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JULY 2024



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ON THE HORIZON

JULY

5 - 24
SIMPSON DESERT TRIP

10
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

24
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

AUGUST

2 - 6
HARD SNOW TRIP

14
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

28
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

SEPTEMBER

11
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

14 - 27
COFFS HARBOUR TRIP

25
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

27 - 29
AFL GRAND FINAL
WEEKEND 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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MONSTER RAFFLE



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Mark Mensch
Daniel Murdoch
Sharon Van Ingen
Alanna Stratford
Sophie Brocks

Cover Photo: Tim Neville



THE PRES SAYS

G'day all,

Well Moonambel is over for another year. The event has expanded to about 80 vehicles over the last few years and was a fantastic success. The reputation it is building amongst the other Clubs from the Western District should make us all proud. There is a lot of planning and preparation for the event which begins months before. Thanks to everyone who contributed and participated.

It is particularly pleasing to see the young families returning not only to Moonambel, but the Club. Many other four wheel drive Clubs have an ageing membership which is a concern for those Clubs. We are very fortunate to have an enthusiastic "younger group" within the Club. We are seeing the benefits of this as it creates its own momentum and has resulted in others of a similar demographic joining the Club.

The AGM is coming up with a proposed date of September 11. The Club is in a really good position at the moment but requires ongoing effort and input from those on the Committee in particular. We can't be complacent about this.

As always all positions are vacant and up for election as the appointments are for one year only. This year in particular it looks like there will be movement in the key administrative positions of President, Treasurer and Secretary. Any member who feels they would like to contribute further to the Club should contact me or any one of the Committee to discuss this further.

I will shortly be departing for the big trip to the Simpson Desert and with a follow through to Fraser Island. I will see you all on my return.

Geoff

A handwritten signature of Geoff Davey in black ink. The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first letter 'G' being particularly large and prominent.

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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 11th September 2024, 7:30pm

at the Clubrooms - Abe Wood Reserve

We hereby advise that the 2024 AGM will be held on Wednesday 11th September 2024 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. **ALL POSITIONS ARE OPEN FOR NOMINATIONS.**

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 - Edgerton Road, Lovely Banks
Date	Wednesday 12th June 2024
Chair	Geoff Davey
Minutes taken by	Graeme Jeffrey

Agenda	
Meeting opened at	7.34 pm
Welcome to everyone present	Welcome all
New members	Ryan Allen
Visitors	Harley Miller
Present	Corey Allan, Justin & Sophie Brocks, Levi & Jemma Brocks, Geoffrey Connors, Corey Chrystal, Geoff Davey, Josh Eades, Jimmy Halikias, Graeme Jeffrey, Scott Latham, Joel Martin & Grace Spano, Ken Melrose, Mark Mensch, Keith Murdoch, Dave Purdie, Kelvin Rogers, Jack & Alanna Stratford
Apologies	Ron Bastin, Jake Cooke, John & Karen Goodall, Juanita Mountjoy, Daniel Murdoch, Tim Neville, Beth Rogers, Mark Rothon, Danny Sparks-Cousins, Geoff & Sharon Van Ingen, Byron Willey

Acceptance of the previous General Meeting Minutes	
Moved	Jimmy Halikias
Seconded	Mark Mensch
Business arising from the previous General Meeting Minutes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Moonambel 2024 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Final attendance 78 vehicles on tracks Thanks to the many people who helped Raffle was a great success Good feedback from the other clubs Food and coffee vans well received Reminder to send all trip reports to Danny ASAP Memberships should now be paid - last reminder Presentation Night - October 12th AGM Date - TBC Not for Profit (NFP) self reporting to the ATO Update by Geoff Davey. We are looking into deregistering our ABN COGG Community grants available - suggestions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> New clubroom chairs Track Clearing is on 26th October - more info to follow closer to date. General Business Nil

Correspondence	
In	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> FWDV - Mt Skene permit system open COGG - Community grants email FWDV - Minutes of regional meeting Letter from ATO re self reporting for Not For Profit organisations with an ABN
Out	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Driveline Magazine

Treasurer's Report

Presented By: Moved: Seconded:	Nil - due to absence of Treasurer
--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Regular Reports

