



SEPTEMBER 2023

# SOUTHERN TRAILS

## RIVER RUN

GETTING BACK TO ABERCROMBIE

**BOOK 'EM**

NSW PARKS UPDATE

**WE NEED YOU**

NOMINATE FOR THE COMMITTEE

**....CAN YOU DO THE TWIST?**





# DIRECTORY

## COMMITTEE

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## GENERAL MEETINGS

Canberra Deakin Football Club, Grose St, Deakin  
at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of each month.

General meetings are where Club members and visitors can meet and get information on past and future Club activities in an informal atmosphere.

Meetings regularly feature talks from experts on topics of interest, and reports on past trips. Visitors can introduce themselves, there is a raffle with generous prizes and a coffee break for catching up with other members.

Ideas for guest speakers are welcome, please don't hesitate to contact the Committee if you know of someone who could make an interesting and topical presentation. Many members gather before the meeting to enjoy a meal or a drink at the club.

## TRIPS AND EVENTS

An important element, some may say the lifeblood of the Club is our trips and events calendar. Any member can run a trip or event once approved by the Committee, it's a very rewarding experience.

If you've been thinking of booking a trip or event, head to the How to Book for a Trip section of the website where you will find step by step instructions. You can propose your trip or event using the Online Form and there is a wealth of material in the Information for Trip Leaders page and also from experienced trip leaders who are always keen to help you run your trip or event successfully.

## CLUB BANK ACCOUNT

Membership fees are paid through the Club's website. For other financial transactions, the Club's bank account details are:

Bank:	Bank Australia
Account Name:	ST4WDC
BSB Number:	313 140
Account Number:	1213 0617

When transferring payments please include your name and the reason for the transfer, e.g. "J Smith clothing", "J Smith renew 2023", etc.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Website:

Information regarding the Club, our activities, sponsors, and membership is available on our website at [www.st4wdc.com.au](http://www.st4wdc.com.au).

### Facebook:

The ST4WDC page includes posts regarding Club activities and sponsors [www.facebook.com/st4wdc/](https://www.facebook.com/st4wdc/).

### Southern Trails:

Contribute to ST4WDC monthly newsletter. Trip reports, member profiles, relevant articles, and classified advertisements are welcome, as are photographs and illustrations. Closing date for contributions is the first Tuesday of the month. Send contributions to [publications@st4wdc.com.au](mailto:publications@st4wdc.com.au).

# FOUR WHEEL DRIVE AUSTRALIA

## CODE OF ETHICS

ST4WDC is affiliated with Four Wheel Drive Australia and we promote responsible four wheel driving. We should all observe and support this Code of Ethics. Remember, image is difficult to change.

- Obey the laws and regulations for Recreational Vehicles that apply to public lands.
- Respect the cultural, heritage and environmental values of public/private land, by obeying restrictions that may apply.
- Respect our flora and fauna. Stop and look, but never disturb.
- Keep to formed vehicle tracks.
- Keep the environment clean. Carry your own, and any other, rubbish out.
- Keep your vehicle mechanically sound and clean to reduce the environmental impact.
- Adopt minimal impact camping and driving practices.
- Seek permission before driving on private land. Do not disturb livestock or watering points, leave gates as found.
- 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 emergency contact by radio or satellite.
- Plan ahead and lodge trip details with a responsible person.
- Enjoy your recreation and respect the rights of others.
- Support four-wheel drive touring as a legitimate family activity.
- Consider joining an affiliated four-wheel drive Club.



This Code supports the National Recreational Four Wheel Drive Vehicle Policy. Produced by [Four Wheel Drive Australia](#) in the interest of promoting responsible vehicle use. For advice and assistance in meeting the requirements of this Code of Conduct contact the [Secretary](#)



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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY ANDY SQUIRE

Another month, and another chance for me to drivel on about stuff. I bet you loved last month where there was no President's Piece. Just meant you didn't have to skim on through and pretend to be interested, you could just go straight to the good stuff. But I'm back. I did get a request from the Editor for my piece last month, but to quote A B Patterson (poorly),

"And an answer came directed in a writing unexpected,  
(And I think the same was written in a thumbnail dipped in tar)  
'Twas his travelling mate who wrote it, and verbatim I will quote it:  
"Andy's gone to Queensland driving, and we don't know where he are.""

So the editor offered up a 'Draw a hat on Andy' competition, and (thankfully) no-one took her up on it. At least it means I didn't get a dunces hat, or worse, a clown hat. But with my rough head (frightens children and old ladies at 50 paces) I should probably have gone with a balaclava. So. Where are we up to? Well, I guess the big one is the AGM which is to be held on Tuesday 10th October. Formal notification will be coming out shortly, but I need to just go on a bit of an 'Andy Rant' about it regarding Committee positions.

