

DRIVELINE

MAY 2021



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EQUIPPED

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AT A GLANCE

MAY

2
BLACKWOOD DAY TRIP

8—9
DRIVER TRAINING WEEKEND

12
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

16
ENFIELD DAY TRIP

26
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

JUNE

9
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

11—14
MOONAMBEL MUSTER

23
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

JULY

14
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

28
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

30 JULY — 1 AUGUST
MT SKENE SNOW TRIP

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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2020-21 COMMITTEE

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THE PRES SAYS

G'day all,

It is great to see lots of trips going out with a number of different trip leaders. We also have a number of new members who are actively participating in our Club events.

Our Moonambel Muster is fast approaching on the Queens Birthday weekend from Friday 11th to Monday 14th June. This will be the 10th anniversary (in the 11th year due to COVID), so let's make it a good one. A reminder to get your campsites booked through Juanita Mountjoy. Juanita is also taking orders for baked spuds on Saturday night. Moonambel Clothing is also available through Hip Pocket. More information in the magazine.

We are still in need of a Club Secretary. I am filling the position for now, but this is not sustainable. Please contact me if you can help or require information on what is involved.

See you on the tracks,

Cheers
Geoff

Geoff

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting	General Meeting
Location	Clubrooms—Abe Wood Reserve
Date	Wednesday 14 April 2021
Chair	Geoff Davey
Minutes taken by	Geoff Davey

Agenda	
Meeting opened at	7.38 pm
Welcome to everyone present	Welcome to all and to Bruce Whitten all the way from Sydney.
New Members	Geoff and Sharon Van Ingen, John Goodall and Karen Griffen
Visitors	Nil
Present	Ross Barry, Geoff Baker, Werner Brocks, Geoff Connors, Jake Cook, Geoff Davey, Jimmy Halikias, Danielle Miller, Mark Mensch, Juanita Mountjoy, Daniel Murdoch, Tim Neville, Paul Oberli, Heather Oberli, Kelvin Rogers, Peter Searle, Geoff Van Ingen, Sharon Van Ingen, Bruce Whitten, John Goodall, Karen Griffen.
Apologies	Don Bird, Danny Sparks-Cousins, Keith Murdoch, Dave Hamann, Allie Hamann, Cam Hamann, Ken Mellross, Byron Willey, Dale Robertson, Rick Neville, Mathew Mountjoy, Jamie Robertson, Rylan Bird, Beth Rogers, Lachie Hill.

Acceptance of the previous General Meeting minutes	
Moved	Juanita Mountjoy
Seconded	Kelvin Rogers
Business arising from the previous General Meeting Minutes	Nil

Correspondence	
In	a) 4WDV re Regional Rep b) Bendigo FWD Club re Moonambel Memorial Weekend. c) FWDV eNews April Edition d) FWDV re Camp Host opportunities. e) Cleaning invoice f) Trackwatch
Out	a) Driveline Magazine

Treasurer's Report	
Presented By:	Juanita Mountjoy
Moved:	Tim Neville
Seconded:	Jimmy Halikias

Regular Reports	
Association Rep	Nil
Trip Coordinator	Trips that have gone out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beachport. Mathew and Juanita Mountjoy. High Country King Hut. Tim Neville. Upcoming trips: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moonambel Memorial 16th- 18th April Little Desert 23rd- 25th April Driver Training 8th – 9th May Moonambel 11th – 14th June Mt Skene Snow Trip 30th July – 1st August. Simpson / Hay River Track. September school holidays. More information soon.