Association Rep	Nothing to report
Regional Rep	Regional Meeting Mansfield and the surrounding areas on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th May. Geoff, Danny & Mark Mensch attending at this stage.
Trip Co-Ordinator	Trips Out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moonambel Reccy 2 - 17th - 19th May - Tim Neville. • Moonambel Muster - June 7 - 10. Upcoming Trips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simpson Desert Trip - July - Tedfords - is still full, however waitlist is available. • Snow Trip - Justin Brocks 2 - 4 August. Trip full. • Coffs Harbour Trip - 14 - 27 September - Mountjoys - if you are interested or would like more information please speak with Juanita or Matthew. • Track Clearing - 26 - 27 October - more info to follow. • ?? Melbourne Cup Weekend. • ?? Day Trips. • Anyone interesting in leading trips etc. please speak with Tim. Reminder club funds available @ \$10 per car to cover eats & drinks.
Editor	Nothing to report.
Webmaster	Nothing to report.
Club Permit Scheme	Nothing to report.
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation Night - 12 October 2024 – Cremorne Hotel
Fines	Josh Eades x 2, Corey Chrystal x 1, Tim Neville x 1, Levi Brocks x 1, Jack Stratford x 2
Pist 'n' Broke	Levi Brocks
Moonambel Massacre	Tim Neville – accepted by Jimmy on behalf of Tim (Absent) Special mention to Overland 4WD Club Member – Graeme Purdie for destroying GU rear end.
Members Draw	Jimmy Halikias

Other Business

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dave Purdie suggested the Club consider purchasing a 24V MIG Welder for trips 2. Werner Brocks has some books and magazine he no longer needs
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Meeting closed at	8.13 pm
Next General Meeting	Wednesday 10th July 2024 @ Clubrooms. Meeting from 7.30pm

AGENDA

Agenda Items for next meeting—Wednesday 10th July 2024

	AGM
	Not for Profit Self Reporting to the ATO – update
	Building maintenance – report
	Presentation Night
	Great National Forest Park – discussion
	General Business

PIST'N BROKE

JUNE 2024



LEVI BROCKS



MOONAMBEL MASSACRE 2024

TIM NEVILLE

TIM GOT CONFUSED ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN A ROCK SLIDER AND A TAIL SHAFT ON
OLD BLUFF TRACK. THIS DID NOT END WELL!

ACCEPTED ON TIM'S BEHALF BY
JIMMY 'BIG DOG' HALIKIAS



UPCOMING TRIPS

HARD SNOW TRIP

Date: Friday 2nd to Tuesday 6th August 2024

Trip Leader: Justin Brocks | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

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

Meeting: TBA

Note: Staying at the Jamison caravan park. Please confirm position on trip with Justin before calling and booking a cabin under your name.

Friday - Leave after work (4ish). Saturday - Mt Skene plus tracks, pub dinner. Sunday - Mt Terrible onto Woods Point for those that need to leave. Monday - Head to Bulla for the kids to play on the toboggan run, or back to Mt Skene for the day depending on snow levels. Tuesday - Make our way home.

Mud tires highly recommended or very very good quality all terrains. Snorkels a must. Winches recommended as we will most likely need them.



COFFS HARBOUR TRIP

Date: Saturday 14th to Friday 27th September 2024

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

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

Meeting: TBA

Note: We will be departing Geelong and heading for Bathurst, where we will complete the Bridle Track. From there we'll head towards Forster for some beach driving, then hit Coffs Harbour. The plan is to base camp at different points around the Coffs Harbour area, explore, then after a few days, move on. There are a range of tracks at Coffs, ranging from easy to extreme, but we'll predominately be doing the medium to hard tracks.

Trip participants can bring **off road** campers/vans, tents or swags. They will need the following recovery gear: Rated recovery points (front and back), recovery equipment, working winch (not mandatory, but highly recommended), aggressive all terrain tyres/mud tyres. If interested, please contact Juanita on 0467 809 040. Responding yes on Facebook will not secure you a place on this trip.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - HIGH COUNTRY AFL GF WEEKEND

Date: Friday 27th to Sunday 29th September 2024

Trip Leader: Geoff & Shaz Van Ingen | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

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

Meeting: TBA

Note: Drive & arrive at caravan park Friday and set up. Some local exploring in the afternoon. Saturday morning in Walhalla - Grand Final at the pub. Sunday more exploring before heading home.

This will be a family trip - more of a social trip but we will do some four wheel diving and exploring too.





UPCOMING TRIPS

CLUB AWARDS NIGHT DINNER

Date: Saturday 12th October

Come along for dinner at The Cremorne Hotel to celebrate members who have won the various annual club awards.

We'd love to see a huge turnout for this fun social night out. Please register your interest on Facebook in the event page. More info coming soon.



TRACK CLEARING WEEKEND

Date: Saturday 26th to Sunday 27th October

Trip Leader: Danny Sparks-Cousins | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

Trip Classification: Easy / Medium

Departing: TBA

Note: We will need a couple of ticketed chainsaw operators, and a few helpers to clear logs. Camping at Big Hill Campground.