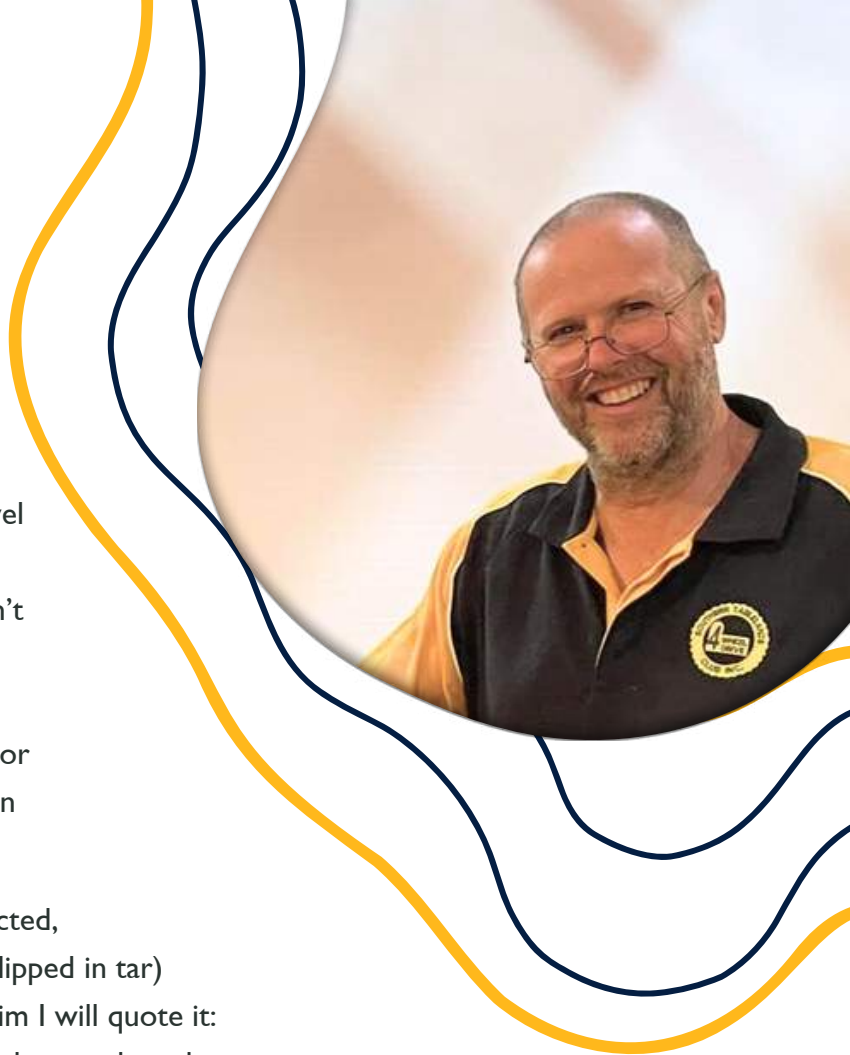
## BeginRant

*Everyone should be aware that ALL positions are declared vacant, and realise that no-one 'owns' a position. So if you're not putting yourself or someone forward for a position because there is an incumbent then DUMB IDEA. Healthy competition for positions is what a democracy and a healthy club is about. And if you think that someone on the committee is doing a good job, ASK THEM TO RUN AGAIN and nominate them; it shouldn't be up to Committee members to seek nomination.*

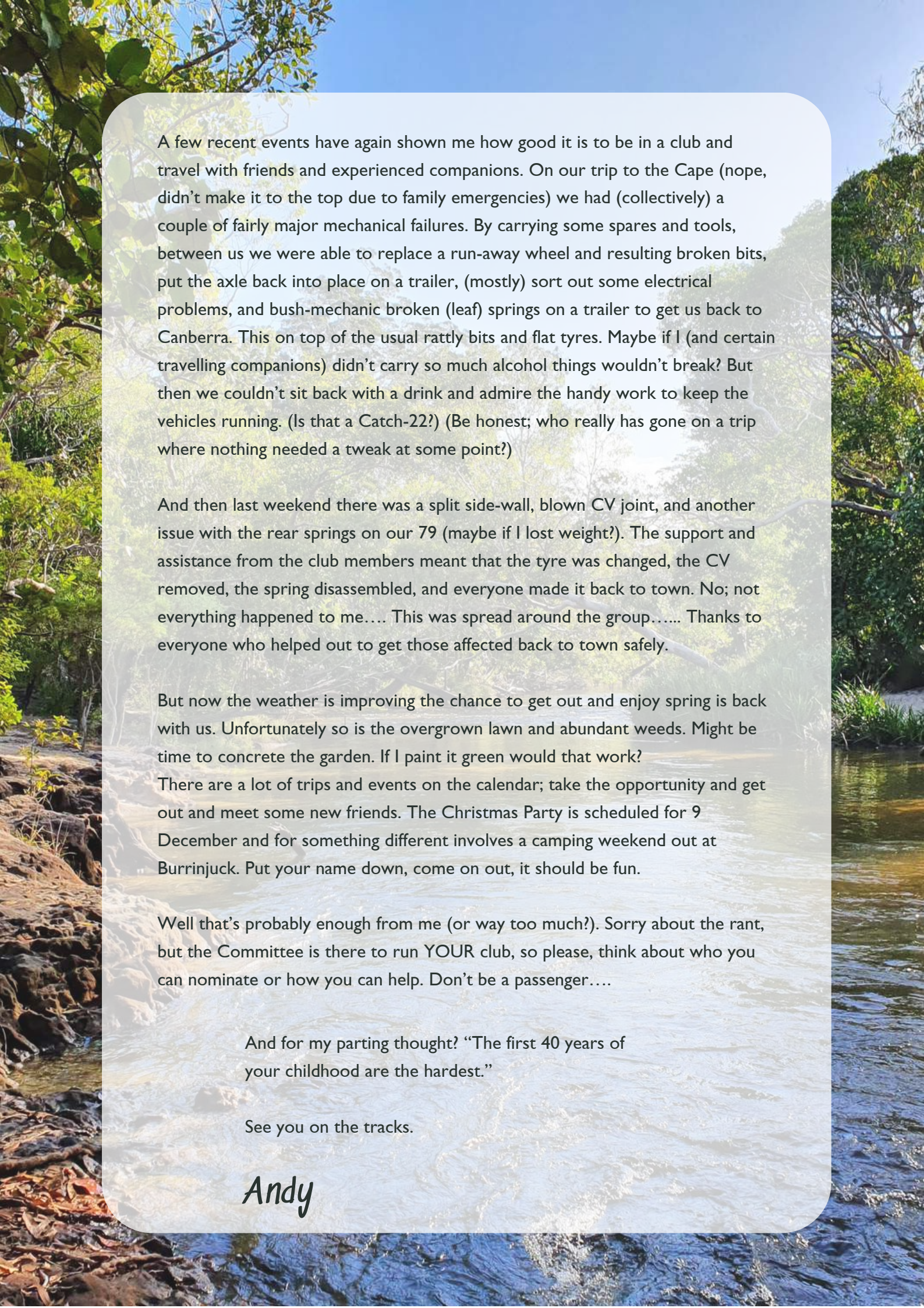
*We already know that a number of incumbents won't be standing again, or accepting nominations for next year; find out who; do something about it. Otherwise the job just won't get done; imagine no monthly raffle, no clothing, no newsletter, no training, no web/facebook, no anything..... Come on everyone take an interest; it's your Club. Don't be a passenger.*

## EndRant

Moving on.....