(Continued on page 7)

Regular Reports (continued)	
Regional Rep	To be appointed
Editor	Nil
Webmaster	Nil
Social	10 pin bowling to be arranged over winter. Lawn Bowls in the spring. Further information later.
Members Draw	Geoff Baker
Fines	
Piston Broke	Lachie Hill

New Business	
Resignation of Dave and Allie Hamann from Committee	<p>Dave and Allie have resigned from the Committee but remain as members of the Club. Geoff thanked both of them for the outstanding service to the Club over the last 17 years. They are both exceptional Club members and have served on the committee for many years in a number of positions. Dave is a previous President and resigns as Trip Co-ordinator and Allie leaves the position of Secretary.</p> <p>Ross Barry has been appointed as trip leader.</p> <p>Secretary position is vacant. Anyone who is interested in helping with this position, please contact Geoff Davey.</p>
Moonambel Muster 10th Anniversary	<p>Queen's Birthday Weekend Friday 11th – Monday 14th June.</p> <p>Register with Juanita Mountjoy. 16 powered sites. First in basis.</p> <p>Moonambel Clothing (Black or Red) orders with Hip Pocket by Monday 24th May, pickup from Monday 7th June. There are hoodies \$55 and polo shirts \$35 available.</p> <p>Hip Pocket – 170 Torquay Rd Grovedale. Ph 03 5222 4744</p> <p>The raffle is looking good at this stage.</p>
Club Clothing	Is available from Hip Pocket. This should be available within 2 weeks of order for one off items. See the magazine for more details.
Driver Training Course	This is now full. It is great to see such a good response.
Chainsaw Course	On hold for now
Membership Renewals	Have been sent out.
Dale Vaughan	<p>Dale is a past member. He has had a serious hand injury and is out of work.</p> <p>There is a "GoFundMe" page for any members who would like to contribute.</p>
Thanks to Leigh Smith	Provided a practical and informative demonstration on alternators at the last meeting.
Other Business	Nil

Meeting closed at	8.26 pm
Next General Meeting	12th May 2021 @ Clubrooms

AGENDA

Agenda Items for next meeting—Wednesday 12th May 2021	
	QR scanning now compulsory
	Secretary position
	Regional Rep position
	<p>Moonambel Muster</p> <p>a) Registration</p> <p>b) Spuds orders</p> <p>c) Clothing – Hip Pocket</p>
	Membership fee reminder
	COGG Telstra amplifier grant approved
	New Members – Oakli Bird
	Other General Business

Moonambel Muster



10th ANNIVERSARY 2021

**COME ALONG FOR OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR
FRIDAY 11TH TO MONDAY 14 JUNE - QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND
MOONAMBEL RECREATION RESERVE**

MONSTER RAFFLE

TRIPS EACH DAY

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CAMP SITE (UNPOWERED) \$15/NIGHT

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BAKED SPUD VAN

GROUP CAMPFIRE

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HOODIE

\$55

**MORE INFORMATION ON BOOKING A SITE & ORDERING CLOTHING IN THE
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UPCOMING TRIPS



BLACKWOOD DAY TRIP

Date: Sunday 2nd May

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

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

Departing: 9:00 — Corio Bay Roadhouse

Requirements: Basic recovery gear, rated recovery points, lunch.

Notes: We will drive to Blackwood where we will explore the area and see what tracks we can find. This will be a reasonably easy drive (unless we come across some good tracks!). We are expecting to be back in Geelong in time for dinner.



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 swag's 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 Ross Barry on 0409 253 909.



ENFIELD DAY TRIP

Date: Sunday 16th May

Trip Leader: Keith Murdoch | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

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

Departing: 9:15—opposite Teesdale Primary School

Requirements: Basic recovery gear, rated recovery points, UHF, all terrain tyres.

Notes: This will be a medium rated trip, leaving from the car park opposite Teesdale Primary School. Meet at 9:15 for a 9:30 start. Aim is to be home by about 5pm. Anyone interested can contact Keith on 0407 310 931 for more info.



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

UPCOMING TRIPS



MOONAMBEL MUSTER 2021

Date: Friday 11th to Monday 14th June

Notes: Come and join us at the club's biggest event of the year - celebrating our 10th anniversary of the Moonambel Muster.

