

DRIVELINE

MARCH 2021



Geelong



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AT A GLANCE

MARCH

5—8
MITCHELL RIVER TRIP

10
GENERAL MEETING & BBQ
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm
BBQ from 6:30pm

24
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

APRIL

1—5
BEACHPORT 2021

1—6
EASTER IN THE HIGH COUNTRY

14
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

23—25
LITTLE DESERT NATIONAL PARK

28
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

MAY

12
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

26
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS are held at the clubrooms on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm.

Abe Wood Reserve, Edgerton Rd, Lovely Banks

Visitors and new members welcome.

During daylight savings a BBQ precedes the meeting at 6.30 pm.

For more information email: info@geelong4wdclub.org.au

Postal Address: Geelong Four Wheel Drive Club
PO Box 976
Geelong Vic 3220

If you have any trips or events you want to include please send an email to the Trip Co-Ordinator two weeks before the next General Meeting.

If you have any trip reports (past or present) please send them through to the Editor for inclusion in the magazine.

For further info about upcoming Club Trips check the website: www.geelong4wdclub.org.au

The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Geelong Four Wheel Drive Club and/or the Editor and any article tendered for publication will be at the discretion of the Committee.



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KNOW THE
COMMITTEE



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THE PRES SAYS

G'day to all,

Pleasingly we are now in full swing for the new year.

We were lucky to hold our first general meeting and barbeque on 10th February, just prior to (the latest) lockdown. This was well attended and it was great to see people face to face.

Thanks also to Keith Murdoch for organising our first social event of the year, a pub night at the Valley Inn Hotel. This a great success with a big turnout and was enjoyed by all.

We have a lot of trips planned for the next few months. These involve a variety of locations and trip design, so there should be something for everyone, particularly those new to the club.

Dave Hamann has organised another driver training weekend for 8th & 9th May. These weekends are invaluable to less experience drivers, but there is always something to be learned even for experienced drivers (and some insurers discount you policy if you have done driver training). More information in the magazine and on Facebook.

The committee is also met face to face for the first time in a while. The main project at the moment is the review and update of the Club By Laws which we hope to complete soon.

Planning for our annual Moonambel event on the Queen's Birthday weekend has also begun. More information on this soon. This will be the Clubs 10th Moonambel Muster (in the 11th year, due to COVID), so put the date aside and let's make it one to remember.

Cheers
Geoff

Geoff

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting	General Meeting
Location	Clubrooms—Abe Wood Reserve
Date	10th February 2021
Chair	Geoff Davey
Minutes taken by	Allie Hamann

Agenda	
Meeting opened at	7.30 pm
Welcome to everyone present	
New Members	Brett & Shannon Stanley, Jamie Robertson
Visitors	Paul James
Present	Geoff Davey, David & Allie Hamann, Danny Sparks-Cousins, Keith Murdoch, Mark Mensch, Juanita Mountjoy, Kelvin Rogers, Josh Willey, Byron Willey, Dale Robertson, Geoff Connors, Rob Priddle, Peter Searle, Josh Willey, Harrison Parke, Tim Neville, Jamie Robertson, Richard Brown, Amy Oberli, Daniel Murdoch, Troy Oman, Werner Brocks
Apologies	Warren & Shez Tedford, Ross Barry, Cam Hamann, Beth Rogers, Brett & Shannon Stanley, Matt & Leah Taylor, Aaron & Kelli Dawber, Ron Bastin, Rick Neville, Martin Brayshaw, Renee Willey, Lachlan Hill
COVID Rules	Attendance Sheet / QR sign in / Hand sanitiser, etc

Acceptance of the previous General Meeting minutes 11 March 2020	
Moved	Mark Mensch
Seconded	Harrison Parke
Business arising from the previous General Meeting Minutes	Nil

Correspondence	
In	a) FWDV - Half Yearly Member Invoice. b) Email from Chris Milgate, Victorian Huts Association. c) Email from Lee Freeman: Hire Vehicles for a TV program d) FWDV – Notice of AGM 15th Feb 2021 e) Cleaning Invoice - Alana Murray f) COGG Lease Invoice g) Liquor Licence h) Track Watch i) QBE Insurance reminder
Out	a) Driveline Magazine

