

DRIVELINE

FEBRUARY 2022



Geelong



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Drive
Club

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ON THE HORIZON

FEBRUARY

2
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

9
GENERAL MEETING & BBQ
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm
BBQ from 6:30pm

23
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

MARCH

5
AVALON RACEWAY SPRINTCARS

9
GENERAL MEETING & BBQ
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm
BBQ from 6:30pm

11—14
BRIGHT LABOUR DAY WEEKEND

23
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

APRIL

13
GENERAL MEETING & BBQ
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm
BBQ from 6:30pm

15—18
EASTER @ BEACHPORT

22—25
WYPERFELD / BIG DESERT TRIP

27
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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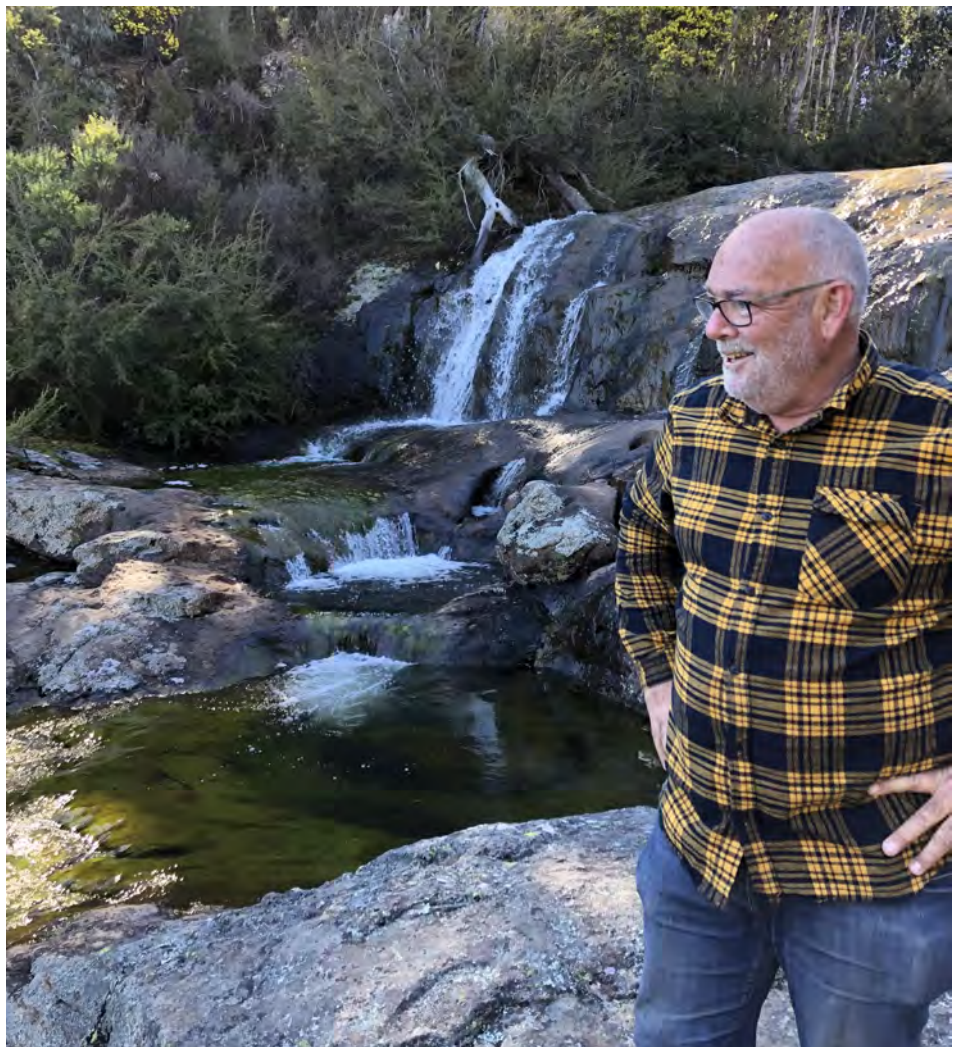
ORDINARY MEMBERS

Keith Murdoch

Kelvin Rogers

Geoff Van Ingen

Cover Photo: Geoff Davey



THE PRES SAYS

G'day to all and Happy New Year.