Held at the Moonambel Recreation Reserve, camping is available onsite - \$15/night unpowered, \$30/night powered. Powered sites are limited and are available on a first in basis. Camping can be booked through Juanita Mountjoy on 0467 809 040.

We will again be running our Monster Raffle this year, so you might come home with some great prizes. The Baked Spud Van will be onsite, with glorious baked potatoes at the discounted price of \$10 (including burnable containers).

Clothing is available - Moonambel hoodies and polo shirts in either black or dark red, including 10th anniversary logo graphics. Polos \$35. Hoodies \$55. Order and payment is direct through Hip Pocket Workwear - 2/170 Torquay Rd, Grovedale. Phone (03) 5222 4744. Orders must be placed by Monday 24th May and will be available for pickup from Monday 7th June.

Please come along and support your club in what is always a fun social weekend with a variety of 4WD trip & track options to suit everyone.



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.

UPCOMING TRIPS



DARLING RIVER—PRE SIMPSON TRIP

Date: Sunday 5th to Thursday 16th September

Trip Leader: Geoff Davey | **Tail End Charlie:** Mark Mensch

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

Departing: TBA

Requirements: Basic recovery gear, rated recovery points, UHF.

Notes: This will be an easy tour of Darling River between Wentworth and Bourke, and will meet up with the Mountjoy's Simpson Desert Trip at Broken Hill. Some of the roads can be badly corrugated, but with this proviso the trip is suitable for camper trailers or off road caravans. However the Simpson trip is no trailers so anyone wanting to join that trip should be vehicle based. We will be camping along the banks of the Darling River. The camps may include free camps, stations or caravan parks. It is anticipated that one of the stays will be at Dunlop Station near Louth.

Note: If anyone wants to continue on the Simpson Desert trip, you will need to register directly with Juanita Mountjoy.

Contact: Geoff Davey 0419 905 975 if you would like to attend.



SIMPSON DESERT—MACDONNELL RANGES TRIP

Date: Thursday 16th to Wednesday 29th September

Trip Leader: Matthew & Juanita Mountjoy **Tail End Charlie:** Kelvin & Beth Rogers

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

Departing: Broken Hill

Requirements: Basic recovery gear, rated recovery points, UHF.

Notes: This trip will be run in two parts, with the option for members to leave or join us at the conclusion of part 1.

Part 1 will be the 4WDing part of the trip. We will meet at Broken Hill on Thursday 16th September, heading out from Broken Hill Friday morning. We will travel to Cameron Corner, Innamincka, then on to Birdsville. From Birdsville we will travel along the Hay River Track, coming out of the desert at Jervois Station. From there we will head to Alice Springs, expecting to arrive in Alice on Friday 24th September. We are planning on having a rest day at Alice Springs before embarking on the second half of the trip.

Part 2 of the trip will be more touring as we head into the MacDonnell Ranges. We plan on doing lots of the walks in this area, as well as swimming in the gorges. We'll be visiting Kings Canyon, where those who choose to, can complete the 4 hour rim walk. Our final destination will be Uluru and Kata Tjuta National Park where we will conclude the second part of this trip. From there, everyone is free to make their own way back to Geelong, taking whatever time they need.

Please note, we will be travelling with children and this trip will be classified as a family trip.

Anyone interested in attending can contact Juanita on 0467 809 040



EASTER AT BEACHPORT

1ST TO 4TH APRIL 2021 - WORDS & PHOTOS: JUANITA MOUNTJOY



The trip started in Beachport and members made their own way down on Thursday.

Our first trip out was on Friday and we ran the beaches from Beachport to Robe. The first part of the trip was quite easy. The tides were down low and the sand was almost rock solid. We were able to stick solely to the beach, without having to go inland at all. This was the first time we have been able to do this in many years. The tide was so low that we were even able to drive around rock formations that would usually require us to go inland (or in water).

We reached Nora Creina without incident. We discovered that the track we would normally take just outside Nora Creina to get back on to the beaches had been gated, so we had to find a new way back on. Once back on the beaches we began travelling towards Robe. The traffic on this side of Nora Creina was quite busy, and the beaches were softer but still reasonably easy to drive. We made it to Robe in time for lunch with only one vehicle in our party getting stuck.

