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JULY 2023



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



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TJM GEELONG



ON THE HORIZON

JULY

12
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

22 - 23
SNOW TRIP 1

26
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

AUGUST

9
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm
Pizza from 6:30pm

11 - 13
SNOW TRIP 2

23
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

SEPTEMBER

13
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

17 SEP - 12 OCT
TASSIE TOUR

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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2022-23 COMMITTEE

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Kelvin Rogers
Geoff Van Ingen
Mark Mensch
Daniel Murdoch
Jimmy Halikias

Cover Photo: Allie Hamann



THE PRES SAYS

G'day all,

Well the Moonambel Muster has come and gone. In keeping with the celebrations in the Clubs 50th year, this was the biggest in many years with 60 vehicles attending. The event was a great success thanks the many people who helped with the arrangements and everyone who participated. The visiting Clubs were all impressed with the social nature of the weekend, the general organization and the quality of both the trips and the trip leaders. The sponsors were particularly generous, providing over \$8,000 worth of prizes in total for a bumper raffle of Sunday night. More reports elsewhere in the magazine.

Don't forget the AGM on the 9th August. All positions on the Committee are vacated so anyone can nominate for any position. If you are interested in contributing more to the Club I would encourage you to nominate. If you are interested please talk to myself or any of the current Committee Members.

Above all, the AGM is a social event. There will be pizzas supplied by the Club and the bar will be open. There will be no pressure or coercion to join the Committee so just come along and enjoy the night.

The next Club trips are the two snow trips. I believe there are still a few places available of the first of these on 22-23rd July. Contact Daniel Murdoch if interested.

See you on the tracks,
Geoff

Geoff

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FINAL REMINDER!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE NOW OVERDUE

UNFINANCIAL MEMBERS WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE
CLUB FACEBOOK GROUP AND MAILING LIST.



Notice of Annual General Meeting

Geelong 4 Wheel Drive Club (Driveline Geelong Inc)

Wednesday 9th August 2023, 7:30pm

at the Clubrooms - Abe Wood Reserve

We hereby advise that the 2023 AGM will be held on Wednesday 9th August 2023 at the Abe Wood Reserve - corner of Edgerton & Evans Roads Lovely Banks, commencing at 7:30pm. The AGM to be followed by the monthly general meeting.

The AGM is an important procedural meeting for the ongoing functioning of the Club. All members are invited to attend.

- It is critical that we have a quorum of members.
- There will be no coercion to join the committee however anyone who might be interested in a position is encouraged to nominate or discuss the options with one of the existing committee members.

The agenda and associated documents will be posted separately, prior to the meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF PROXIES

Members who cannot attend the meeting may appoint a proxy to represent them. Proxy forms will be sent with the agenda and are also available on the club website. Proxy notice must be received by the Secretary no later than 24 hours before the time of the meeting.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting	General Meeting
Location	Clubrooms—Abe Wood Reserve
Date	Wednesday 14th June 2023
Chair	Geoff Davey
Minutes taken by	Geoff Davey

Agenda	
Meeting opened at	7.37 pm
Welcome to everyone present	
New members	Duane Henley, Corie Hale and Amelia Toaras, Joel Martin and Grace Spano, Michael Wielens and Kayla Allender, Ben Wielens and Georgia Kireley, Derek and Carolyn Wielens, Paul and Tracey Wielens, Harry Preston and Jackie Forsyta, Dan Jennings and Kaylie Scott.
Visitors	Ebony Brocks and Tom Gladigau, Cory Alsop.
Present	Ron Bastin, Darcy Brocks, Justin Brocks, Sophie Brocks, Levi Brocks, Jemma Webb, Trevor Brocks, Julie Brocks, Geoff Connors, Jake Cook, Geoff Davey, Jimmy Halikias, Dave Hamann, Graeme Jeffrey, Ken Mellross, Mark Mensch, Mathew Mountjoy, Juanita Mountjoy, Daniel Murdoch, Keith Murdoch, Tim Neville, Ryan Rhodes, Kelvin Rogers, Danny Sparks-Cousins, Norm Spitty, Jack Stratford, Alanna Stratford, Byron Willey, Scott Latham, Joel Martin, Grace Spano, Dan Jennings, Richard (Woody) Brown, Kez Brown, Corie Hale.
Apologies	Sharon and Geoff Van Ingen, John and Karen Goodall, Mark Rothon, Joel Brincat, Ada Spitty, Beth Rogers.