We have already kicked off the year with our first trip on the Australia Day extended weekend. This was attended by eight vehicles with a diverse range of tracks and terrain over the weekend. Several more trips are already planned for the near future and the Avalon Speedway social night on 5th March is not far away.

Although the COVID situation is a little unpredictable it looks like we should be able to run a full year of trips and social events this year for the first time in what feels like ages.

It would be nice to see all of our members actively participating in the club for the remainder of the year. If everyone contributed to the organisation of just one event throughout the year we would have a very active calendar with relatively little effort.

As always, anyone who has ideas for a trip or social event can contact me or any member of the committee.

Cheers
Geoff

Geoff

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CLUB UNIFORMS CAN BE OBTAINED BY ANY FINANCIAL MEMBER BY GOING TO HIP POCKET AT 2/170 TORQUAY RD, GROVEDALE 03 5243 1918.

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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting	General Meeting
Location	Clubrooms—Abe Wood Reserve
Date	Wednesday 8th December 2021
Chair	Geoff Davey
Minutes taken by	Geoff Davey

Agenda	
Meeting opened at	7.32 pm
Welcome to everyone present	
New members	John and Simone Prowse
Visitors	Justin Brocks, Jack Stafford, Tyson Evans
Present	Michael Barry, Trevor Brocks, Geoff Davey, John Goodall, Karen Griffen, Jimmy Halikias, Ken Melross, Mark Mensch, Keith Murdoch, Danny Sparks-Cousins, Byron Willey, John Prowse.
Apologies	Geoff Van Ingen, Sharon Van Ingen, Kelvin and Beth Rogers, Juanita and Mathew Mountjoy, Daniel Murdoch, Jake Cook. Rick Neville.

Acceptance of the previous General Meeting Minutes	
Moved	Keith Murdoch
Seconded	Mark Mensch
Business arising from the previous General Meeting Minutes	

Correspondence	
In	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Alana Murray cleaning invoice b) FWDV November Lifeblood Challenge update c) FWDV AGM reminder d) November E news e) FWDV Executive Board Positions Available f) Mid City Trophies Invoice g) Email from Juliet Smith -Film Crew – Request for recovery vehicles for a film shoot h) FWDV Updated Covid Safe Settings i) FWDV Gippsland Area Assistance Trip j) Adroit, Emma Kenny. Business Insurance Renewal
Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Driveline magazine b) Email to FWDV asking for clarification on COVID rules

Treasurer's Report	
Presented By:	Deferred
Moved:	
Seconded:	

(Continued on page 8)

Regular Reports	
Association Rep	FWDV AGM 15th November. Attended by Geoff Davey and Mark Mensch Property to be leased at an old quarry in Toolangi. Will become a training facility.
Regional Rep	
Trip Co-Ordinator	Trips Out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Xmas party • Club awards Upcoming Trips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglesea - Chocolate Factory then tour. December 11, 2021. Andrew Smith • Haunted Stream Track, Australia Day January 26th – 30th. Geoff • Base camp at Bright in March Labour Day long weekend. Mountjoy's • TBC Big Dessert/Wyperfeld ? Early April – 3-day trip. Andrew and Tyler Smith. • Easter Trip Beachport to Robe. Date to be announced later. Mountjoy's
Editor	Nothing to report
Webmaster	Nothing to report
Social	Avalon Raceway Sprintcars. Saturday 5th March.
Fines	Geoff Davey 2. Jimmy Halikias, Mark Mensch, Tim Neville
Pist 'n' Broke	Geoff Davey
Members Draw	Keith Murdoch