After lunch some members of our group chose to head back to camp via the black top, so we were down a few vehicles on the way home. Coming back home was like driving down Bourke Street in peak hour! There were vehicles everywhere! This made the return trip quite slow as we continuously stopped and waited for beaches or dunes to be cleared.

Matthew had to help a young guy and his mate get their seriously bogged car off the beach. By the time he was done, the que waiting to get onto that stretch of beach was easily 20 cars long. This led to some people (not members of our club) making risky decisions and at one stage Geoff nearly had his car side swiped by one such vehicle. On the way back, we ducked inland to the Buggy Club and had a play on the sand dunes before returning to camp for the night.

On Saturday we headed in the opposite direction towards Carpenters Rocks. We entered the beach at Beachport and drove to South End. For anyone who has every travelled along this stretch of beach they will know that it is notoriously soft and you have to drive up

high and on an angle to avoid the water. Not this time. The beach was solid, the tide was down low and we drove this like we would a highway.

We got off the beach at South End then entered Canunda National Park. It wasn't long before we were back on the beaches. These beaches were softer than the others we had driven so far but were still manageable. You cannot drive from the entrance of Canunda National Park to Carpenters Rocks solely along the beach. There are many points along the way when you have to get off the beach and head inland due to rock formations or the beach dropping away. It was the exits off the beach where we consistently got into trouble. Many of the exits were sharp and the sand was soft. Throughout the day every vehicle in our party (except our trusty trip leader) became bogged at one of the exits. We made good use of our shovels, Max Traxs, snatch straps and winches throughout the afternoon!

By mid afternoon we decided to call it a day, even though we hadn't made it to Carpenters Rocks, and headed inland.

We aired up just before Millicent, then headed home for dinner and drinks in the mess tent.

Our final trip was on the Sunday. The convoy (now down to 4 due to various reasons) headed out with the knowledge that this was a bit of an exploratory trip and that we would be travelling on beaches Matthew and I hadn't driven before. We headed towards Kingston on the bitumen. At Cape Jaffa we went down to the beach and drove the beach to Kingston. This was an easy drive with no issues. We got off the beach at one side of Kingston and got on again at another.

We drove for 35km, before heading in to have a play on the dunes in a sand bowl. Little did we know but we were on private property and it wasn't long before we were asked to leave by members of the dune buggy club. We continued down the beach but it wasn't long before Geoff got stuck in what was increasingly becoming soft sand. It took

a while to get him moving again, and the tides were rising so we veered off the beach and had lunch in the dunes.

The tides were quite high now and getting higher. After looking at the maps, it appeared that we could make it to our exit using inland tracks, so we took off. The track that we were on looked so promising, but eventually we came to a dead end. The track has been fenced off. We then turned around and headed back the way we had come, looking for an exit out the other side of the beach, but we had no luck there either. The only way for us to get home was to go back onto the beach! Unfortunately by now the tides were too high so we were forced to wait it out.

From the time we first got stuck to the time we got back on to the beach it was 4 hours. As the daylight began to slip away we had to make a decision; get back on the beach and attempt to drive back with the tide still reasonably high (although on its way out) or drive the

beach in the dark and hope we could find the exit. At 5.45pm we called it and hit the beach again before we lost light. Luckily everyone got back onto the beach without any trouble and we drove without anyone getting stuck. We turned off the exit just as the last of the daylight faded away.

Matthew and I would like to thank everyone who came on this trip with us. It was a great weekend spent with a great group of people. We look forward to doing it all again next year!