Treasurer's Report	
Presented By:	Juanita Mountjoy
Moved:	Byron Willey
Seconded:	Tim Neville

Regular Reports	
Association Rep	FWDV AGM on 15th Feb 2021 Geoff will be attending. If anyone wants to go with Geoff let him know.
Trip Coordinator	Trips that have gone out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ross Barry - Australia Day High Country (Trip report in February Magazine) Geoff reported. Keith Murdoch – Anglesea (Trip report in magazine to come) Cam Hamann (Dave) - Otway's overnight (Trip report in magazine to come)

(Continued on page 7)

Regular Reports (continued)	
Trip Coordinator (continued)	Upcoming trips: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labour Day Mitchell River NP – Geoff Davey (see magazine for further details) Easter Beachport – Mountjoy's (see magazine for further details) Easter in the high country – Byron Willey (see magazine for further details) Easter Little Desert National Park – Geoff Davey (see magazine for further details)
Regional Rep	No Report
Editor	Funny caption awards for the past year were given out. All sponsors back on board. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the mag in the past year. We can have more than one report for each trip.
Webmaster	No report
Social	Keith Murdoch: Valley Inn Hotel – 20th February @ 7pm. Limited to 20 people over 2 tables. Contact Keith Murdoch to put your name on the list. Event will be created on FB page. Keith is also looking into a tech night to talk about alternators.
Members Draw	Thank you to Goodall's Quality Meats for supplying a door prize of a meat tray. Werner Brocks was the lucky winner and Amy Oberli won the \$10 Bar Voucher.
Fines	
Piston Broke	Mark Mensch

New Business	
Meet the new committee	Geoff introduced the new committee
Plans for 2021—Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Regular trips Social Short presentations at General Meetings Rules of association Approved and Posted on Website Committee to develop By Laws. Suggestions from floor – 4X4 training course? Dave to contact Ballarat to find out dates. Chainsaw course? Dave will get in touch with Gary Filbay. If anyone is interest let the committee know.
Kelly's Hut project	Warren and Shez were involved in hut restoration, G4WDC donated money towards the rebuild. Chris Milgate from Hut Association has advised that they are doing some work in May June this year. If anyone is interested in attending and helping let Geoff Davey know.
Gary Tomlins	Former Queenscliff Coast Guard Flotilla Commander and Current squadron Training office has been awarded an Order of Australia (OAM). Congratulations Gary.
Other General Business	Nil
Meeting closed at	8.22 pm
Next General Meeting	10th March 2021 @ Clubrooms

AGENDA

Agenda Items for next meeting—Wednesday 10th March 2021	
	By Laws update
	Moonambel Muster June 12th - 14th (Queens Birthday Weekend).
	Club Clothing
	Practical Demonstration on Alternators

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UPCOMING TRIPS



MITCHELL RIVER NP TRIP

Date: Labour Day Weekend Friday 5th to Monday 8th March 2021

Trip Leader: Geoff Davey | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

Trip Classification: Medium | **Vehicle Limit:** 10

Departing: Little River BP @ 9:00am



Requirements: All terrain tyres or better. Basic recovery gear. Rated recovery points front and back.

Notes: Trip is a traveller trip. Please contact Geoff Davey on 0499 905 975 if you would like to attend.

BEACHPORT 2021

Date: Thursday 1st to Monday 5th April

Trip Leader: Matthew & Juanita Mountjoy | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

Trip Classification: Medium with the chance of harder tracks | **Vehicle Limit:** 6

Meeting Place: Southern Ocean Tourist Park, Beachport SA.



Requirements: Arrive on Thursday, first trip going out on Friday. Matthew and I will run a variety of day trips on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, all leaving from the caravan park where we will be base camped. The trips will predominately be medium, however the beaches can be unpredictable and a medium trip can quickly turn into a hard trip depending on the tides and how soft the sand is. We are hoping this year to tackle some of the beaches closer to Kingston, as well as some of the old favourites around Robe, South End and Carpenters Rocks.

If you are interested in attending this trip you will need to contact Juanita on 0467 809 040. You will be given a site number for the caravan park and you will need to contact them directly to organise a deposit.