New Business	
Xmas Party	Xmas party was well attended and enjoyed by all. The kids appreciated the visit by Santa.
Club Awards	Congratulations to all recipients.
COVID	1. Update from FWDV 2. Ross Barry resignation from the Committee 3. Email from Stephen Fagan
Trip Co-Ordinator	Mark Mensch
Bereavement	Darryl Marsland
Other Business	Nil

Meeting closed at	7.58 pm
Next General Meeting	9th February 2022 @ Clubrooms. BBQ from 6.30pm, meeting from 7.30pm

AGENDA

Agenda Items for next meeting—Wednesday 9th February 2022	
	By-laws
	Moonambel Muster
	50 Year Anniversary

UPCOMING TRIPS

AVALON RACEWAY SPRINTCARS & V8 DIRT MODIFIEDS

Date: Saturday 5th March—Gates open from 3:30pm, racing from 6pm

Usual cost is \$30 per adult, however support from Avalon Raceway and the Geelong 4WD Club means it's only \$20 per adult (minimum 20 adults).

Bring a blanket or chair and some snacks. We will setup near turn 2 to see all the action. Avalon Raceway has a licensed service area for adult refreshments, and a few food options.

If you are interested please contact Keith on 0407 310 931.

** Avalon Raceway condition of entry all patrons must be fully vaccinated **

BRIGHT LABOUR DAY WEEKEND

Date: Friday 11th—Monday 14th March

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

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

Meeting: TBA

Notes: We will be running a tourist trip around the Beechworth / Bright area over the March long weekend. Keep an eye out on Facebook for more details.



BEACHPORT TO ROBE 2022

Date: Friday 15th - Monday 18th April 2022

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

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

Meeting: Southern Ocean Tourist Park, Beachport SA

Requirements: All terrain tyres, basic recovery gear, sand flag, long handled shovel, Max Trax, suspension lift.

Notes: We will be staying at the Southern Ocean Tourist Park and running day trips from there, beginning on Friday 15th.

Trips will include Robe, Carpenters Rocks and part of the Coorong. The difficulty of this trip depends entirely on the tides. Beaches are unpredictable, so participants should be aware that there is potential for this trip to move from a medium to a difficult rating quite quickly.

This trip has limited places. If interested, please contact Juanita directly on 0467 809 040.



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



UPCOMING TRIPS

WYPERFELD / BIG DESERT

Date: Friday 22nd—Monday 25th April

Trip Leader: Andrew & Tyler Smith | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

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

Meeting: 9am @ Batesford Roadhouse

Requirements: Basic recovery gear, front & rear recovery points, bring a shovel and Maxtrax if you already have them.

Notes: We will hopefully have access to some MVO tracks - if we can access these tracks we would base camp at O'Sullivan's Pine Plains Lodge in Wyperfeld National Park. Cost is \$20 per site per night - it has shared toilets and showers and a communal fire place area. If we can not access the MVO tracks the camping spot may change but we will still base camp. On one of the nights we are planning dinner as a group with specific details closer to the date.

If you require further details contact Andrew on 0418 503 043



MOONAMBEL MUSTER

Date: Friday 10th—Monday 13th June

Trip Leader: Various | **Tail End Charlie:** Various

Trip Classification: Varies | **Vehicle Limit:** N/A

Notes: Come and join us at the club's biggest event of the year! Support your club in what is always a fun social weekend with a variety of 4WD trip & track options to suit everyone.



SIMPSON DESERT TRIP

Date: Thursday 15th—Wednesday 28th September

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

Trip Classification: Medium | **Vehicle Limit:** TRIP FULL (WAITING LIST)

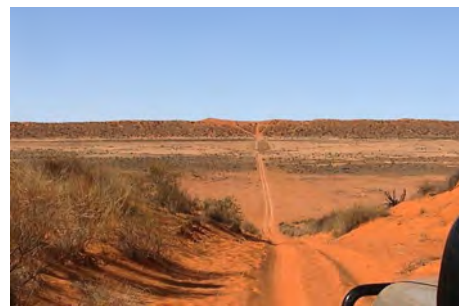
Note: Run in two parts, members can leave or join us at the conclusion of part 1.