A few recent events have again shown me how good it is to be in a club and travel with friends and experienced companions. On our trip to the Cape (nope, didn't make it to the top due to family emergencies) we had (collectively) a couple of fairly major mechanical failures. By carrying some spares and tools, between us we were able to replace a run-away wheel and resulting broken bits, put the axle back into place on a trailer, (mostly) sort out some electrical problems, and bush-mechanic broken (leaf) springs on a trailer to get us back to Canberra. This on top of the usual rattly bits and flat tyres. Maybe if I (and certain travelling companions) didn't carry so much alcohol things wouldn't break? But then we couldn't sit back with a drink and admire the handy work to keep the vehicles running. (Is that a Catch-22?) (Be honest; who really has gone on a trip where nothing needed a tweak at some point?)

And then last weekend there was a split side-wall, blown CV joint, and another issue with the rear springs on our 79 (maybe if I lost weight?). The support and assistance from the club members meant that the tyre was changed, the CV removed, the spring disassembled, and everyone made it back to town. No; not everything happened to me.... This was spread around the group..... Thanks to everyone who helped out to get those affected back to town safely.

But now the weather is improving the chance to get out and enjoy spring is back with us. Unfortunately so is the overgrown lawn and abundant weeds. Might be time to concrete the garden. If I paint it green would that work?

There are a lot of trips and events on the calendar; take the opportunity and get out and meet some new friends. The Christmas Party is scheduled for 9 December and for something different involves a camping weekend out at Burrinjuck. Put your name down, come on out, it should be fun.

Well that's probably enough from me (or way too much?). Sorry about the rant, but the Committee is there to run YOUR club, so please, think about who you can nominate or how you can help. Don't be a passenger....

And for my parting thought? "The first 40 years of your childhood are the hardest."

See you on the tracks.

*Andy*





# MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

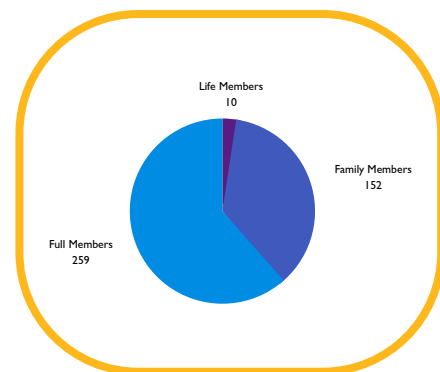
BY LYNNE DONALDSON  
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

We are back from holidays and what a blast we had!

We were feeling relaxed, refreshed and ready to tackle life for the next few months, but as we went back to work after the 1st week we then didn't feel like we had a holiday.....

ahh well, will just need to plan our next adventure and look forward to that .

It's been another busy Month for Membership, as people start to come out of hibernation there will more trips /activities up on the calendar.



The Club is coming up to its AGM and that time again for members to step up and start to think about what you can do for the Club and how it benefits you!

A great way is to join the committee, all roles are vacant, and any member can apply. We really need Club members to nominate, so that we can continue to prosper and not have burnout on some of our Committee members. When we have vacant positions on the Committee, other committee members step in and help in those vacant roles as well as their own positions. It is rewarding being on the committee and steering the Club forward.

Please consider nominating and go and talk to committee members about what each role entails.

We have had seven new members join the Club in August.

## Welcome

**NICOLLE DAWS - TOYOTA HILUX**

**NATHAN KING AND TERESE ARNELL - TOYOTA PRADO**

**DARREN SEWALT - GWM CANNON**

**CHRIS LEAHEY - SUZUKI JIMNY**

**JOE ARNOLD AND KAREN DUHIGG-ARNOLD - TOYOTA LANDCRUISER 105 SERIES**

When your membership renewal is due, please hop onto the website and renew through the renewal form. You can also update your profile this way too.

Also, if you need a new club sticker, come and see me at a meeting. Trips, events and the social committee have been busy organising a lot of activities and our calendar is looking full! Look up the list of upcoming events and put your name down to start making connections within the club and get out there and enjoy our country!

If you're waiting for driver training, you can still attend the grade 1 and 2 trips and any social activities listed.

## MEMBER BENEFITS

- Shop with our Sponsors. Mention you are a member for discounts on 4WD and camping gear.
- Pick up a 2023 4WD NSW & ACT Association sticker at the Club member meetings.
- If you're waiting for driver training, you can still attend the grade 1 and 2 trips and any social activities.
- Say hello to any new faces at our meetings, and thanks to those who volunteer at the visitors' table.

If you have any membership queries or want to chat, do not hesitate to contact me [at membership@st4wdc.com.au](mailto:membership@st4wdc.com.au) or 0412 251 528.

Till next month,

*Lynne*



# Member Spotlight

This month we get to know Club member Rob Davidson

**WHY DID YOU JOIN THE ST4WDC CLUB?**

I joined at the end of 2015, after the ST4WDC was recommended by the Wagga 4WDC as the best club in ACT (was a member and treasurer there). I have been a member since.

**WHAT TRIP IS ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**

My bucket list includes the Simpson, but that will have to be with out Debbie, so finding an appropriate time when we are not travelling will be the challenge.

**WHAT HAVE YOU FOUND TO BE THE BEST PART OF JOINING ST4WDC?**

The best part is the focus on training to bring everyone up to an appropriate level for trips, the range of trips and getting to know a lot of members when on trips.