Participants

Matthew and Juanita Mountjoy (Trip Leaders)
Geoff Davey
Adam and Veronica Mountjoy
Stephen and Donna Fagan
Peter and Kimberly Wu
Geoff Hamilton
Paul and Heather Oberli

Juanita





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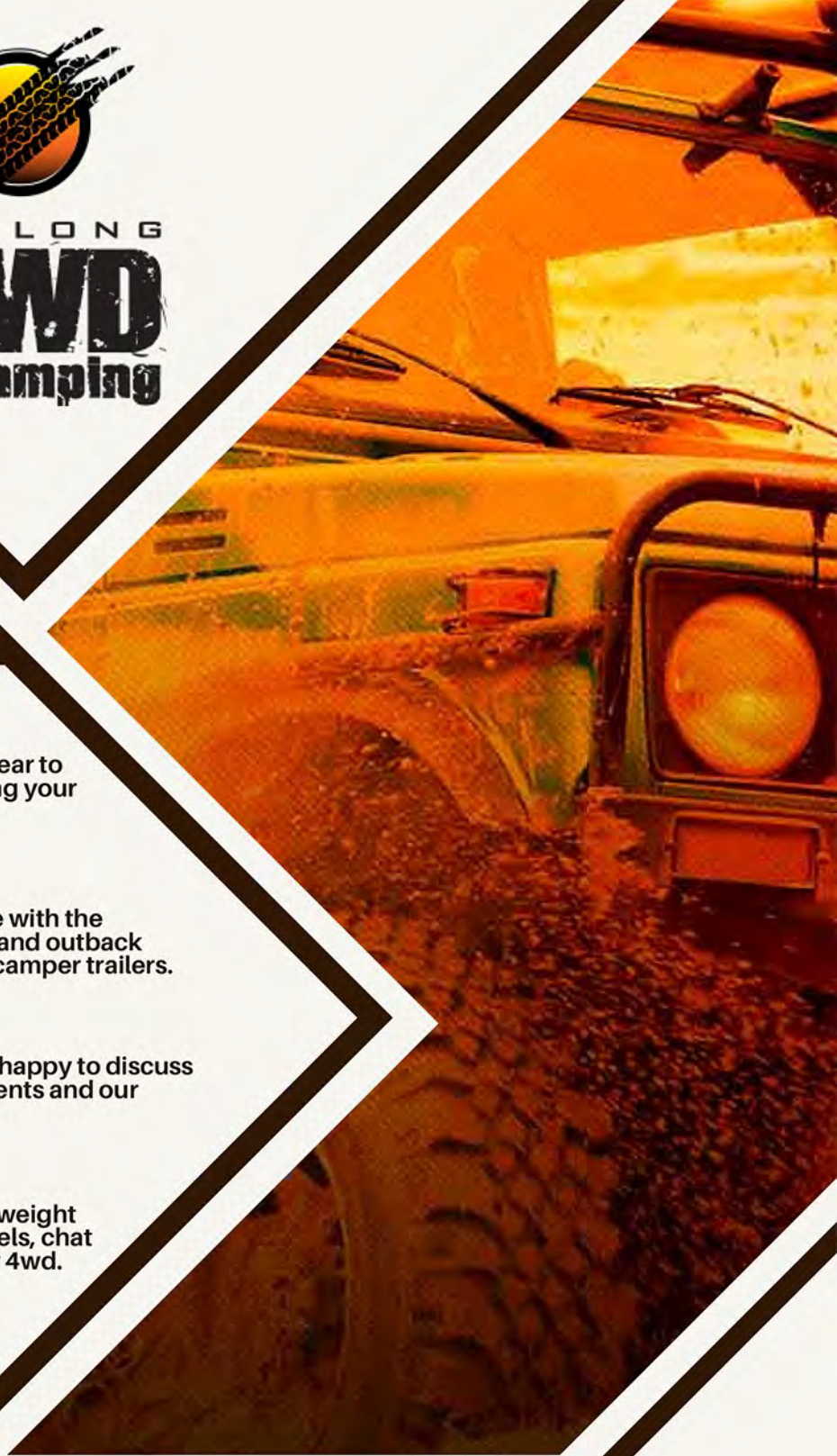
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MOONAMBEL MEMORIAL

celebrating Maurie & Kate Thomas

Moonambel Recreation Reserve - Friday 16th to Sunday 18th April

words & photos: Geoff Davey



The event was organized by the Bendigo Four Wheel Drive Club to honour and celebrate the lives of Maurie and Kate Thomas who passed away in November 2020.

