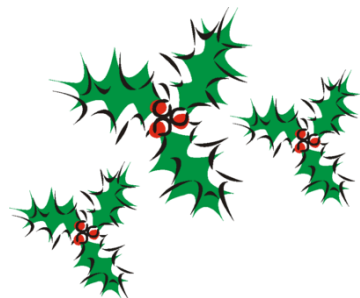
At previous meetings, Michael Jackson-Rand has given presentations about mental health issues and the various organisations that provide support services for the community in this very important area. The committee has agreed to a member's suggestion that the \$990 prize donated by Wizard Paint Repairs Fyshwick be raffled off and the proceeds donated to the Beyondblue organisation. Raffle tickets at \$5 each will be sold at club meetings and the draw will be held at the March meeting, so please support this very worthy cause.

Another successful club year

I'm amazed at just how quickly December has come around again. Throughout the year the club has been kept busy, involved in delivering another successful 4WD spectacular, celebrating its 40th anniversary, holding many trips, and has undertaken a great deal of work improving and maintaining the club property for members' enjoyment. In addition, basic driver training was provided to many new members. All of these activities involve significant effort by the members who volunteer their time to ensure these events are successful and the club continues to progress. So please if you can make some time available it is time well spent and really is appreciated.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and happy New Year. Safe travels during the festive season.

Jim Anderson



Renewal Time

It's that time of year again!

Please come and see Lynne (Membership Secretary) at the meeting to make your payment or else use bank transfer - make sure that you use your name as reference.

The annual membership fee is \$100.00

Bank: St George

BSB: 112 908

Account: 458 741 863

Reminder: 1st renewal for new members.

For new members that have joined during 2016, your 1st annual renewal fee is due by the 31st December. The amount depends on the month in which you joined - refer to the table below.

Joining Month	Renewal Fee Due December
January	\$ 100.00
February	\$ 92.00
March	\$ 84.00
April	\$ 75.00
May	\$ 67.00
June	\$ 59.00
July	\$ 50.00
August	\$ 42.00
September	\$ 34.00
October	\$ 25.00
November	\$ 17.00
December	\$ 9.00

If you have any queries, please call Lynne 0418 631 669 or email membership@st4wdc.com.au

Remember if you have not paid your annual membership fee before the 31st December you will not receive notifications or have access to the website.

Lynne's Latest

Can't believe it's Christmas time again, the year has flown.

We had a great weekend out at Talooge for the Christmas party, there were fun and games to be had by all. A big thank you to Rob for organizing the event, Peter R for running the games, Kathy Skinner, Janet Jones, Jane Watts and Marj Jones to name a few, and many more for helping out. I love the fact that our Club comes together at events like this which make it successful.

It's that renewal time again, make sure you renew before 31st December or you will not be able to access the website. If you have any queries, please let me know.

If you do not have a round State Association sticker or **2017** date sticker please come and see me at the meeting.

We have had 2 new membership in the Month of November:

Chris Nichols – Mahindra Pick up

Jane St Catherine – Toyota Troopy

Below are the numbers for Memberships:

Ordinary – 247

Life – 9

Family– 193

Total memberships – 449

Looking forward to catching up with you either at a meeting or on a trip. If you have any membership queries at all, please contact me.

I wish all a very Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

Safe travels.

Lynne.