**IN WHAT WAYS DO YOU YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE CLUB?**

I was secretary of the club for 2 years and now learning how to be a club driver trainer. When my retirement settles down, I will look at other roles in the club

**WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST ENJOYABLE TRIP?**

The most enjoyable trip so far has been the Vic High Country based in Dargo. It was great to be centrally based and day trips out of there. I'm looking forward to the 2023 High Country trip.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER?**

8 years



# SOCIAL CLUB ACTIVITIES

Fri 17 Nov	TGIF	Capital Brewing Co <u><a href="#">Book Now</a></u>
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- BBQs
- Secret Santa
- Fishing Comp
- Fireside fun

**BURRINJUCK STATE PARK**  
**[BOOK NOW](#)**



## GET OUT TO THE LAKE RATTLE AND ROLL TO SUPPORT LIFELINE CANBERRA ON 8TH OCTOBER 2023

Adam Miller, General Manager for Lifeline Canberra, recently talked with members about the life-saving work of the service. We lose a Canberran every week to suicide. Lifeline Canberra is a leading charity in the ACT, setting the benchmark for suicide prevention and community-wide awareness for mental health advocacy.

# HAVE YOU HEARD?

You can help put Lifeline on the world stage by creating a Lifeline around the two bridges on Lake Burley Griffin and set the new World Record dancing to the Twist.

**\$26 IS THE COST OF A LIFELINE PHONE CALL. SO FOR EVERY \$26 YOU CAN SPARE, WE CAN SAVE ONE MORE LIFE.**

[www.lifelinecanberra.org.au/donate/](http://www.lifelinecanberra.org.au/donate/)

## CALLING FOR NOMINATIONS

Following changes made to the Club's Constitution made in 2022, our financial year now runs from July to June. Our Constitution also says that our Annual General Meeting needs to be held within five months of the end of the Club's financial year.

An important business item of the AGM is to elect our committee.

If you are a Full Member, Family Member (Spouses/Partners) or a Life Member over the age of 18, you are eligible to nominate for the committee and to vote at the AGM held on Tuesday 10 October 2023. All committee positions are declared vacant at the AGM, and the current committee members must renominate.

Have a think about joining the committee and have a hand in what makes this a great Club. Nominations are due on 30 September 2023. For questions about joining the ST4WDC committee, contact [Secretary@st4wdc.com.au](mailto:Secretary@st4wdc.com.au). Watch your inbox for more information and links for nomination forms.



Adam is also the Club auditor. Many Thanks to Adam for the presentation. And thank you to all the members who donated on the night for this important cause.





## NEWS FROM FOUR WHEEL DRIVE NSW & ACT INC

National Parks now allow one person to do **Multiple Campsite Bookings** up to a maximum of nine sites. Conditions do apply, and not all parks support this option. Please take a look at the attached list of National Parks that currently support the expanded bookings; this number is reported to continue increasing. NSW National Parks Campsites

Picklist value	Group bookings	Park	CG Sites	Sites enabled for group bookings online
The Sink campground	NO	Abercrombie River National Park	5	N/A
The Beach	NO	Abercrombie River National Park	3	N/A
Silent Creek campground	NO	Abercrombie River National Park	8	N/A
Bummaroo Ford campground	NO	Abercrombie River National Park	15	N/A
Behrs Flat campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	60	5 sites
Bendethera campground	YES	Deua National Park	60	9 sites
Bents Basin campground	YES	Bents Basin State Conservation Area	100	5 sites
Berlang campground	YES	Deua National Park	10	9 sites
Bittangabee Bay campground	YES	Beowa National Park	31	9 sites
Black Rocks campground	YES	Bundjalung National Park	51	5 sites
Blue Waterholes	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	TBC	5 sites
Bonnie Vale campground	YES	Royal National Park	78	3 sites (special conditions)
McIntyres campground	NO	Brindabella National Park	TBC	N/A
Lowells Flat campground	NO	Brindabella National Park	TBC	N/A
Flea Creek campground	NO	Brindabella National Park	TBC	N/A
Coree campground	NO	Brindabella National Park	TBC	N/A
Brushy Mountain campground	YES	Werrikimbe National Park	6	3 sites
Bullocks Hill campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	20	5 sites
Bungonia campground	YES	Bungonia National Park	65	9 sites
Burbie camp	YES	Warrumbungle National Park	10	9 sites
Camp Blackman (Area 3)	YES	Warrumbungle National Park	33	9 sites
Camp Walaay	YES	Warrumbungle National Park	12	9 sites
Camp Wambelong	YES	Warrumbungle National Park	35	9 sites
Carrington Falls campground	YES	Budderoo National Park	4	2 sites
Caryapundy lookout campground	YES	Narriearra Caryapundy Swamp NP	18	5 sites
Cattai campground	YES	Cattai National Park	50	5 sites
Cawndilla campground	YES	Kinchega National Park	4	3 sites
Chaelundi campground	Due to added	Guy Fawkes River National Park	7	5 sites