If you're available to help please get in touch with Danny - email, messenger or on 0426 256 030

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - CAPE YORK 2025

Date: June 2025

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

Trip Classification: Medium Plus | **Vehicle Limit:** N/A

Meeting: TBA

Note: Expressions of interest sought on doing a Cape York trip in June 2025. Plan on doing 4 - 5 weeks from Cairns to the Cape and back. Medium plus trip depending on weather.

For more information contact Daniel on 0498 683 330.



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



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MOONAMBEL MUSTER

7TH TO 10TH JUNE 2024

WORDS: GEOFF DAVEY



The 2024 edition of the Moonambel Muster has been one of the most successful ever.

There were about 80 vehicles and 150 people in attendance over the weekend with representation from Bellarine 4WD Club, Ballarat 4WD Club, Otway 4WD Club, Warrnambool 4WD Club, Wimmera 4WD Club, Hamilton and District 4WD Club and "Livin' 4x4". This was up from about 60 cars the previous year. There were 45 Geelong attendees which is fantastic representation given our total membership of about 75.

Much of the setup was done on

Thursday by the early arrivers. It was pretty hard work, which accordingly needed to be rewarded with some sustenance and rehydration at the Summerfield Winery. This did the job after a number of tasting paddles and pizzas. Setup continued after lunch and most of the raffle prizes were also safely locked away by Thursday evening.

Friday saw a steady stream of arrivals throughout the day. The remainder of the setup was completed which seemed to require a return to Summerfield for further samplings of wine and pizzas. A few went for some final track reviews prior to the weekends trips. By the evening there

was a ring of campsites around the oval which was looking fantastic. The campfires were duly lit and we settled into a social evening catching up on acquaintances from previous years and meeting those who had not been to a Muster before.

Saturday morning we were spoiled by local provider Caroline from Cuppa Anyone, who provided coffee and bacon and egg rolls. This was much appreciated, particularly by those who had over socialised the previous evening. Caroline also provided coffee and breakfast on Sunday and Monday mornings which made for pretty easy catering for campers.

Following Tim's morning briefing and trip sign-up, it was off to the tracks. All groups returned before dark and the day was largely without adverse events. The exception to this was Tim who returned with a bent tail shaft after an encounter with a rock on Old Bluff Track. This resulted in some hasty pirating of a donor tail shaft from Tyson's "tow vehicle" and all was good; kind of!

Saturday night we were treated to baked spuds courtesy of Vicki from Tricki's Catering. The evening was also movie night for the kids, thanks to Alanna who organised the viewing. It was great to see so many young families participating with increasing numbers over the last 2 years particularly. There were many stories to be told around the campfire which was also livened up by the team from Livin' 4x4.

Sunday morning there were a few sore heads, but at least there were coffee and brekky rolls. After the morning briefing it was back into the hills for the day's drive. Sunday afternoon not all had returned by dark. After all, there are certain traditions that must be maintained. Yep, you guessed it, Dave Purdie's trip met with misadventure on Old Tiger Cat Track. To cut a long story short, Dave's brother Graeme destroyed his rear control arms





which in turn led to a destroyed diff and locked axle.

The distress call went out which resulted in plenty of help on the scene. As you might imagine there were a few opinions on how best to deal with the situation. Without going into detail, the car was eventually winched to the top of the hill after many hours and eventually returned to camp on Harry's "transport trailer", all (just) in time to hold the raffle as planned on Sunday evening. Thanks everyone who helped out it was a great team effort.



The raffle was again a great success thanks to the generous donations by our sponsors and supporting businesses. Thanks also to Danny, Keith, Daniel, Alanna, Sharon, Juanita and Graeme for liaison, transport and raffle ticket organisation. More on the raffle, prizes and prize winners elsewhere. It was a little chilly away from the fires during the draw, so most made a hasty return to the warmth of the fires.

I would like to thank Tim Neville and all our trip leaders for their efforts: Justin Brocks, Tim Neville, Daniel Murdoch, Dave Purdie, Geoff Davey, Mark Rothon, Ross Barry, Mathew Mountjoy x2, Graeme Jeffrey x2, Steve Drummond x2, and Russell



Brookes x2. Thanks also to everyone who helped with setup, pack up at the end of the weekend and organisation prior to the event. Thanks to Big Dog Jim for towing the trailer. This is a team effort with contributions from many people, so apologies to those I have not mentioned by name.