Trips Register

Start Date	End Date	Activity	Type	Leader
14-Jan-17	15-Jan-17	Talooge Park Muster	Muster	Scott Cumming
29-Jan-17	29-Jan-17	Backyard Explorer and Blue Waterholes	Grade 2	Alex & Andrea Szabo
1-Feb-17	1-Feb-17	Basic Training 4WD Vehicle Evaluation	Training	Peter Butterfield
11-Feb-17	11-Feb-17	Brindabella clean up & track reconnaissance	Grade 3	Julie Buttriss
17-Feb-17	19-Feb-17	"Safe One" Basic Driver Training at Talooge Park	Training	Peter Butterfield
17-Feb-17	18-Feb-17	ST4WDC Basic Winching Course	Training	Peter Butterfield
18-Feb-17	19-Feb-17	Talooge Park Muster	Muster	Scott Cumming
26-Feb-17	26-Feb-17	"Safe One" Basic Driver Training Course Follow-up Day	Training	Peter Butterfield
5-Mar-17	5-Mar-17	Brindabella Ramble	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
11-Mar-17	13-Mar-17	Stockton Beach	Grade 2	Robert Azzito
18-Mar-17	26-Mar-17	Search for the missing huts of the Vic High Country	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
18-Mar-17	19-Mar-17	Talooge Park Muster	Muster	Scott Cumming
22-Mar-17	22-Mar-17	Information Night River Crossing & Sand Driving Course	Training	Peter Butterfield
19-Apr-17	19-Apr-17	Basic Training 4WD Vehicle Evaluation	Training	Peter Butterfield
29-Apr-17	29-Apr-17	River Crossing & Sand Driving Course	Training	Peter Butterfield
1-May-17	27-Aug-17	Chain Saw Awareness Training (Expression of Interest)	Training	Michael Patrick
6-May-17	26-Aug-17	First Aid Training (Expression of Interest)	Training	Michael Patrick
18-May-17	21-May-17	Consolidated "Safe One" Basic Driver Training at Talooge Park	Training	Peter Butterfield
28-May-17	28-May-17	Brindabella Ramble	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
3-Jul-17	28-Jul-17	Working Bee/Care Taker Old Andado Station NT	Grade 1	Dave Sutton
15-Jul-17	16-Jul-17	Trip Leader Training	Training	Michael Patrick
12-Aug-17	13-Aug-17	It could be cold at Bendethera Caves	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
9-Sep-17	10-Sep-17	Explore The Tracks of Abercrombie River National Park	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
30-Sep-17	2-Oct-17	Bush Skills Weekend	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
11-Nov-17	19-Nov-17	Victorian High Country Ramble Vers 2	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
12-Nov-17	12-Nov-17	Brindabella Ramble	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
25-Nov-17	25-Nov-17	ST4WDC Christmas Party at Talooge	Event	TBA

Training



Talooge Park

Scott Cumming

The December Muster was again attended by a number of our usual helpers and happily we had some new members and their family along to assist. The sausage sizzle provided by the club was a welcome break for lunch on Saturday. I placed a fairly ambitious list on the white board to work through over the weekend and by Saturday afternoon thanks to some serious hard work, we were able to cross off 90% of the listed tasks, so I had to add a few more which we managed to complete. A very big thanks to our attending members and their family members. Alan and Marj Jones, Rob Phillips, Rob Calvert, Brad Wells, Mike, Keryn and Ethan Zissler, Dim, Clair and Kate Veteri, Jim Anderson, Michael Patrick and Andy Wall.

1. Level ablution sheds – Done
2. Clean up and organise machinery shed – Done
3. Replace lock on training room door – Done
4. Weed spraying – Done
5. Fence removal on Thurbon Flat – Done
6. Water new plants – Done
7. Trim Grass in the absorption area – Done
8. Top up water tanks – Done
9. Clean pantry – Done
10. Remove surrounds from pine trees – Done
11. Replace AED (Defibrillator) battery – Done
12. Install curtains in bunkhouse – Done
13. Place 3 new fire pits – Done
14. Install 3 surveillance camera signs – Done
15. Gather and top up firewood - Done



James, Michael Patrick's Son in Law has donated a 6 burner bbq with a hood and wok side burner, so it has been placed under the Thurbon Flat shelter. Michael will now be providing Roast dinners and more gourmet delights in two locations from now on to all members and guests during their visits. Thanks to James and Michael!!

Ablution Sheds are now located and level on temporary piers, ready for permanent piers to be installed during the next muster. Clean out and conversion of one to be our new chemical storage shed will also start to progress and the other one will be used for storage. Eventually, we will have another bunk house once the chemicals have been removed from the current shed.



Talooge Gate Security Codes: In November 2016 the gate security codes were changed. A reminder that before travelling to Talooge you should always contact one of the relevant officers for the updated gate codes.

Scott Cumming property@st4wdc.com.au, 0490 000913 or Satellite text only
+61 405 894 135

Jim Anderson president@st4wdc.com.au, 0408 283496

Peter Butterfield education@st4wdc.com.au, 0417 480856

Talooge Security: If you are visiting Talooge and notice any suspicious behaviour or a vehicle you don't recognise, it's your property and you have the right to politely ask who they are and what they are doing. Report any suspicious behaviour to either myself or Jim Anderson. Additional surveillance cameras have been installed on the property to assist in identifying any unauthorised traffic.