Part 1 will be the 4WDing part of the trip. Meeting at Broken Hill before traveling 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. 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. with lots of the walks in this area, as well as swimming in the gorges. We'll be visiting Kings Canyon, with an optional 4 hour rim walk. Our final destination will be Uluru and Kata Tjuta National Park. From there, everyone is free to make their own way back to Geelong.

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.





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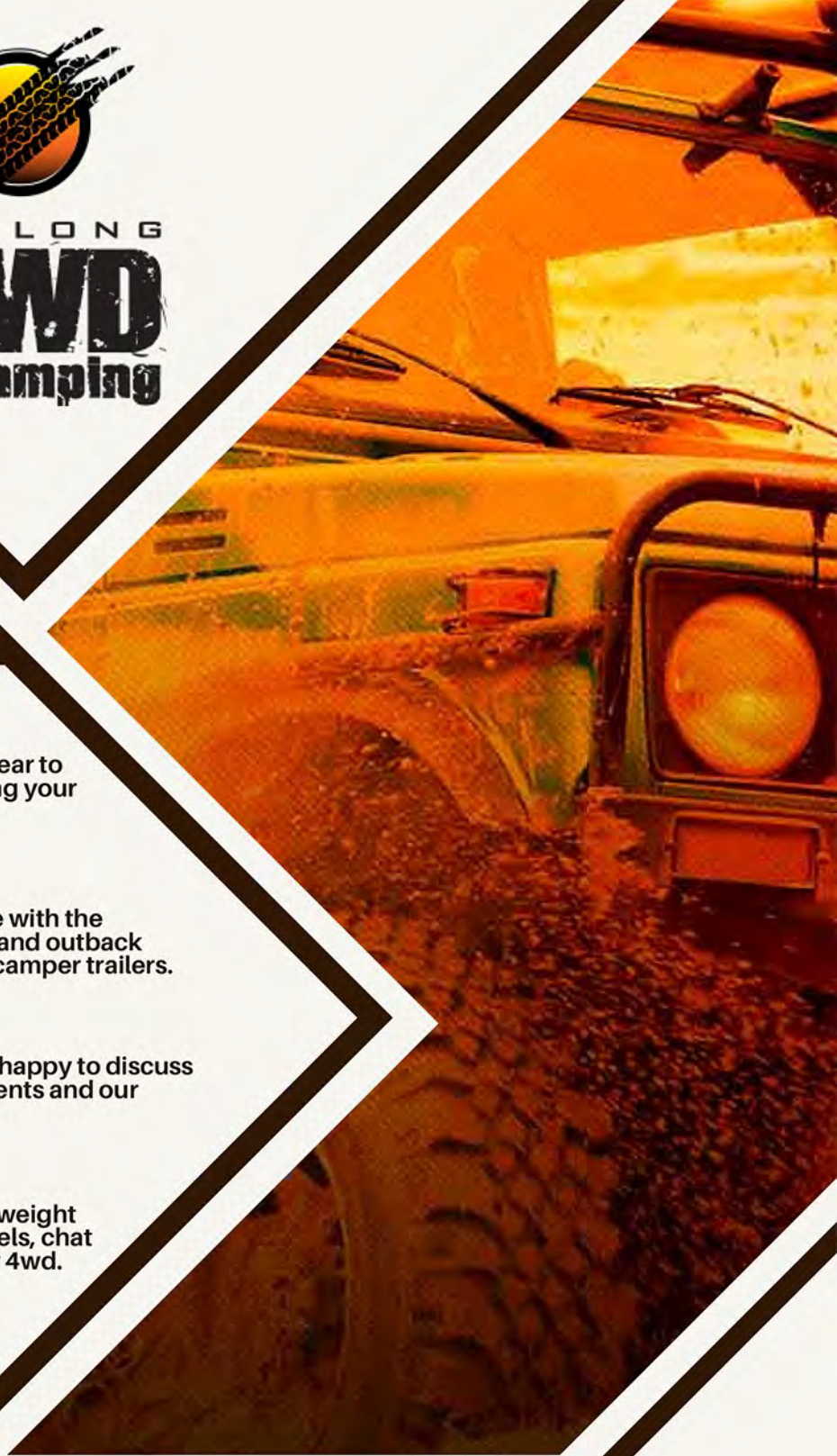
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AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND HIGH COUNTRY HAUNTED STREAM DISTRICT