EASTER IN THE HIGH COUNTRY

Date: Thursday 1st to Tuesday 6th April

Trip Leader: Byron Willey | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

Trip Classification: Medium | **Vehicle Limit:** 10

Meeting Place: TBC



Requirements: Base camping at King Hut, so camper trailers, tents, swags etc... are welcome. We are going from Thursday till Tuesday, but people can just do the main days if they like.

Please contact Byron Willey on 0417 123 193 if you would like to attend.

LITTLE DESERT NATIONAL PARK—TAKE 3

Date: Friday 23rd to Sunday 26th April

Trip Leader: Geoff Davey | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

Trip Classification: Easy / Medium Sand Driving | **Vehicle Limit:** 10

Departing: Batesford Roadhouse @ 9:00am



Requirements: Basic recovery gear, Rated recovery points and shovel. Bring sand flags and recovery boards if you have them.

Notes: The first two attempts were cancelled due to COVID and fires. This will be an easy social weekend away, base camping at Horseshoe Bend Campground which is accessible to caravans and camper trailers if you want to take them. There are flushing toilets. The camp is easy to find and has mobile reception if anyone wants to travel Friday evening.

Need to book campsites with Parks Victoria. Fees are \$15.30 per day with up to 6 people per site.

<https://www.parkstay.vic.gov.au/book-your-stay/little-desert-national-park>

Please contact Geoff Davey on 0499 905 975 if you would like to attend.

DRIVER TRAINING

Date: Saturday 8th to Sunday 9th May

Notes: In association with the Ballarat 4wd Club there is an opportunity for to undertake the 2 day Driver Training package on the weekend of May 8th – 9th.

Day 1 Saturday, is at their Ballarat Clubrooms starting 9am sharp then in the afternoon you convoy to their Smythesdale training centre where you are welcome to camp the night.



Day 2 Sunday, training begins at the Smythesdale training centre. Anything from caravans to swags welcome, toilets and showers are on site as well as a large rotunda with fire place.

Cost for the 2 day training and overnight camping is all inclusive and if we can get 10 members to attend it will be \$170. If we are unable to get 10 members to attend the price could go up to \$220. You can share a 4wd for the training so your partner can do the training with you.

If you would like to book your place or require any more information please contact Dave Hamann on 0407 354 818.

MT SKENE SNOW TRIP

Date: Friday 30th July to Sunday 1st August

Trip Leader: Dave & Cam Hamann | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

Trip Classification: Medium | **Vehicle Limit:** 10

Departing: TBA



Requirements: Basic recovery gear, rated recovery points, long handled shovel and sand tracks if you have them .

Notes: Snow trip based out of Jamieson Caravan park. Trip is limited to 10 vehicles as that's what a Mt Skene permit will allow, trip will be family friendly so snow play will be on the list. 7 Cabins have been allocated to the Geelong 4wd club and bookings should be made prior to adding yourself to the event. Please call +61 3 5777 0567 to reserve your cabin .

Please contact Dave Hamann on 0407 354 818 if you would like to attend.

Make sure you keep an eye on the website and our Facebook page for more information on upcoming trips and social events.

CAM'S OTWAYS & CAMPING TRIP



6th — 7th FEBRUARY 2021 WORDS & PHOTOS: KEITH MURDOCH

We met at Bunnings Wauru Ponds at 10 o'clock as planned, with our small convoy consisting of 4 vehicles. Heading off towards Barwon Downs, we entered the bush via McLaughlins Road heading for Cowley Track.

We then made our way to Goat Track, back on to Hayden Road to do Curtis Track. What a RIPPER, we had no trouble doing Curtis, but it was dry on the steep hill climb out. I can tell you if it was wet, we would have had the winches out quite a bit (well some of us).

After Curtis Track, we made our way to Jamieson Track, but the gate was locked. BUGGER! So, we then had to hit the black stuff back to Lorne for lunch.

After lunch we headed towards Paddy's Swamp and the new Hammonds Road North Campground to set up camp for the night. We unloaded some stuff then Cam, Mitch, Dave and Keith (as passenger) headed to do Hammonds Track while Troy stayed at camp.