Picklist value	Group bookings	Park	CG Sites	Sites enabled for group bookings online
Coach and Horses campground	YES	Paroo - Darling National Park	15	5 sites
Congo campground	YES	Eurobodalla National Park	29	9 sites
Cooinbil Hut campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	6	5 sites
Cooinbil Hut Horse Camp	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	15	5 sites
Coolleman Mountain campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	12	5 sites
Crowdy Gap campground	YES	Crowdy Bay National Park	10	5 sites
Dalmorton campground	Due to be added	Guy Fawkes River State CA	10	5 sites
Dead Horse Gully campground	YES	Sturt National Park	40	5 sites
Delicate campground	YES	Goolawah Regional Park	40	5 sites
Denison campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	20	5 sites
Depot Beach campground	YES	Murramarang National Park	71	9 sites
Diamond Head campground	YES	Crowdy Bay National Park	75	5 sites
Doon Goonge campground	YES	Chaelundi National Park	10	9 sites
Emu Lake campground	YES	Kinchega National Park	6	3 sites
Fort Grey campground	YES	Sturt National Park	60	5 sites
Gambells Rest campground	YES	Morton National Park	10	9 sites
Geehi Flats campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	80	5 sites
Geehi Horse campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	4	5 sites
Gentlemans Halt campground	YES	Marramarra National Park	8	3 sites
Gillards campground	YES	Mimosa Rocks National Park	40	9 sites
Green Cape Lightstation Keepers' Cottages	YES	Beowa National Park	2	N/A
Gunneemooroo campground	YES	Warrumbungle National Park	10	9 sites
Hobart Beach campground	YES	Bournda National Park	66	9 sites
Homestead Creek campground	YES	Mutawintji National Park	30	5 sites
Horse Swamp campground	NO	Barrington Tops State CA	8	N/A
Humes Crossing campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	25	5 sites
Illaroo campground	YES	Yuraygir National Park	71	9 sites
Indian Head campground	YES	Crowdy Bay National Park	50	5 sites
Island Bend campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	70	5 sites
Jounama Creek campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	21	5 sites
Killalea campground	YES	Killalea Regional Park	42	9 sites
Koreelah Creek campground	YES	Koreelah National Park	8	5 sites
Kylies Beach campground	YES	Crowdy Bay National Park	70	5 sites
Main campground	YES	Mungo National Park	33	9 sites
Lake Arragan and Red Cliff campgrounds	YES	Yuraygir National Park	89	9 sites
Lake Creek campground	YES	Wadbilliga National Park	4	3 sites
Lake Yarrunga campgrounds: Kangaroo River	YES	Morton National Park	18	4 sites (any more sites & group has to split across two areas)
Lake Yarrunga campgrounds: Shoalhaven River	YES	Morton National Park	13	4 sites (any more sites & group has to split across two areas)
Lemon Tree Flat campground	YES	Kwiambal National Park	10	5 sites

Picklist value	Group bookings	Park	CG Sites	Sites enabled for group bookings online
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Log Bridge Creek campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	30	5 sites
Long Plain Hut campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	8	5 sites
Long Plain Hut Horse Camp	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	8	5 sites
Magpie Flat campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	8	5 sites
Marramarra Creek campground	YES	Marramarra National Park	9	3 sites
Melaleuca campground	YES	Limeburners Creek National Park	50	5 sites
Mount Wood campground	YES Not to be added	Sturt National Park	15	5 sites
Mulligans campground		Gibraltar Range National Park	20	N/A
North Head campground	YES	Murramarang National Park	10	9 sites
Nymboida River campground	YES	Nymboida National Park	10	3 sites
O'Hares campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	30	5 sites
Old Geehi campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	20	5 sites
Old Snowy campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	15	5 sites
Olive Downs campground	YES	Sturt National Park	15	5 sites
Peacock Creek campground	YES	Richmond Range National Park	7	5 sites
Pebble Beach campground	YES	Murramarang National Park	21	9 sites
Perkins Flat campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	TBC	5 sites
Picnic Point campground	YES	Mimosa Rocks National Park	17	9 sites
Point Plomer campground	YES	Limeburners Creek National Park	90	5 sites
Polblue campground and picnic area	NO	Barrington Tops National Park	45	N/A
Pretty Beach campground	YES	Murramarang National Park	79	9 sites
Quicks Beach campground	YES	Murray Valley National Park	50	9 sites
Racecourse campground	YES	Goolawah National Park	20	5 sites
Rocky Plain campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	12	5 sites
Salt Caves campground	YES	Timmallallie CCA Zone 1 NP	4	3 sites
Saltwater Creek campground	YES	Beowa National Park	15	9 sites
Sculptures in the Scrub campground	YES	Pilliga National Park	7	3 sites
Smoky Cape campground	YES	Hat Head National Park	20	5 sites
Station Creek campground	YES	Yuraygir National Park	29	9 sites
Swifts Creek campground	YES	Murray Valley National Park	10	9 sites
Telegraph Station bunkhouse	YES	Beowa National Park	2	N/A
The Barracks campground	YES	Coolah Tops National Park	9	3 sites
The Junction campground	YES	Nymboi - Binderay National Park	9	5 sites
The Pines campground	YES	Coolah Tops National Park	20	5 sites
The Pines campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	20	5 sites
Thungutti campground	YES	New England National Park	17	5 sites
Tin Mines campground	YES	Woomargama National Park	10	3 sites
Tom Groggin campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	TBC	5 sites
Trial Bay Gaol campground	YES	Arakoon National Park	97	5 sites
Twin Beaches campground	YES	Marramarra National Park	7	3 sites
Wares Yards campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	25	5 sites
Willandra campground	YES	Willandra National Park	11	9 sites



Picklist value	Group bookings	Park	CG Sites	Sites enabled for group bookings online
Woody Head campground	YES	Bundjalung National Park	94	5 sites
Yanga Woolshed	NO	Unknown campground	campground	N/A
Yarrangobilly Village campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	30	5 sites
Gungarlin River Campground	YES	Kosciuszko National Park	9	5 sites





# TRIP REPORTS AND MEMBER ARTICLES

The Southern Trails newsletter captures the photos and experiences of members' and Club trips. It is only as good as the stories and images sent in for publication. If you have been on a trip, remember to share your observations, how your equipment and rig handled the track, the fun, the oh-nos and what you learned. Trip leaders, remind everyone to get back to you quickly and then send participant feedback with an overview of the tracks travelled in a trip report.

The Southern Tablelands 4 Wheel Drive Club has one of the best 4WD club newsletters. And that is thanks to the emphasis on sharing trip reports. There is room for your opinion pieces, questions to the Club on tracks, equipment advice, or advice about places that make great adventures.

You can send all articles and requests for advice to [publications@st4wdc.com.au](mailto:publications@st4wdc.com.au)



- **MEMBER OP-EDS ON 4WD ISSUES**
- **QUESTIONS ON EQUIPMENT AND TRIPS**
- **DESTINATION REVIEWS**

## TIPS FOR YOUR TRIP REPORT

Include these suggestions to create a great report



## Expectations

Was this a new trip for you? What did you do to prepare? Why did you decide to join the trip?