Acceptance of the previous General Meeting Minutes	
Moved Seconded	Keith Murdoch Ken Mellross
Business arising from the previous General Meeting Minutes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Moonambel 2023 Review 60 Vehicles attended. A well organised and successful weekend. Our visiting clubs were all impressed. Thanks to Tim for all his work in organising the trips and the weekend in general. Thanks also to the Committee and everyone who helped out over the entire weekend. It was a team effort involving many people. Membership Renewals - Reminder to members Non Members will be removed from Facebook page. AGM August 9th, 2023 All positions are vacant and available for nominations. Anyone wishing to contribute further to the Club by nominating for the Committee can speak to Geoff or any of the Committee members.

Correspondence	
In	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> FWDV May eNews FWDV Kings Birthday Camp Host Moonambel Bookings FWDV – Presidents and delegates meeting. 03/06/23. Geelong Archers – Notice of vacation from Abe Woods Reserve. FWDV – Formation of Western Liaison Group Warrnambool 4WD Club – Thank you letter (Moonambel) Update on Mt Skene permit system Resignation letter from Bruce Whitten

Correspondence (continued)	
Out	a) Driveline Magazine b) Membership Invoices

Treasurer's Report	
Presented By:	Juanita Mountjoy
Moved:	Graeme Jeffrey
Seconded:	Geoff Davey

Regular Reports	
Association Rep	Presidents and delegates meeting held on 03/06/23 1. Affiliation fees to rise by \$4 to \$56 2. Update on training facility at Toolangi 3. Funding update from State Government
Regional Rep	Regional Meeting at Bairnsdale 27-28 May 2023 Geoff and Mark attended. Geoff gave a report.
Trip Co-Ordinator	Trips Out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moonambel Reccy Run - May 13 - 14. Tim Neville. Moonambel Muster - June 8 - 12. Club annual event. Upcoming Trips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pub Night - Fyansford Hotel June 24, 2023. 7pm. Sharon Van Ingen. Snow Trip 1 - 21-23 July, 2023. Jamieson Caravan Park. Mountjoy's leading. AGM - 9th August 2023. Snow Trip 2 - 11-13 August, 2023. Jamieson Caravan Park. Tim Neville leading. Tassie Tour - 17th September - 12th October, 2023. Mountjoy's organising. Melbourne Cup weekend - November 3rd - 7th. High Country. Geoff Davey leading.
Editor	50th Anniversary edition of Driveline published with lots of articles and a report of the dinner with photos.
Webmaster	NTR
Club Permit Scheme	One new vehicle added.
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pub Night - Fyansford Hotel June 24, 2023. 7pm. Private room was unavailable.
Fines	Geoff Davey 5, Graeme Jeffreys 2, Tim Neville 2, Justin Brocks 2, Joel Martin 2, Juanita Mountjoy, Jimmy Halikias, Jake Cook, Woody Brown, Mark Mensch, Levi Brocks, Dan Jennings, Mathew Mountjoy, Corie Hale, Jack Stratford – all 1.
Moonambel Massacre Award	Dan Jennings
Pist 'n' Broke	Mark Mensch
Members Draw	Jake Cook

New Business	
Other Business	1. Julie Brocks pointed out how good it was to see so many families and children at Moonambel, playing and enjoying themselves.
Meeting closed at	8.15 pm
Next General Meeting	Wednesday 11th July 2023 @ Clubrooms from 7.30pm.

AGENDA

Agenda Items for next meeting—Wednesday 11th July 2023	
	AGM 9th August
	Presentation Night
	General Business



MOONAMBEL MASSACRE 2023

DAN JENNINGS

FOR REWIRING HIS RIG 48 HOURS BEFORE THE EVENT, A FUEL PUMP WIRING ISSUE AND A VERY SMALL ELECTRICAL FIRE (WITH KAYLEE STANDING BY WITH FIRE EXTINGUISHER), MULTIPLE WINCHING EPISODES AND A TINY BIT OF PANEL DAMAGE.