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

Bush Heritage Assistance

In October, the Club was bowled over by an offer from Phil Palmer, Scottsdale Reserve Manager to assist us for two days with serrated tussock spraying using their equipment. This generous offer was gratefully accepted and saved the club many hundreds of dollars at least.

Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd saw Phil, Brett Peden, Mel McRoberts and Marj Jones spray 1500 litres of chemical on the serrated tussock and verbasum at Honeymoon Bay, The Chicken Run and the entrance to our property, near ARB Gate and at the bottom of the Horse Paddock.



The boom spray proved a blessing on the flat areas and two, 100 metre hoses, connected to a high-powered tank, worked wonders. The backpack was the order for the more direct spraying of the verbasum and St Johns Wart.

This reciprocal offer came through Alan and Marj Jones who have been volunteers with Bush Heritage Australia for many years.

A big thanks goes to Bush Heritage at Scottsdale and, when an opportunity comes up, maybe ST4WDC will be able to return the favour.

[Upcoming Talooge Park Musters](#) – Jan 14th/15th , Feb 18th/19th , March 18th/19th

See you at Talooge Park.

Scott Cumming - Property Coordinator property@st4wdc.com.au

To Always Look Over Our Great Environment

NSW & ACT 4WD Association

Quarterly Meeting and AGM Report

Marj Jones

Vehicle Compliance Working Group

Bull Bar classification has been put on hold until next year

Many "After Market" parts do not have a Australian Standard sticker. The group is working to have it mandatory for all "After Market" parts to comply and display a certification

MOU for Driver Training

This continues to be a long drawn out process and still waiting for ASQA to advise that the Association has an RTO status. This could take months.

Getabout are ready to sign as soon as the Association has the okay.

Government Grant

Lithgow Club now has a Government grant of \$40,000 for the Lithgow Project. This is to develop a 4X4 Tourist trail in and around Newnes Plateau. Chris Keys is the project Manager. Lots of government support from the Hunters and Shooters Party (Peter Chambers)

Insurance

Insurance contract with Arthur J Gallagher ends in February and negotiations are underway to get the best deal.

Web Site

The Web Site is down to create a new format.

All Club members are entitled to be a member of the Association Website. Go to the site, request membership and it is a matter of our Secretary to confirm your Club membership.

Track Classification

Track classification started at Abercrombie National Park. Continual training will continue through 2017.

Association Sydney Show

It was suggested that, as we don't actually assist at the Sydney Show, an idea would be to advertise our Club in the Association Trailer..... pamphlets, photos etc. which, promotes us as a Club within this area.

Bush Highways

This has finally been started with success in and around Nundle. The idea is to give people a route of interest, other than just stick to Highways.

Working with National Parks

Hunter Region has worked on improving drainage/putting in culverts on the Slippery Rock Rd (behind Lake Macquarie) for controlled access arrangements with the NP for 4WD Association Clubs only.

NP are opening up two parks in Crookwell and when up and when the time was right, ACT Clubs would be asked to do 2 visits a year to put out a presence. The Ranger responsible (Jules, same as at the Glen) suggested that one of the Monaro Clubs or a combined group could take it on.

The Association is looking at doing another tree planting at Abercrombie in 2017. Clubs will be asked to assist if possible.

Bendethra work is put on hold at present, as not only did they have the flood problem but at present they have an arson who keeps lighting fires.

ACT Clubs were given the name "The Merry Members of Monaro".

AGM

All the previous executives were re-elected. All the constitutional changes that our Club Committee voted for were accepted. The one we vetoed was not.

French Line and Hay River Track, Simpson Desert

July 2016

Charles Jenkins

Participants:

Cath and Peter Blunt (Prado)

Finn McGrath and Charles Jenkins (80 series)



Australian Bustard amongst the desert flowers

This was the trip of a lifetime, with the desert brilliant with flowers and loud with birds. The desert was full of life; flocks of budgies arguing, zebra finches filling bushes until they buzzed like bees, and flowers everywhere. And at night, the fabulous panorama of the stars, and silence that wraps around you like a blanket. A privilege to be there.

This was because of rain, of course, which made getting there doubtful for a while. Cath and Peter were volunteering at Kalamurina, off the Birdsville Track. Fortunately, the Track opened in time for our plans, but it was a slippery drive, with deep water over the road in

many places. We had planned to use the Warburton Crossing road and the K1 line to access the Hay River track, but the Crossing was closed. Instead we passed through a teeming Birdsville, where the Big Red Bash had been re-located, and headed out on the French Line.