It should also be noted that the weather was kind to us this year. There was no rain and the evenings were still which made for a warmer experience around the fires. The feedback from visiting Clubs was again very positive. They were again complimentary about the organisation, trip leadership and relaxed social nature of the weekend.

Cheers,

Geoff



STEVE'S EASY SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS: STEVE DRUMMOND (BALLARAT DISTRICT 4WD CLUB)

We headed out from camp in a convoy of 9 vehicles with good representation from the Overland 4x4 Club from South Australia, and the Otway 4WD Club. The plan was to head into the Pyrenees from the east side but we came across a locked gate, then someone's front yard – not a good start for the trip leader.

Once we were back on track we headed into Waterfalls Campground for a quick stop, then along Schmidt Track to

Sugarloaf Track. We chose the easier right hand line up, but even the chicken track had a rock step that provided a challenge. With a bit of guidance and scraping, everyone got through (almost unscathed!).

Lunch was consumed at a camping area near the reservoir which, on a long weekend, was very popular.

After lunch we made our way along Lever Track then onto

Radigan Track which is always a good climb with newbies. The grader had been through since we had done the reccy a few weeks earlier so the drive was very easy. We turned right onto Main Break before stopping at the trig point for Mount Avoca.

We made our way back to camp via Miles track for a mid arvo finish and a relaxing beer.

Trip Leader – Steve Drummond –
Ballarat District 4wd Club



RUSSELL & HELEN'S EASY/MEDIUM SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS: HELEN BROOKES (BALLARAT DISTRICT 4WD CLUB)

Our sizeable entourage of 12 departed from the Moonambel Recreation Reserve, making our way to Greens Lane where we then headed off along Tablelands Track towards the Redbank lookout.

Russell negotiated the challenging left-hand track while the rest of the group chose to take the easier right one. After a short stop to take in the views across Moonambel, Helen

jumped in the driver's seat leading the group down the steep winding track then left onto Potter Track and then Greens Lane, making our way to Kara Kara National Park.

We headed along Dead Man's Track to Redbank-Barkly Road then back onto a fire trail which takes you along the border of Kara Kara, with some steep sections along the way, before the track turns back onto

Mount Separation Road.

The plan was to have lunch at Teddington Reservoir, but due to the large number of vehicles, the tracks had taken a little longer than expected. It was decided that we would find a flat area along the track for lunch.

After our break, we headed for Teddington's Hut. Unfortunately the



track we had taken on our reccy the week before (Blue Gum Track) was now locked, as was the next track gate (Chimney Track), forcing us to take the long way around via Mount Separation Road, Centre Road and Teddington Road. Our group stopped at Teddington Hut for a look and some photos and then headed onto the reservoir amenities for a short break.

From here, there was a short patch of bitumen before turning off onto Stuart Mill Gap Road and making our way to the West of England Fire Tower, where you can almost get a 360 view of the area.

Our entourage then took Centre Road back towards Moonambel. The sun had started to descend so, where able, there was a bit of right foot down on the sections of track that didn't contain whopty doos. Somewhere along this track the natives back at camp started to get a little restless, messaging to enquire about our ETA, which by then was only about 10 minutes away.

We stopped at the corner of Greens Lane and Brooke Street to bunch up before heading back into the Moonambel Recreation Reserve, with headlights on and horns tooting.



GEOFF'S EASY/MEDIUM SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS: TYLER SMITH



We left the Moonambel Recreation Reserve at 10am and detoured through the dead centre of town.

We made our way into the Pyrenees State Forest but went the wrong way and ended up at a winery. We spent some time exploring, and ended up challenging a few people on some medium tracks - one of which was Billy Goats Track.

We drove down Squatters Track, which was a nice medium hill for us to try.

Lunch was at Landsborough Recreation Reserve where we had a good chat about where we had been and what we would do next.

After lunch Josh and Corey headed back for fuel and the rest of us decided to go to the lookout to show the new members the view.

We also decided to take the backside of the lookout to challenge ourselves with more medium tracks.

Everyone did a great job and enjoyed the day.

Tyler Smith



GRAEME'S MEDIUM SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS: GRAEME JEFFREY

Nine cars left at 10am for a medium trip around Percydale & the Pyrenees. We entered via the Glenlofty / Warrenmang Road, driving Sardine track to just before the more challenging rocky section where we turned left onto Donkey Hill Track, taking the ridgeline along to Turpin Track where we turned right & headed downwards.

Since being graded over the last year or so, it is much easier but still a solid descent for drivers who haven't driven the area very much. At the bottom we travelled along to the slate quarry and around to the old mine where we stopped for a look.