## Your vehicle and gear

What are you driving? How did it handle the tracks? What equipment did you bring, and what should you remember for next time?



## Something memorable

What was special about the trip? Triumphs, fantastic sights, oopsies, lessons learned?



## Tell a story

Take everyone on the adventure with you. Any local history to share?



## Write it ASAP

The best time to capture the good stuff from a trip is as soon as you get home. It's fresh in your memory and sending it quickly helps your Trip Leader.





# Trip Report: Abercrombie River National Park 2023

26-27 August

**A**bercrombie National Park has been closed for nearly two years due to flood damage and track remediation so my plan to visit this park has been on the backburner for a long time. We departed Canberra with eighteen trucks broken into two convoys with myself leading the first and Shae the second. Unfortunately while transiting through Goulburn I received a phone call from Shae that his truck had gone into limp mode and he has to disengage. So go and find the second convoy and all meet up at Bumaroo for a comfort break but no morning tea. I was a bit slack in my organising this trip regarding fuel capacity and petrol vehicles (assumptions being made re petrol and Diesel). A particular note that I had changed on this trip was not stopping at Goulburn at the bakery as if I allowed trip participants to get out of their vehicles it would be like herding cats to round everybody up. My main goal was to be able to spend as much time in the National Park. But allowances was made for morning and afternoon teas with Scones and fresh cream

A final note the Glen will soon be open to the general public.

The following are the comments form the trip participants.





I've been wanting to visit Abercrombie River National Park a long time but never did, so with the Park finally reopening after several years of closure I was really keen to do this trip. It's always nice when going to new places to be able to tag along with a leader knows the area. Well, that was the theory until poor Shae had to return home with vehicle troubles and Michael volunteered me take over Shae's convoy. Serves me right for being the only smartass to download the GPX files, not that I mind because being leader means I get to go up front and out of the dust. It also means I have to read the map correctly and keep to the route, which I managed pretty well with only a few small corrections along the way.

Day 1 after arriving at The Glen we set out in two convoys with Michael's group doing the western loop and my group doing the eastern loop, then on Day 2 we swapped. The tracks were mostly easy but very scenic and took us through all of Abercrombie's public campgrounds. Of these I think Silent Creek was the best and had the most space. One side track took us to Ledingham's Hut which was particularly interesting due to the wattle and daub construction, basically mud hand-packed into the frame and held in place by rough cut slats. Unlike most historic huts, this one doesn't appear to be maintained in any way and with the wall material unlined and exposed to the elements will likely deteriorate very quickly, so I felt fortunate at getting to see it while it's still there (dead pigs notwithstanding!).

Overall this was a very enjoyable trip; pleasant location, great tracks and perfect weather. I'll definitely be signing up for 2024.

*Bruce Renning*

Thanks Micheal for an amazing trip. The tracks were awesome and yours and Bruce's trip leading was refined and clear. No turn arounds until the last part of the Sunday trip back the The Glen! (Heard you on the radio as Peter and I were on the exit route).

*Ethan*

We had a great weekend away at the Abercrombie National Park. The trip was exceptionally well organised and planned, with the exception of Shae's mechanical issues, to which Bruce stepped in and did an amazing job. The Abercrombie National Park is a fantastic place for a 4WD club trip. It has a mixture of stunning scenery and a few challenging driving sections providing a bit of excitement. The group was a fantastic one to be a part of, with plenty of chats and stories along the tracks and around the campfire. We thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and feel extremely grateful to be a part of such a fantastic club. Well done

and thank you Michael for running the trip and a huge thanks to Bruce for stepping up and leading convoy B.

*Kerrin and Steve*



What a fantastic weekend away. It was a mini Victorian high county. Steep climbs and descents, river and creek crossings. Wonderful people and great weather. Thank you to Michael and Bruce for being the group leaders. A shame that Shea couldn't join the fun.

*Sarah*

The weather was nice and the company was great for the weekend. At the Glen, the creek was flowing nicely, the grass was green and there was a generous heap of firewood to feed our campfire. An excellent campground. There was interesting and varied scenery and historic sites to check out when we drove around the park. It looked like everyone enjoyed themselves. Looking forward to more trips like that.

*Andy Wall*



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Thank you for a great weekend to Abercrombie National Park. Enjoyed the challenging tracks especially the big steep climbs and where a tree had fallen down and there was a hole in the road. It was a nice spot camping near the river and looking at the old huts.

*Luke*

Abercrombie National Park has been on my list of 'places to check out' for several years, so when the club was planning a trip I was quick to nominate. Great weather, and well thought out schedule made for a really enjoyable weekend. An approximately three hour drive to the park on Saturday morning, followed with a circuit of the western part of the park in the afternoon which provided some interesting sites– an old gold miners hut, an opportunity to check out some of the public access camp sites and a reconnaissance for future fishing trips! 'The Glen' is proved to be a pleasant and peaceful camp site; big enough to accommodate the 20 or so cars, a good

communal fire, all in a flat area by the river (which even included a couple of platypuses). The next morning we did the Eastern loop – definitely a more challenging drive, with steeper, longer climbs and some slippery descents. Everyone was back at The Glen for lunch and then we were on the road by 2pm to be back in Canberra before dark. Thanks Michael for planning and pulling together the trip and to Bruce for stepping up as trip leader at short notice.

*Ken (and Annette)*

I enjoyed the trip. I like camping out around an open fire. Having a chat. Driving some of the great tracks that Abercrombie had to offer. Even though I sat out the second day because I was low on fuel. That time was spent sitting around the fire solving the problems of the world with Lee which was enjoyable and time well spent.

I'd like to share some lessons I learned about



fuel that may be of help to some other less experienced drivers like me.