Maurie and Kate were previous members of the Geelong 4WD Club and are fondly remembered by all who knew them. As became clear over the weekend Maurie was a skilled four wheel driver who would go out of his way to help people out on the tracks or with any mechanical problems, which he had a knack for solving. Kate was his sidekick and companion who was cheerful and empathic and always arrived at events with some home baked delicacies.

The event was well attended by members of the Bendigo 4WD Club, Sandhurst 4WD Club, Wimmera 4WD Club, the International Scout Owners Club and the Geelong 4WD Club, which in itself demonstrates the breadth of the lives touched by both Maurie and Kate. The Geelong Club were represented by Werner Brocks and Barb, Trevor and Julie Brocks, Chris Korb and Natalie

Brocks, Mick Riley and Geoff Davey. Unfortunately Mick's weekend was cut short when he developed symptoms of a respiratory illness. He therefore dutifully, if not reluctantly, returned home on Saturday morning in line with the current COVID guidelines.

Friday was the first day for people to arrive and settle in and register. The evening was a relaxed "get to know you" session around the traditional Moonambel campfire. Needless to say stories of Maurie and Kate were a frequent conversation point. There were also old photos of Maurie and Kate posted in the hall which served as reminders of further tales about the pair.

Saturday was a day to drive the tracks with three trips going out. These were led by Edgar Burtscher (President of the Bendigo Club), Russell Thorsen (President of the Sandhurst Club) and Geoff Davey (as it happens President of the Geelong Club). I don't think there was a grand plan to have the Presidents lead each trip but this was the way it turned out. For those less inclined to

drive, there was also a "winery tour" led by Helen and Geoff Turpie from the Bendigo Club.

I felt quite privileged to lead a trip to "Maurie's Track" and the Landsborough region. The label of Maurie's Track may have come from Dave Purdy who has always referred to the unnamed track as Maurie's Track!

The Geelong Club trip participants were Geoff Davey, Werner Brocks and Barb, Trevor and Julie Brocks and Chris Korb and Natalie Brocks. Other Clubs were represented by John Columbine who owns one of Maurie's old Range Rovers, Carl Turpie and David Holyoke with passenger Lorelle Orwin.

Maurie must have wanted us to savor "his track" as it hadn't been driven for some time and there was considerable track clearing to be done. Some of the trees were bigger than it looked like the trusty little Stihl could manage. Nevertheless after a couple of chain jams and a fuel refill the track was clear. The two plus hours we spent on the track, with a couple of double takes in the

steep sections, but no recoveries, enabled us all to appreciate the track and its namesake even more!

Lunch was at the Lansborough Sports Club Oval, a little later than anticipated. Then it was up Work Track (Chris wanted to fine me for taking him there on the weekend) to the Lansborough Ridge and the Lansborough Hill trig point. This provides some outstanding panoramic views of the district. From there it was down the Lansborough Hill, on to the bitumen and back to camp by the allocated time of 3.30. All vehicles returned intact.

After the trips had returned to camp there was an informal memorial for Maurie and Kate, led by John Bond. A number of people also spoke of their memories of the couple and this included some recollections from Werner Brocks. Afterwards the vehicles assembled in convoy for a short symbolic drive of "one last track". Many of you will know, Maurie was famous for his "one last track" which often resulted in a late return to camp. Later there were more stories around the campfire.

Sunday morning many returned to the campfire for some further thoughts and an informal review of the weekend. Overall it was a really well balanced, relaxed but respectful tribute to an admired, appreciated and widely loved couple.

Particular thanks go to Edgar Burtscher, Heather Fenwick and Helen Turpie for arranging the weekend.