WOW! That was fun and very comfortable in a car that is set up right.

When we got back to camp Dave, Cam & Mitch went and got some firewood for the night. We got the fire going just in time for Daniel & Belinda to rock up for the camping bit.

We had a feed, a few drinks and a good old yarn. On Sunday it was up, pack up and head for home.

Thanks, Cam, for yet another great trip with really good company.

Cheers,

Keith



Social Night at The Valley

Saturday 20th February 2021

So we (The Committee) thought it was time to get social again. What better way to get things rolling again than with an evening out for dinner.

The Valley Hotel was happy to accommodate our group—but their current maximum booking is 20 people. Well that only took a day to fill! On the phone again and a bit of quick talking managed another separate table of 10, and two days later the evening was full.

It was good to see some old friends and really good to make some new friends. We all had a few drinks, a nice feed and a good chat. Thankyou to everyone for coming, with such a great turn out we will have to do it again later in the year.

Cheers,
Keith.



Club Meeting & BBQ

Wednesday 10th February 2021

After such a long time since our last 'in person' general meeting, it was great to finally be able to head back to the clubrooms.

We had a decent turnout for our first meeting back, with everyone able to enjoy the BBQ and a catchup before the usual formalities. Thanks to Keith & Mark for BBQ duties.

Our lucky door prize for the month was a meat tray supplied by Goodall's Quality Meats—with our founding member Werner Brocks the lucky winner.

We will be having another BBQ before this month's meeting, plus a technical demonstration about alternators & maintenance, so come along—enjoy a snag, chat with mates and enjoy the night.

We hope to see you there.

Danny



ANGLESEA DAY TRIP

SATURDAY 30TH JANUARY 2021 - WORDS & PHOTOS: KEITH MURDOCH



When I woke up this morning the sun was out, you wouldn't have thought that we had 40mm of rain yesterday. There were 6 cars doing the trip and we met at Moriac not quite knowing what to expect. So off we went and aired down in Tanners Road.

We made our way towards the old coalmine. By the time we got there I had had a few complaints about the dust! Well, who would of guessed? Then we headed to Denhams Track, I was expecting this one to be quite slippery (being a clay top in parts). Bigger me! It was almost as dry as a bone.

We had lunch after Denhams Track, then made our way to the lookout at Clarke Spur Track. We had some fun in a bog hole (well, most of us did) and then we made our way back to Gumflats Road to air up.

Thanks to everyone for coming. special thanks to Geoff Connors for being Tail End Charlie.