I travelled from Queanbeyan and filled up at Eagle Hawk. I had asked prior to the trip if I should take extra fuel containers for the trip and was told I probably wouldn't need to. I took one extra 20 liter fuel container "just in case." The first lesson I learned was that I should have told Michael that my car was a petrol Hilux with an 80 Liter tank which I failed to do.

When we were approaching Goulburn my intuition told me that I would do well to fill up in Goulburn. I think we were a little behind on time due to Shea's mechanical problem with his vehicle. The convoy moved through Goulburn without the question being asked if anyone would like to fill up in Goulburn. My second lesson was that I should have listened to my intuition to fill up with fuel and not allowed myself to get carried along by events.

All in all I had a good trip.

*Jasper*



My first grade 3 trip after training close to a year ago so was a tad rusty. With so many vehicles we were split into 2 groups. I was in Group A so the first day had us tackling the western side of the park, while group B did the eastern side. We swapped over the following day. The western side was a breeze. Old huts, scenic campgrounds, good mix of trails but nothing too challenging and great river views and crossings. A good re-introduction to 4wd driving. So come Sunday and now full of confidence we started down the trails on the eastern side. The track soon turned pretty gnarly, enough to wish I had a rear locker, but the Triton's traction control just dug in when things started to get loose and climbed what seemed like increasingly ridiculous and endless inclines. I have no lift either so navigating some crazy rutted clay and mud patches meant belly sliding on the bash plates and rock sliders. Overall, a good mix of the exciting and challenging and more sedate tracks and places of interest and the scenery was exceptional. There had been enough rain to ensure Abercrombie Rivers NP was impressive. Fast flowing, clear mountain rivers and streams in this country are precious gems and worth protecting. Although the damage being caused by introduced feral pests was evident everywhere, especially feral pigs down by the water courses. It was encouraging to see Parks were active with pig traps and aerial shooting and baiting programs. I hope they get the funding, resources and continued public support they need to continue this important work. The Glen proved to be a comfortable but cool camp. Caught up with some familiar faces and had some great chats around the campfire. Special thanks to my camping neighbours Ken and Annette who helped me on more than one occasion, wrestling with my troublesome car awning, and setting the example on the trail as in front vehicle (one very nicely set up rig). As I have come to appreciate with this club, leadership was top notch, thanks Bruce for taking on the task and doing such a great job and thanks very much to Michael for leading group A on such adventures and being so informative. Your enthusiasm and attachment to this patch of country

*Trevor*



What a weekend - the truck has just turned one and has a few more new scratches!! What a great place only 2 hours from Canberra - plenty to see and a few good tracks. It started on the Federal Highway with Sheas truck not doing so well – he unfortunately had to crawl home. After a drive by BCF in Goulburn (no stopping though) – we were on our way.

We worked our way through some tracks into the Glen and got set up with swags, campers .... Off we went around the National Park with a few tracks requiring some thinking but mostly simple tracks. Gave me plenty of time to think of next purchase for the truck!

After a few laughs around the camp fire – everyone retired for well earned sleep under the stars. Our next day was very mild with lots of site seeing. We ducked back to camp for a pack up and off we went back to Canberra. All in all a great weekend to get the truck dirty. Thanks again to our trip leaders – Michael, Shea and Bruce.

cc

What a great time to visit Abercrombie NP. Our camping ground, the Glen, was in a secluded valley alongside the Abercrombie River, with an old shearing shed at the campground and the park's 4WD tracks nearby. And we had it to ourselves. At the moment the Glen is available only for organised trips by 4WD clubs (there's a key), but the rangers say it will be opening to the general public at some point. Thanks Michael for organising.

*David Evans-Smith*





"Having never been to the Abercrombie River National Park, I wasn't too sure what to expect- I'd heard it was lovely though, so we were excited to be heading out early Saturday morning. The camping spot Michael had arranged for us didn't disappoint and we were greeted by a large, open and flat campground next to the river. After stopping for lunch and dropping off the camper trailers/tents/swags, it was time to hit the trails. I wasn't sure where we were going, but I was assured we were in good hands, so we followed our trusty trip leader into the unknown. Along the way, we stopped off at some of the historical monuments found in the park - the mud hut, the old water wheel and the sink campground - which all showcased the natural beauty of the area and the ingenuity of the early settlers. Back to camp for a well-deserved dinner and chat and a beverage around the campfire. Day 2 saw us tackling the harder tracks and testing the capability parameters of our vehicles (some were tested more than others...). As another trip attendee had commented to me the night before - can't remember where we went but there were a lot of uphill, downhill, water crossings and mud. Perfectly put - we experienced lots of the same but it was great to have a chance to undertake some more technical driving. After the last river crossing, we headed back into camp for

some lunch and packed up before pointing the vehicles home. We thoroughly enjoyed this trip, getting out, driving, and camping with the group and would highly recommend visiting the area.

*Nicole*

A great weekend of touring and offroading. Some really interesting sites on the first days' driving, although a slightly crowded afternoon schedule after a couple of minor delays getting to the site. The second day provided somewhat more challenging driving, with a chance to consolidate some learnings I'd acquired from a previous trip. Most importantly for us, our first chance to try out our new(ish) Cub on its first real 4WD tracks: happy to report that it passed with flying colours, so we'll be a lot more confident taking it into such tracks again. Really enjoyed the campfire chats that make these trips such a thing to look forward to. Many thanks to Michael for his usual excellent organisation, leadership and navigation.