QR Check-in at Clubrooms

In line with the Victorian Government's further relaxed COVID-Safe settings, all community facility tenants must use the free Victorian Government QR Service for record keeping.


All members & visitors must check-in via the Victorian Government QR Service by simply scanning the QR code posted at the entry to the clubrooms. It only takes a couple of seconds using the Service Victoria app.



If you have any problems or queries with QR check-in at the clubrooms, please have a chat with any member of the committee who will gladly show you through the process.


CHECK-IN NOW





Geelong 4WD Club - Abe Wood Reserve Hall
70 Edgerton Rd LOVELY BANKS
Geelong 4WD Club - Abe Wood Reserve Hall




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VEST \$70



HOODIE \$55



LITTLE DESERT—TAKE 3

23rd to 25th March 2021 | Words & Photos: Geoff Davey

Six vehicles set off from then Batesford Roadhouse on Friday morning. Unfortunately Tim Van Bakkum was a late withdrawal due to illness. After stopping at Horsham for fuel and lunch we made our way to Dimboola and then to the Horseshoe Bend Campground which is only about 7km from town.

After setting up camp there was an afternoon drive to the Wail State Forest where there are wood collection areas. This was essentially a circumnavigation of the State Forest, starting on Nursery Rd and then the Wail Polkemmet Rd to bring us in to the Wimmera River at the south end of the Wail State Forrest, on the other side of the river to our camp. Nearby we also found the causeway which crosses the river, which in retrospect would have been a quicker way to get to that point.

From the south end of the forest we drove along the east bank of the river where there are a number of nice campgrounds. As we moved further north the track became sandy and softer although there was nothing difficult. Further north we

reached our own camp site on the other side of the river. From there we cut across the park on a little used and narrow track to reach the wood collection area. Here we cut enough wood for our two night stay and after rehydrating headed back to camp. On arrival to camp Alison and Karen, who stayed behind for the afternoon had already started a fire which was duly stoked with the additional wood. From there team settled into dinner and a social evening around the campfire.

Saturday was the main day of driving. We headed out of camp and followed the river down its western bank on River Track. This took us close to the causeway we found the previous afternoon. From there it was essentially north west across the Little Desert National Park on Mallee Track and Dahlenburgs Mill Track. These are sandy tracks but were generally firm and easy to navigate. Lunch was at the Kiata Campground. This is a large, sprawling campground with plenty of shady trees. It was a good lunch stop and it was agreed by the group that it would be a suitable camp for future trips.

After lunch we headed east towards camp. The sand was a little softer in this part of the park and there were a couple of small hills to play on, but again nothing difficult. On the way we stopped to walk up to Pomponderoo Hill where there are some good views of the park. From there it was back to camp for the normal activities.

Sunday morning John and Karen were up early to stoke the fire in anticipation of the ANZAC day dawn service. Most managed to make it before the main 6am radio broadcast to pay respects to the ANZACS while warming up around the campfire.

After the service there was a leisurely breakfast and pack up. John had borrowed a camper trailer for the weekend and due to lack of familiarity, this proved quite a challenge to fold up into something resembling its starting package. Nevertheless after some input from the assembled "experts" it was suitably packed. We stopped for coffee in Dimboola and headed home from there.

Overall it was a good social weekend with some relatively easy sand driving which was still new to some of the participants. There was a bit of animal life to be seen which consisted of possums and kookaburras around the camp and plenty of kangaroos in the park. There were also emus and an echidna, at least for the lead car. An emu did pose for the entire convoy on the way out of camp, just to prove they did exist.

Thanks to all who participated and to Ross who helped out as tail end charlie.



Participants:

Geoff Davey and Adrian Deppeler
(Visitor)
Ross Barry (Tail end Charlie)
Dale Robertson
Geoff and Sharon Van Ingen
John Goodall and Karen Griffen
Peter and Alison Searle
Daryl Pagan (Visitor)



Geoff





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