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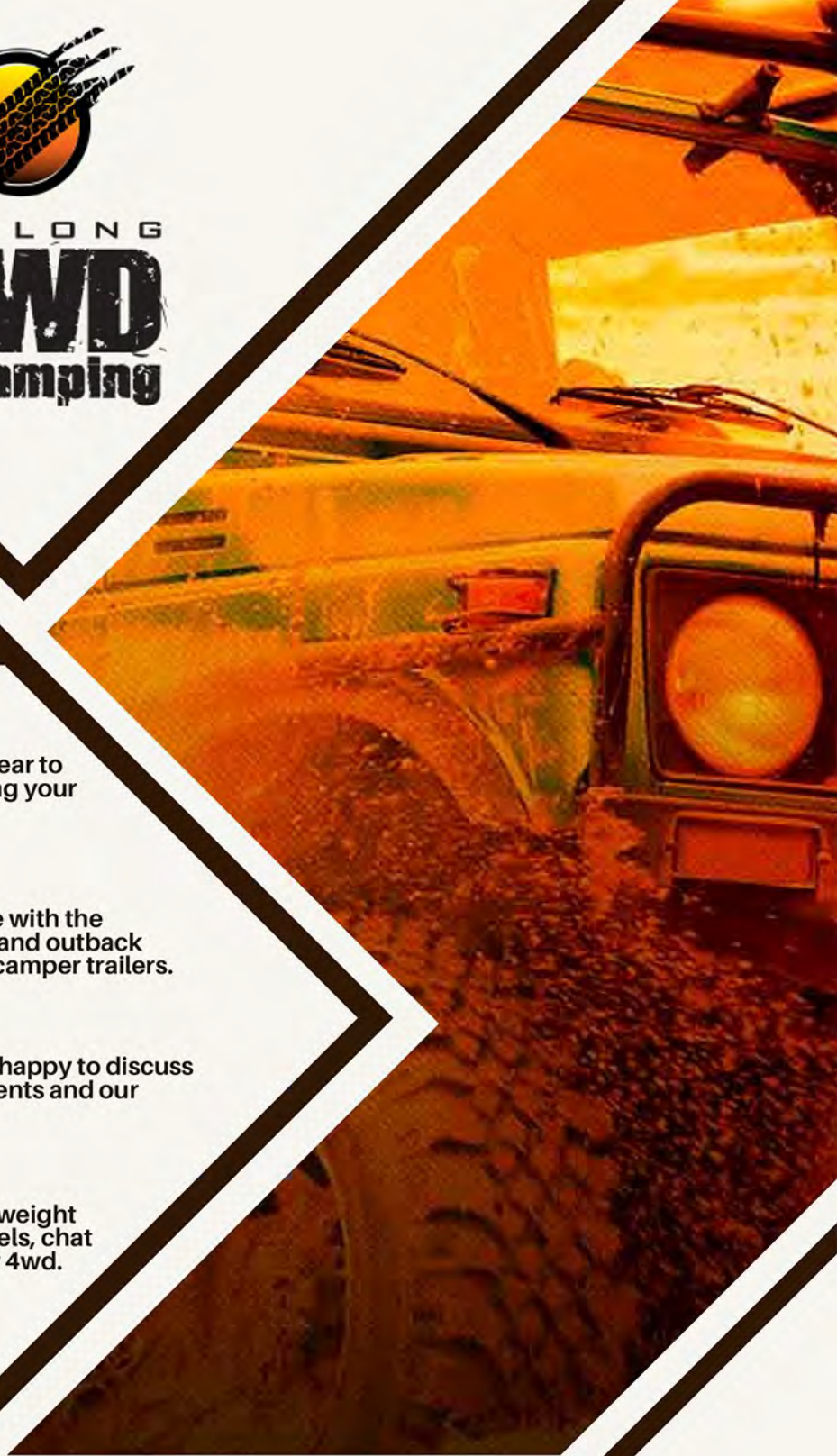
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FUNNY CAPTION CONTEST

WIN a club voucher for use at the bar simply by coming up with the funniest caption for the photo above.

Email your entry to editor@geelong4wdclub.org.au to be in the running.

Who wears a beanie in summer?!



Last Month's Winning Entry



February Funny Caption Winner — Ross Barry

KNOW THE COMMITTEE

DANNY SPARKS-COUSINS

EDITOR-WEBMASTER

My family and I joined the club back in 2007, when meetings were still held at Wood Street behind the VicRoads offices. Long before then I already had a passion for four wheel driving, travelling and the great outdoors.

Growing up on the Gold Coast meant places like Fraser Island and Stradbroke Island were my go-to get away destinations, with many weekends camped in the dunes right on the ocean.

My first 4x4 was a Toyota Surf, which served us well for many years and plenty of adventures. After moving to Geelong and starting our family, we decided we wanted something bigger and better to allow us to do more trips more comfortably. We continued with (or persisted with—depending on who you ask) the Toyota brand and settled on an 80 Series Landcruiser. It was stock as a rock when we first bought it— a far cry from what it is today.

I've owned a few other project four wheel drives over the years, and currently still have a very stock SWB Suzuki Sierra, plus building a very far from stock LWB Sierra.

Throughout my four wheel driving adventures, I was lucky enough to become part of the 4wd TV team —attending and filming many different motorsport and club events in the early days before jumping onto the other side of the camera and now co-hosting our 4wd touring show, YOUR4X4. I'm also lucky enough to be the one who plans and leads almost all of our filming trips, which has allowed us to adventure in every state in Australia, plus enjoy being hosted on many four wheel drive trips overseas.