This was quite busy by Simpson standards, with groups heading for the Bash, but there was good communication and negotiation over dune crossings. At Poeppel Corner we turned north before the lake and things became much quieter. The track runs north to some old oil wells, then swings east over the dunes for a few hours before settling into the swale that eventually becomes the Hay River. These dunes are quite steep, and since the track has already developed the winding character that characterises the Hay River, some are crossed at odd angles.



Crossing dunes north of Poeppel Corner

Once the track is heading NNW there are no more dunes, although the track is very winding and feels like a footpath that has turned into a track. Gradually the vegetation increases and by the Lake Caroline turn-off, the river is a 50m wide bed of sand with magnificent trees. The track keeps away from the riverbed after this, still winding erratically however, and by Baton Camp the country looks different and low hills are appearing on the horizon. It is an easy drive in the dry; we camped five nights out of Birdsville before reaching Baton Camp, and did not rush. The hot shower is welcome at Baton Camp. Don't miss the evening tour to Goyder's Pillar; the sunset colours have to be seen to be believed.



Lake Caroline

Once at a fuel bowser at Jervois Station on the Plenty Highway, it is a very long way to anywhere else. We returned via Boulia and Birdsville, again on some very watery roads. Near Glengyle Station the causeway over Eyre Creek was only just above the water, which extended to the horizon in all directions, teeming with birds. Beyond Birdsville the Cordillo Downs road ran through rolling green country. From Cordillo Downs we had to divert through Arabury Station, a long lonely drive with memorable views of the Saint Ann Range. Set in rolling green and streaked with ochre, white and grey, these jump-up hills looked like the sort of watercolour I aspire to be able to paint.

Anyone with a less than totally up to date map beware! You may think you can get from Nappa Merrie to Tibooburra via Santos and Orientos Stations, but the road has been re-routed to allow better access for drilling rigs from Moomba; it takes a westerly loop before rejoining station roads south of Orientos. From there it is a lovely drive to Tibooburra, with much water (some on the road).

Club 40th in Pictures









Club Clothing

<i>Polo Shirts</i>	<i>\$38.00</i>
<i>Chambery Shirts</i>	<i>\$45.00</i>
<i>Jackets</i>	<i>\$95.00</i>
<i>Hoodies</i>	<i>\$45.00</i>
<i>Rugby Tops</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>
<i>Caps</i>	<i>\$15.00</i>
<i>Bucket Hats</i>	<i>\$15.00</i>
<i>Beanies</i>	<i>\$20.00</i>
<i>Name Badges</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>

For Sale



4 [Goose Necks](#) to suit a five stud tyre pattern - \$5.00 each

Contact Michael Patrick
0412 377 941
m-patrick@bigpond.com

[Cobb cooker](#) used with a box of six self-igniting fuel blocks – \$100.00

Contact Michael Patrick
0412 377 941
m-patrick@bigpond.com



[Two bike carrier](#) that attaches to rear spare wheel – \$50.00

Contact Michael Patrick
0412 377 941
m-patrick@bigpond.com



Bosch AKE 30LI Battery Chain Saw – Worth over a \$1,000 will sell for \$400

- Comfortable handling. Soft grip and ergonomic design for optimum balance in any work position
- Oil level indicator and automatic oiling to avoid running the chainsaw dry
- Dual brake system. Electronic kick - back brake with audible signal and function brake for increased safety
- Compact design and 30 -cm chain bar
- SDS system for tool -free chain replacement and tensioning
- Battery type 36V Lithium-ion (Batteries last approx 30 mins each and recharge in 20 mins)
- Blade length 30 cm
- Weight (including chain, bar and battery) 5.2 kg
- Comes with a spare battery, battery fast charger, 2 extra chains, 1 spare bar and chainsaw box



Contact Michael Patrick
0412 377 941
m-patrick@bigpond.com

Ridge Ryder Folding Solar Battery Charger Kit -140 Watt



- Mono-crystalline solar panel: Highly efficient in converting sunlight to electricity
- Frame: HD Aluminum Alloy
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- Perfect for a camper trailer

Just a little bit too big for my back seat so I bought a 120 Watt charger and am willing to sell for the same price I paid for the 120 Watt unit: Price \$200.00

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m-patrick@bigpond.com

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