PIST'N BROKE

JUNE 2023



MARK MENSCH



UPCOMING TRIPS

SNOW TRIP 1

Date: 22nd to 23rd July 2023

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

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

Note: We will be base camping at Jamieson Caravan Park. We will run day trips both Saturday and Sunday, including a trip over Mt Skene.

Contact Daniel for more info 0498 683 330 .



SNOW TRIP 2

Date: 11th to 13th August 2023

Trip Leader: Tim Neville | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

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

Note: Staying at the Jamison caravan park as per normal. Aiming for two permits this year so the limit on cars will be accommodation. Plan is to cross Mt Skene, from there assess time and tackle some steep tracks to fill in the day.

Contact Tim for more info 0478 065 716.



TASSIE TOUR 2023

Date: 17th September – 12th October 2023

Trip Leader: Matthew & Juanita Mountjoy

Tail End Charlie: Kelvin & Beth Rogers

Trip Classification: Medium / Hard | **Vehicle Limit:** 8

Note: We will be camping in swags or tents. Off-road campers may be a possibility. Make sure you have plenty of warm clothes, as well as a good sleeping bag! If you are interested in coming along, please contact Juanita directly on 0467 809 040.



MELBOURNE CUP HIGH COUNTRY

Date: Friday 3rd to Tuesday 7th November 2023

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

Trip Classification: Medium/Hard | **Vehicle Limit:** 8

Requirements: UHF radio, standard recovery gear, rated recovery points, good all terrains or better. Snorkel required as we will cross Crooked River. Winch preferred.

Note: Traveller trip. Friday night we will camp the Dargo Pub. Saturday to Billy Goat Track and the Pinnacles then camp on Wonnangatta River. Sunday along Crooked River, camp at Wonnangatta Homestead. Monday Zeka Spur Tack and King Billy Track to Sheep yard Flat. Tuesday home. For more information contact Geoff on 0499 905 975.





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All items will be available to order at the 50th Celebration Night.



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Approximate size 325ml

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Large insulated cup with commemorative 50th Anniversary logo and club logo on reverse.

Approximate size 500ml

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GEELONG 4 WHEEL DRIVE CLUB



REGIONAL REPS MEETING

27-28 MAY 2023

WORDS & PHOTOS: GEOFF DAVEY

On Saturday morning we met at the Parks / DEECA offices in Bairnsdale. Andrew Johnson, President of the Bairnsdale FWD Club, led a convoy of 14 vehicles for a tour into the Mitchell River National Park. The final destination was to Mitchelldale Hut. This was an old homestead which has been known by a number of names over the years including Scotts Hut. The hut is not accessible to the public and is now jointly managed and maintained by Parks Victoria, the Gunaikurnai people and the Bairnsdale FWD Club. It is nestled in a quiet valley on the Mitchell River.

Andrew or AJ gave us an informative talk about the history of the property before we checked out the hut and its surroundings including a swimming hole on the river bend. This would be a fantastic spot to swim in summer but the water was a little chilly on our visit! The

Bairnsdale Club holds regular working bees at the hut to maintain the grounds in top condition. In return they are able to camp and hold club events at the property. It really is a magnificent secluded gem that few are privileged to visit.

On the way out from the Hut, Andrew took us to a lookout which provided a fantastic perspective of the area and the Hut itself. The views were appreciated by the group for quite some time.

Saturday night was a get together for a meal at the Bairnsdale Club. This was another opportunity to network with the other Clubs.

Sunday was the "Business meeting"; however as was discussed during that meeting, much of the "real business" was discussed outside the formal meeting over a drink, at dinner or on the Saturday tour.

One of the key items discussed related to access to MVO tracks, particularly to help Parks Victoria with volunteer assistance for such things as track clearing, maintenance and rubbish removal. It was acknowledged that the system for MVO track access was out of date and in need of review. It was also highlighted by the group that the "Parkconnect" website required for registration and logging volunteering activities was not user friendly and was regarded by many as an obstruction or hurdle to users and ultimately may discourage some otherwise willing groups or individuals from volunteering their time. This is acknowledged as "work in progress".