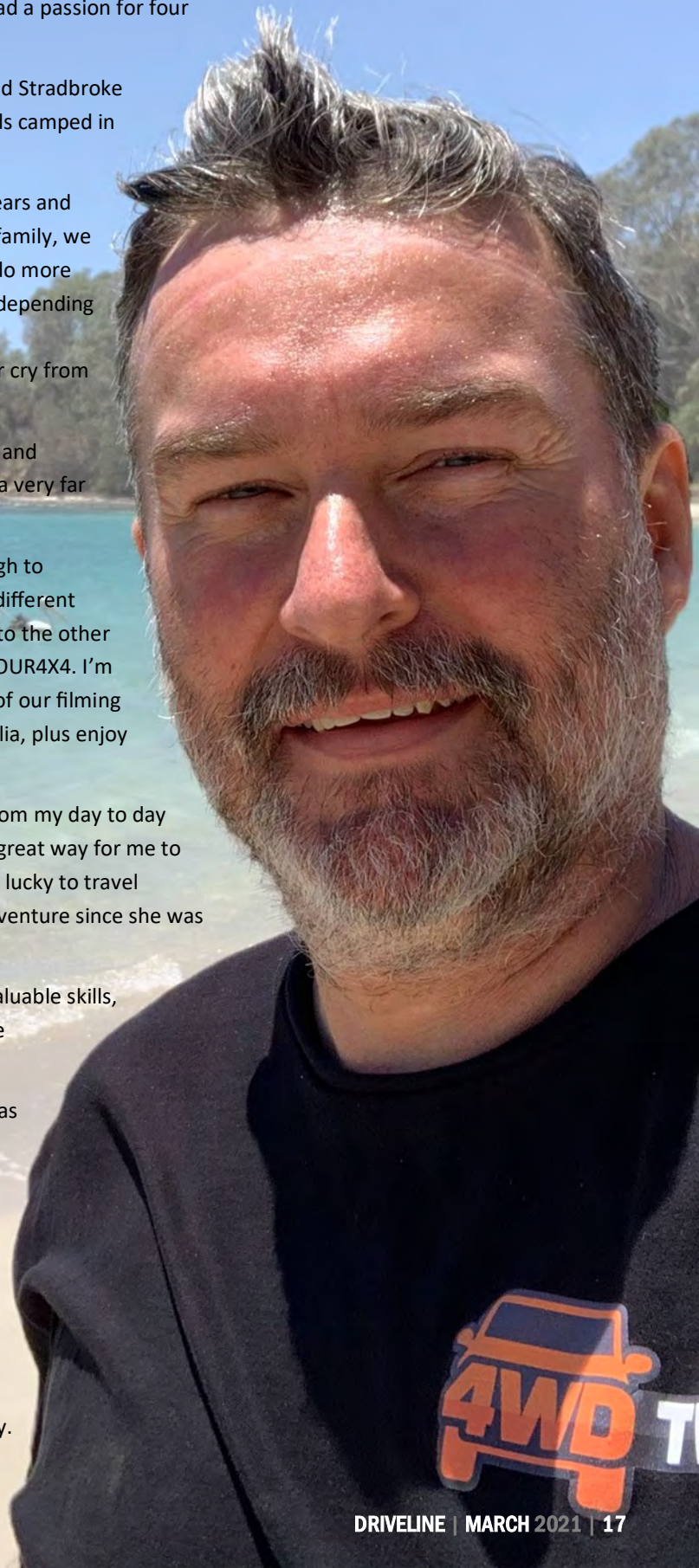
Four wheel driving and getting away outdoors is a great break from my day to day job—sitting in front of a computer writing computer code. It's a great way for me to get away and spend time with family and friends. We have been lucky to travel together as a family, with Shai coming along on almost every adventure since she was 6 months old.

The club has been a valuable place to meet new friends, learn valuable skills, and to enjoy many and various trips away. Some of our favourite weekends include our earliest years to the Otway Antics.

I have been part of the committee for many years now—almost as long as I've been a member. Mostly as webmaster, but now also looking after the Editor position, and the VicRoads Club Permit Scheme officer. It's been great to see the progression of new members coming through the committee over the years—something I highly recommend to anyone wanting to help keep the club relevant and growing into the future.

I'm looking forward to a great future with the club—getting out on more club trips and relaxing around the fire with mates. It won't be long and we'll be celebrating the club's 50th anniversary. Bring it on!

Danny



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