*Mark Goddard*



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What can I say, another perfect weekend run by the club. We started early Saturday morning, the group was large and split into two groups and despite one of the trip leaders unfortunately pulling out with mechanical concerns before the trip arrived at Abercrombie, this wasn't a huge issue – laugh it off, these things happen, find a new trip leader within the group and off we go again – what a credit to the quality of trip leaders and club members! The two groups covered opposite sides of the park, one covering the east of the park and the other the west and swapped sides of the park on Saturday and Sunday. The western side had enjoyable scenery, an old mud hut which was in remarkable condition and some great camping spots that I will definitely be returning to with the family in the warmer months. The eastern side of the park was a more enjoyable 4WD which required a little more concentration than the western side. The eastern side had a few hairy spots which included sliding down clay hills and a few river crossings that required you to pick the correct line but nothing too challenging for the group. A big thanks is therefore in order to the club. Without the clubs excellent training and preparation for trips like this, there may have been a little more chaos and stress over the weekend. Speaking of stress, I also want to say a shout out to the park rangers who have the challenge of dealing with feral pigs in the park. I was surprised to see the significant amount of damage done to the park from pigs. Every spot we stopped at had been damaged and many spots had pig traps set up by the rangers to help manage the pests, a big job and I cant imagine that is an easy task to address. Lets hope they can get these under control and return the park to its once pristine state. Despite the pig damage, the park overall is still lovely and the camp spot arranged by Michael was brilliant and exclusive. Like all his trips, Michael ran this trip flawlessly - well planned, well run, sufficient stops and great time management. Thanks again Michael for your tireless efforts in yet again leading another fantastic trip. Thanks also to everyone who attended and made the weekend so enjoyable.

*Pete*





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- The Trip Leader workshop, Trip Leader manual and the Trip Leader checklist, are available tools to **assist** members who want to become Trip Leaders.
- Members think that they must do the workshop to become TL's, this **is not correct**. Any member can propose and lead a trip (however, the trip is subject to Committee approval).
- The Manual may appear lengthy and complicated, but it's not – it's just a tool.

The workshop, manual, and checklist are tools to assist TL's better manage a trip. The workshop is run by experienced TL's and covers the following:

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We also have mentors available who can advise and assist new TL's in planning and running the trip. If any members are interested in running a trip please contact :

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Start	End	Activity	Type	Grade	Leader
13-Sep-23	13-Sep-23	Hema GPS Navigation Workshop	Training	Not Required	Michael Patrick
16-Sep-23	16-Sep-23	Monkey Gum Fire Trail	Trip	Grade 5	Andy Wall
17-Sep-23	17-Sep-23	Social Club Sunday Picnic at Tinbinbilla	Trip	Not Required	Ann Ronning
22-Sep-23	24-Sep-23	Safe One Basic Driver Training Course	Training	Not Required	Bronwyn Squire
29-Sep-23	2-Oct-23	Talooge Bush Gala	Trip	Grade 2	Matthew Maddigan
1-Oct-23	1-Oct-23	Graduates' day out in the Brindies	Trip	Grade 3	Shea Jost
20-Oct-23	22-Oct-23	Intermediate Winching and Recovery Course	Training	Grade 3	Bronwyn Squire
20-Oct-23	22-Oct-23	Talooge Muster	Trip	Not Required	Brad Wells
25-Oct-23	27-Oct-23	Safe One Basic Driver Training Course	Training	Not Required	Bronwyn Squire
27-Oct-23	29-Oct-23	Safe One Basic Driver Training Course	Training	Not Required	Bronwyn Squire
28-Oct-23	29-Oct-23	Bendethera Bender	Trip	Grade 3	Bruce Ronning
5-Nov-23	5-Nov-23	Graduates' day out in the Brindies	Trip	Grade 3	Shea Jost
11-Nov-23	12-Nov-23	Wadbilliga & Wandella Loop	Trip	Grade 3	Bruce Ronning
17-Nov-23	17-Nov-23	TGIF - Capital Brewing Co	Trip	Not Required	Ann Ronning
18-Nov-23	19-Nov-23	Wadbilliga Wandella Loop	Trip	Grade 3	Bruce Ronning
2-Dec-23	9-Dec-23	Vic High Country Ramble 2023	Trip	Grade 4	Michael Patrick
9-Dec-23	10-Dec-23	Christmas at Burrinjuck	Trip	Not Required	Ann Ronning
15-Apr-24	26-Apr-24	Tasmania Touring & Camp; Tracks	Trip	Grade 3	Ethan Taylor
2-Jul-24	24-Jul-24	Canning Stock Route	Trip	Grade 4	Lindsay Jones





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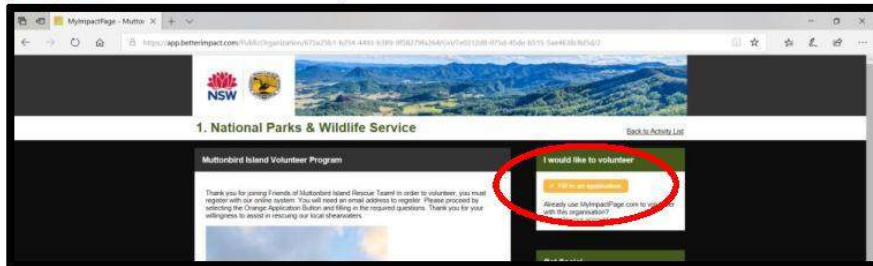
It's official !! Lynne is added to the Life Member Board.



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

 A screenshot of the 'Application Form - 1. National Parks & Wildlife Service'. The form has two main sections: 'I am new to MyImpactPage.com' and 'I already have a username'. The 'I am new to MyImpactPage.com' section is highlighted with a red rectangle. It contains fields for 'Username', 'Email Address', and 'Verify Email Address', along with a 'Save and Continue' button. The 'I already have a username' section contains fields for 'Username' and 'Password', along with a 'Login and Continue' button.

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

 A screenshot of the 'Contact Information' form. It contains various fields for personal information, including 'ACCOUNT' (Username, Password, Confirm Password), 'NAME FIELDS' (First Name, Last Name), 'ADDRESS' (Address line 1, Address line 2, Suburb - City, Country, State, Post Code, Email Address), 'PHONE NUMBERS' (Home, Work, Mobile, Phone Preference), and 'MISC FIELDS' (Date of Birth, Region). At the bottom, there is a 'reCAPTCHA' section and a yellow 'Save and Continue' button. A large red arrow points down towards the 'Save and Continue' button.

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

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