The group also highlighted the importance of the face to face nature of the meeting, rather than an alternative virtual meeting. This relates to the interactions that occur

over the entire weekend, not just the formal meeting and its associated agenda.

Reports of volunteer activities were provided by the clubs Regional Representatives. There were some 18 Clubs represented at the meeting.

After the lunch break we heard from guest speaker Wayne Thorpe who is a Gunaikurnai man who provided an account of British and European settlement of the Gippsland region from the perspective of the Gunaikurnai people as the traditional land managers. This captured the attention of the group and provided food for thought as it came from a quite different frame of reference.

All things considered this was an informative yet social meeting with good networking between clubs which may actually be the most beneficial aspect of the weekend.

The Geelong 4WD Club was represented by Mark Mensch and Geoff Davey.

Geoff





SOCIAL NIGHT AT THE FYANSFORD PUB

SATURDAY 24TH JUNE 2023

WORDS: SHARON VAN INGEN - PHOTOS: SALLY SPARKS-COUSINS

We had a great mix of members, committee members and life members attended the Pub Night at the Fyansford Hotel. The meals were excellent, and members enjoyed catching up and sharing some laughs. Everyone mixed well and enjoyed seeing faces they may not have seen for a while. These kinds of social nights are the perfect opportunity to get to better know each other, share ideas and get some great driving and trip hints and tips.

Thanks to all those who attended, and I hope to see you all at the next one - SHAZ.



MOONAMBEL MUSTER

FRIDAY 9TH TO MONDAY 12TH JUNE 2023
WORDS: GEOFF DAVEY - PHOTOS: KEITH MURDOCH

This was the 12th running of the Moonambel Muster (AKA Timmy's Big Moonambel Extravaganza) in the 13th year, with one missing due to COVID.

The advance party of Geoff, Tim and Jimmy headed up on Wednesday to set up camp. This proved to be a wet experience with rain through much

of Wednesday and Thursday nights. The locals tell us there was 80mm of rain in the three days from Tuesday. This left the tracks wet but fortunately things dried out from Friday and over the weekend.

Thursday, after a very wet night, we travelled to Ballarat for a few errands and to meet Allie Hamann

who had kindly brought the equipment trailer up from Geelong. Then it was back to Moonambel where we met Graeme and headed to lunch at Summerfield Wines in Moonambel, which we can highly recommend.

After lunch, having been joined by Nick Jones and Daniel and Keith





Murdoch, we commenced the setup process before breaking to the Avoca Hotel for a hearty meal.

Friday saw people arrive progressively through the day and into the evening, and setup was completed. The campfires were lit and everyone settled into a relaxed social evening with friends.

Saturday we were briefed by Tim before the trips went out; Justin Brocks, Mathew Mountjoy, Dave Hamann, Geoff Davey and Daniel Murdoch all led trips. With one exception they were all home before dark with a few tales to tell around the campfire but no major damage.

Sunday trips were led by Tim Neville, Adam Mountjoy, Daniel Murdoch, Geoff Davey and Geoff Van Ingen (with Graeme navigating). There are separate reports for individual trips.

Sunday night was the big raffle. Thanks to the extremely generous support from our major sponsors - TJM Geelong, ARB Geelong, Geelong 4WD & Camping and Kerr's Hire, plus donations from local community businesses Stedi Lighting, Anaconda Geelong, BCF Wauran Ponds & Corio, Burson Auto Grovedale, Repco Geelong, Wauran Ponds & North Geelong, Max Tyres and Supercheap Wauran Ponds there were over \$8,000 in prizes to be won.

Congratulations to the 3 major winners Jimmy Halikias - taking away the myCoolman fridge & cover, Colin (Curles) McKenzie from the Wimmera 4WD Club who chose the TJM onboard compressor, and Lachie Hill with the Ironman fridge-freezer. Graeme Jeffrey won the Kinchrome toolkit door prize, and plenty of other winners walked away happy with over 30 prizes to win and choose from.

TJM Geelong also donated a bunch of 'Recovered' hats - and the only



way to get one was to need a recovery on any of the trips. Keep an eye on the photos and you might see a few who were recovered.