WEDNESDAY 26TH TO SUNDAY 30TH JANUARY 2022

WORDS: GEOFF DAVEY-- PHOTOS: GEOFF DAVEY & TYLER SMITH

Six vehicles met at the BP Roadhouse on the Melbourne Road and headed towards Bairnsdale as planned. We were joined through Melbourne by Stephen and Aaron Fagan to complete the group of eight vehicles.

There had been quite a lot of recent rain in the High Country, with more forecast. Through a local contact we also knew that the Haunted Stream was carrying more water than was normal for this time of year and there had been some track closures on the proposed route. All of this meant that that some flexibility was going to be required, even before we arrived.

After lunch on the Macalister River at Maffra we headed to our first camp at Bark Sheds Camping Area, north of Bruthen. We had this camp to ourselves and the rangers had left cut wood for the fire which was a bonus. It was a warm afternoon so a swim in the Tambo River was enjoyed by all prior to an evening around the fire.

Thursday morning we set off on what was to be the showpiece the trip, namely the Haunted Stream Track with its 52 water crossings! Well it didn't let us down. The first crossing was near bonnet height and was followed by a steep rocky exit. This was safely

negotiated by all, and they kept on coming! In general the crossings were wheel high depth or less but some of the exits were steep and slippery. 4 or 5 of them required winching or snatching over the exit. The track of approximately 30km took us 7 hours to complete with about a dozen recoveries. In a review published in 4x4 Australia Magazine the track is stated to take about 2 & 1/2 hours to complete; clearly in drier conditions than we encountered.

The track finishes at the northern end at the old Dawson City Town site which once had which once had a population of 3000. From there we headed north on





Dawson City Track and onto Angora Range Road and then north again to the evening's camp at the Ensay Recreation Reserve. It was beginning to rain as we arrived so most set up swags and tents under the shelter of the main pavilion. There were also hot showers which were greatly enjoyed by all for the princely price of \$5 per head for the night. This is one to remember for the future.

Friday the intention was to travel to Bentley Plain Hut to the east of the Great Alpine Road but we were frustrated by some misleading tracks on Hema maps and some track closures. Initially we looked to cross the Tambo River onto Fainting Range Track but the river exit looked too slippery and the track on the other side was overgrown and had not been driven for some time. We therefore backtracked and took tracks through the Fainting Range State Forrest. These tracks had seen little traffic and there were frequent stops to clear small trees.

After being unable to find a connecting track marked on Hema maps which was on private farmland, we completed a loop and returned to Ensay for lunch on the riverbank. As rain was forecast for that evening, Richard and Amy decided to head back home instead of the following morning as they had planned.

After lunch we followed Watts Creek Road and Cooks Break Trail only to find the track had been closed without warning or signage. An attempt at





finding an alternative route led to another dead end requiring another backtrack. At this time black clouds were closing in and there was distant thunder. Fortunately the travel was straightforward after this and after collecting some wood we arrived at Bentley Plain Hut before the rain. Some set up swags in the hut and associated gazebo shelter. The rain came and everyone congregated under the shelter for the evening which was a real bonus, given the wet conditions.