Overall we had 60 vehicles this year including 9 from the Wimmera 4WD Club, 6 from Warrnambool 4WD Club, 4 from Hamilton District 4WD Club, 2 from Bendigo 4WD Club and 2 from the Overland 4WD Club all the way from South Australia.

Thanks to everyone involved in the organization of the weekend. There are many aspects to this including planning, set up, pack up, canvassing of sponsors, transport of equipment and prizes, arranging bookings, and organising the raffle to name a few. This is a team effort with contributions from a lot of people. At the risk of causing offence to others I will mention Danny Sparks-Cousins for his work with the sponsors and Sharon Van Ingen for arranging the bookings; they were not there to share in the fun of the weekend, but were still happy to help out behind the scenes.

The feedback from the visiting clubs and from our own members has been very positive. The weekend was well organised, the trips were well planned and well led.

Thanks to everyone who assisted and participated. This gives us plenty to build on for next year. Planning has already begun!



DAVE & ALLIE'S MEDIUM+ SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS & PHOTOS: ALLIE HAMANN

We headed out Saturday morning with 11 cars to Redbank Nature Conservation Reserve with the intention to have lunch at the lookout.

The morning started off well with some low range easy tracks, until we got to the back side of the lookout. We had a couple of attempts at the hill that was too greasy to take the rest of the convoy up. Trevor in the Jeep was the only one to get up the hill.

The convoy turned around and headed around the back of the range to come up Dead End Track to the lookout. This is where a few cars needed more than one attempt to get up the steep rocky track.

Werner spectacularly parked the

Prado sideways on the hill and had to winch to right himself, and continued on up the hill. John Prowse, also in a Prado, had to winch up this part of the track as well. Once everyone was up the hill we headed on to the Lookout and had lunch.

After lunch we headed across to the Mount Avoca side. At the base of Turpins Track we came across a couple of motorbike riders that said we will not get up the track. We continued up Turpins with the convoy and, with the exception of Werner doing a tyre, everyone drove to the top.

We then continued on to do Donkey Track, Sardine Track and down Jackson Track. At the base of Jackson Track we chose to take the vehicles out of 4wd with the assumption the

4wding was over.

Instead of going back to camp on the bitumen we decided to go via Farnsworth Track, this turned out to be a lot of fun, being recently graded with a lovely squishy 50mm of loose mud on top. The cars were clean till this point, and many of us declared this the best track and most fun of the day.

We returned back to camp at 4.30pm to enjoy the fires and talk about our day.

Thanks to our tail end Kris, Natalie, Ethan & Chloe. And thank you to everyone who came along with us.

Allie



JUSTIN & SOPHIE'S EXTREME SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS & PHOTOS: SOPHIE BROCKS

We headed off Saturday morning to lead the extreme trip up to Mount Cole. We had 10 cars in our convoy, with a group of children as well ranging from 6 months to 8 years old.

We made our way to air down at Chinaman's Campground, about an hour from camp. Our first track was Chinaman's track. This was a great track and got everyone out and about with 3.5 hours of winching to get to the top. Everyone made it up with no issues.

Once at the top everyone's lunch was well and truly cooked, so we stopped here for lunch on flat ground. After lunch, we found some more hard tracks over the south side of Mount Cole. These were all conquered with no issues. There were a couple of winches along these tracks.

All vehicles had gone great throughout the day until we were all aired up and heading back to camp when we had a vehicle mishap due to a melted fuel pump wire. We got this sorted with a quick roadside repair. Patched up and back into camp at 6pm ready for dinner.

It was an enjoyable day, great to see everyone helping each other out with running winches and keeping kids entertained!

Sophie



GEOFF'S MEDIUM SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS & PHOTOS: GEOFF DAVEY



A large group of 13 vehicles left camp and made their way up the Glenlofty-Warrenmang Road to reach the somewhat concealed entrance to Iron Gate Track. This was to be the first track of the morning but turned out to be the only track of the morning!

The track was clay based in places and had been freshly graded which along with the recent rain made it

quite slippery on two hills in particular.

The first three cars made it up the first hill but the track was starting to deteriorate. To add to the difficulty, the start of the track was sloping off camber into a creek bed and two or three cars ended up off the track, threatening to drop into the creek. The first of these required a rear tether to hold the rear of the car on

the track. Nevertheless with good team work we were able to get Brett safely up the hill. Thereafter some were able to drive the hill and some required winching.