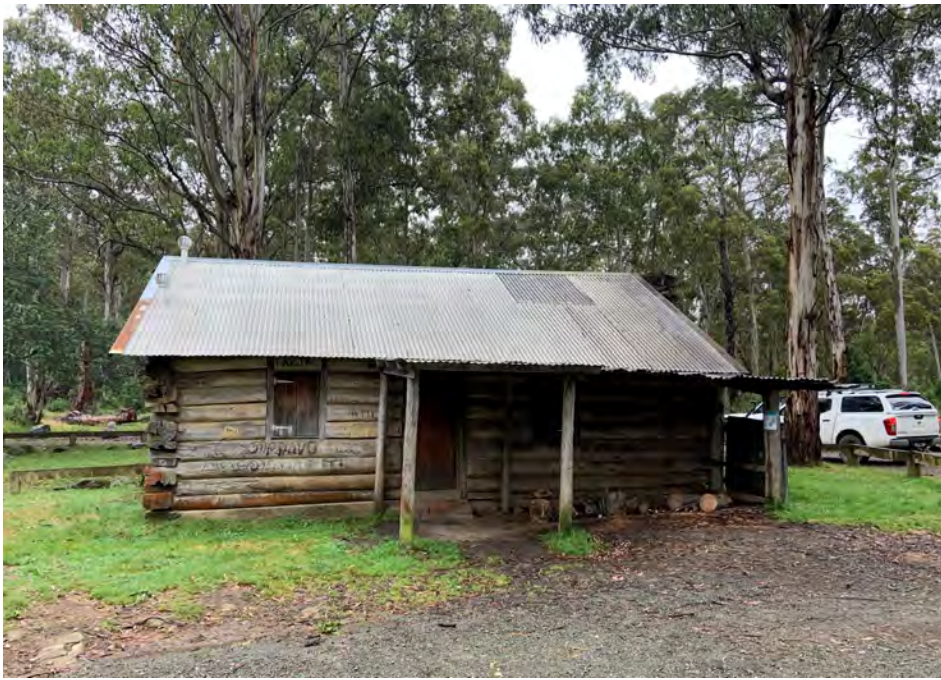


Saturday Sharon stayed in camp to do some reading and explore some of the local walks. 5 cars went out to explore the Nunniong Plains which turned out to be quite wet and boggy. Initially we attempted to reach Commins Hut from the south, but had to turn back because the track was too soft and boggy. We returned to the Nunniong Plains Track and eventually found the alternative track to the east of the hut. This too turned out to be impassable but we were able to walk in to the hut.



We then continued through the Nunniong State Forrest and on to Garron Point Track which was marked as "easy" on the Hema maps. In the conditions, it turned out to be far from easy! Firstly the descent into the south branch of the Tambo River was extremely slippery and created a few "moments", and then there was a long steep climb out of the valley. For the most part the grip was good with a rocky base but 3/4 of the way up there was a steep clay based section with deep ruts. Long story short, the trip leader "differed out" and spent 1 & 1/2 hrs winching (including converting from a single to double line pull) on the slippery section. Thanks to Andrew, Tyler Geoff and Paul for helping. Three of the remaining four made it up uneventfully. Paul got stuck at the same point as Geoff but the lines were already out so this was a quick recovery. Fortunately this was the last difficult section and we were able to continue without further drama.

We returned to camp via Jam Tin Flat Road and Timbarra Track to complete the loop back to Nunnett Road. On the way we deviated to Murphy's Hut where we walked the last part of the track due to the boggy road. From there it was



back to camp to rejoin Sharon for an evening around the fire. There was light but persistent rain overnight.

Sunday after a leisurely pack up we stopped in for a look at Moscow Villa Hut which is just up the road from Bentley Plain. A little further on is the historic Washington Winch which was used to haul logs in the mid 1900's. From there it was back down the Great Alpine Road to Bairnsdale and then home.

There were a diverse and interesting set of terrains covered over the 5 days. Thanks to all who participated and made for a fun trip in an area that none of us were familiar with. It was a real adventure!



Participants:

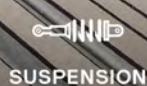
Geoff Davey (Trip Leader)
Stephen Fagan (Tail End)
Paul and Heather Oberli
Geoff and Sharon Van Ingen
Richard Brown and Amy Oberli
Aaron Fagan
Ross Barry
Andrew and Tyler Smith

Geoff



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