A couple of hours later we moved on. A pair of motor bikes had informed us that the track was even worse ahead and we probably wouldn't get through, which didn't exactly fill us with confidence!

Geoff reached the second slippery hill first but managed to get up on the second attempt. The second vehicle had to winch but everyone else drove the hill which seemed to get easier with more traffic, presumably because there was a harder base under the slippery top layer of clay. This was the opposite of the first hill which got harder with more traffic.

Close to 3 hours later we exited the first track! A complete change of plans was in order. We made our way north towards Landsborough which was not the original intended route. After another brief delay to clear a tree, we were able to reach the Landsborough Recreation reserve for a late lunch; it was almost 2.30 by then.

After lunch the group made its way by bitumen to the northern entrance of the Landsborough Ridge Track, then up the long rocky climb to the trig point on Landsborough Hill. Here the panoramic views were enjoyed by all. From there were able to take in more of the scenery along the Landsborough Ridge before making our way back to camp a little before 5pm.

Trip leader: Geoff Davey
Tail end: Nick Jones



MATTHEW & ADAM'S SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS: MATTHEW MOUNTJOY - PHOTOS: ADAM MOUNTJOY



Leaving the camp ground with five vehicles, we headed off on a trip rated hard. In the group was a mixture of people we knew and others we had only meet 10 minutes earlier.

We started up Turpin, our first track, with a steady climb through the hills to a couple of challenging areas that required a little repositioning of rocks to get all vehicles through.

We made it up to Mount Warrenmang for a quick stop and to have a look at the view of the surrounding areas, before heading

off to complete the remaining section of Turpin Track. We made our way around to Fraser Track to drive down a recently bulldozed path.

So far, our trip had been anything but hard! Looping around the bottom to Old Bluff Track, we passed a couple of vehicles coming back down that had tried unsuccessfully to drive up the hill. We proceeded forward onto an easy track, that was also bulldozed as a fire break.

It was not long before we arrived at the difficult section of Old Bluff

Track, a steep hill climb with minimal wheel ruts. A couple of vehicles from our convoy gave it a go, with no success, due to loss of traction at the steep section and sliding on the Pyrenees clay base.

With the afternoon getting on, we turned around and headed for camp. We finished the day on Sardine Track, driving downhill back to camp.

Trip leaders: Matthew Mountjoy and Adam Mountjoy

DANIEL'S MEDIUM+ SUNDAY TRIP

WORDS: DANIEL MURDOCH - PHOTOS: JENNY CARPENTIER



We left camp around 10am this morning. First track off the asphalt was Farnsworth which was freshly graded, and with the rain we had before the weekend made it a lot of fun for the first part.

We then headed towards Sanderson Track which was an easy rocky climb to get to Main Break Track.

First track down the other side was Cameron's Track which was still a little greasy, half way down another convoy was coming the other direction. Luckily there was enough room to get our convoy off the track to allow them to continue their climb.

Once we got to the bottom the idea was to go up Old Kingtree Track. There was a hard line on the left

hand side which was fairly steep and washed out, which made the rocks and tree roots more pronounced and more challenging. Only one member gave it a go - Richard 'Woody' Brown. He managed to get 3/4 of the way up but couldn't get up one of the last rock steps. After a few attempts he gave it one last shot, which put him in a bad spot on the track at a very unfriendly angle.

On the first recovery attempt his winch rope snapped, but after rejoining it and many winch position changes, managed to get back down with no damage.

We proceeded back up Cameron's Track to have lunch at the hut. After lunch we went onto Cross Track and passed another convoy on our travels. Heading back on Main Break

Track we took the turn onto Fraser Track and headed down.

We had a leader change at this point, and Nick took us to the slate mine for an explore. We went up the back way to the Donkey Hill lookout which is fairly over grown but still driveable.

At this point it was time to head back to camp, so went back down Donkey Hill Track, and onto Sardine Track which lead us back to the black top to camp.

Over all was a good day on the tracks with some fun sightseeing in the afternoon and no mechanicals issues.

Daniel

GEOFF & GRAEME'S EASY SUNDAY TRIP

WORDS: GRAEME JEFFREY - PHOTOS: KEITH MURDOCH

A small group of 5 cars headed off through the Redbank Nature Reserve for an easy trip up to Teddington Hut.

The North side of the ranges always is drier than the south, so travelling was quite easy with plenty of great views along the way.

We headed off along Bridle Track which has a good little introductory climb for those just starting out. From there we did a couple of loops so we could take in Long Gully, Camp House and Reservoir Tracks.

This area has several unnamed tracks that all link up, so we drove a few of those too with a good variety of terrain for drivers to experience.

After heading down a dead end track (not before tried) we found our bearings and headed off along Centre Road (more a track) towards our lunch destination at Teddington Hut.

Centre Road runs through the Redbank / Kara Kara Parks with a couple of sections offering changes in conditions and moderate climbs

for drivers to experience. Teddington Hut has toilets and is a good open area to stop for a break.

After lunch we headed off along Diggers Track to Mount Separation then Goat Tracks before joining back onto Centre Road for the trip back to camp.

Trip leaders: Graeme Jeffrey & Geoff Van Ingen

Tail end: Mark Mensch



ADAM & MATTHEW'S SUNDAY TRIP

WORDS: MATTHEW MOUNTJOY

PHOTOS: ADAM MOUNTJOY



Today was a longer drive to get to the start of the tracks. We planned to do a different area than we have been to before, so we travelled to the Mt Cole region.

Coming in on the east side of the area, we aired down to start our way to Sugar Loaf hang gliding area. This had the convoy scrambling up to a look out area to take in the views.

From there we headed off to Telephone Track, stopping along the way to do a little bit of track clearing

by removing a tree from across part of the track.

The first half the track was in good condition and the driving was easy. The second half of the track saw the convoy all getting out and assessing what would become hours of slowly being guided down sections over ruts, jumping on to bypass tracks, and winching our vehicles around tight corners. Photos do not do the drop offs justice, nor the rock steps or wheel ruts that no one wanted to fall into.

We planned to have lunch at the campground area but did not make it there in time, so we had to settle for the side of the track. Everyone helped out with assisting a safe passage down the second half of the track and we finally arrived at a camping area to air up and travel back to our camp.

Thanks to everyone that came along on both trips.

Trip leaders: Matthew Mountjoy and Adam Mountjoy

GEOFF'S MEDIUM SUNDAY TRIP

WORDS & PHOTOS: GEOFF DAVEY



Nine vehicles travelled south down the Glenlofty-Warrenmang Road, past the entrance of Iron Gate Track and on to ascend Billy Goat Track.

Billy Goat is a nice climb up a narrow rocky track with small rock steps. The intended route at the top of Billy Goat was closed so we re-routed down Dridan Track to reach the base

of Cameron Track. Cameron Track has become quite washed out and has some nice rock steps, making for an interesting climb.

From there we passed Cameron's Hut to turn down the extension of Cross Track. This was cleared on the reccy run and we are now calling it the "Creek Track". The bottom end of

the track was a bit washed out by the rain and required a couple of quick winches.

All was good until we came to the large tree with the chainsaw bar pinched in it from a previous attempt to clear it. To bypass this required a steep, now slippery drop into the creek and back up on the other side

of the tree. Well Geoff didn't make it up the other side and was left stranded with his rear bar on a rock, unable to move forward or backwards!

After winching the big cruiser up the hill, the option was to (likely) winch the other eight cars up the same hill or finish cutting and moving the tree, which was almost a metre in diameter. We opted for the latter which was an engineering feat in its own right. This involved further cutting of the tree and setting up a complex winch line with a block on a tree at the appropriate angle and a double line pull. Long story short, two hours later the track was clear.

Following that successful mission, it was on to (another) late lunch at the Glenpatrick Reserve. After lunch we headed back up Emery Track to Main Break Road and down Sardine Track to return to camp. Sardine is a bit chopped up in places which made for a more technical descent than in the past.

Overall, it was another interesting, social day which was enjoyed by all. Thanks to all who participated.

Trip leader: Geoff Davey
Tail end: Jake Cook



Slide Kitchen

Camp complete



Freestanding design
with 15-second set-up


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RACKS


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