From there we travelled Fiddlers Track to Vinoca Road to turn off to the Waterfalls Campground which has toilets / campfires and

is accessible for caravans and campers (lovely quiet spot).

From here we travelled Shultz Track to Sugarloaf, a good medium track with an option to take a short but hard rocky section for those who want to have a go at something more challenging, which four of our convoy did.

From here we continued on Sugarloaf Track to just below the dam where there is a large clearing at the creek crossing for our lunch break, this proved to be a popular spot with another club convoy there, along with 3-4 other campers set up for the weekend.

After lunch we drove Radigan Track along to Lever Track where we headed down – unfortunately

it had also been graded recently changing the steep descent down into an easy drive however would be an interesting track in the wet or if ungraded.

We then drove up Gollop Track which is a very good medium track before heading off to Cameron Track campground for a short break and toilet stop. Cameron Track has also been graded recently for most of the way, but still has 2-3 step offs towards the bottom.

Our last main track was Dridan Track (also graded) but still a good track to drive up. Once we were all done we cut back along Black Range Track and out to Glenlofty Road to Moonamambel and back to camp.



MARKS MEDIUM+ SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS: MARK ROTHON



The day was bright and fresh as we set off. We left at 9.30am and headed directly to Farnsworth Track. This was a rock track with averagely steep sections.

We continued to Jackson, New Tiger, Old Tiger and Bluff Tracks, these tracks were moderate and dry, a really pleasant drive with some moderate challenges depending on your setup.

Bluff Track had a more challenging offshoot which a few people wanted to "give it a go", so it was decided we had better have lunch first before taking on the challenge. Lunch was at the bike area where we met Daniel Murdoch's group and exchanged a few notes.

We headed back to the Bluff Track to tackle the offshoot, but as we were contemplating lines and the condition of the track, the extreme group arrived. We then spent the next hour watching them driving up the more challenging side of the offshoot. This was the highlight of the day for many people.

Two people from our group took on the offshoot, Chris Bell in his Hilux and David Hill in his Patrol. David went up the far right hand side and managed this fairly easily, where Chris had a bit more trouble as his clearances were making it a little more challenging. Both cars made it up without any damage (that I know of).

We headed back towards the campground via Sardine Track. There is an offshoot half way down Sardine Track which some took by mistake, a holding the corner failure. This took that group a little longer as it was a more challenging track, but induced some FOMO for the ones who didn't do it, as it sounded like a more fun option.

We arrived back in camp around 4pm, after a really good day. It was a little easier due to the tracks being dry - I can imagine the day would be completely different on a wet day.

Thanks,
Mark.

JUSTIN'S EXTREME SATURDAY TRIP

WORDS: SOPHIE BROCKS



Today's trip was led by Justin. Already aired down in camp, we headed off just after our 9.30am gate 2 meeting allocation towards the tracks. The weather was crisp, and we were all looking forward to seeing what the day had in store.

We made our way up Turpin Track following onto Donkey Hill Lookout. Due to the very dry conditions and capabilities of the cars, we all crawled up with no hesitation and made the track look easy - except for YouTube star Sam who parked the 80 momentarily on a rock. A quick line change saw him crawl up. We stopped to take in the views at the top before continuing on.

Ovens were turned on preparing for

lunch. We made our way down Sardine Track, where the whole convoy completed the harder rock step. Once again, the cars made this look easy, with no one having any troubles. Jake provided a very impressive wheel lift in his GU.

We stopped for lunch at the beginning of a track the locals refer to as "Madman's". Raffle tickets were quickly sold out and stomachs full. Once we were rolling again, we made our way up Madman's, which is normally a difficult track in the wet but was quite easy in the dry with cars being able to ride the high points and keep the undercarriage clear of the large rock steps.

From here we continued on to Old Bluff

Track. We ran into Mark Rothern's convoy who decided to watch the action unfold. This one proved to be a bit difficult if you picked the wrong line, with a lot of big rocks and holes. Some winching was required along this. Luckily, we had Jimmy, winch runner extraordinaire. All the cars made it up, with only a little bit of damage to Tim's "shaft".

From here we headed back to camp with Tim limping his GU at a slow pace with a twisted and bent tail shaft. It was a great trip with only one minor vehicle casualty, however still drivable. We rolled back into camp at 4:00pm ready for the night's activities.

STEVE'S EASY SUNDAY TRIP

WORDS: STEVE DRUMMOND (BALLARAT DISTRICT 4WD CLUB)



Day 2 saw a smaller group of 6 vehicles, with cars from Geelong, Bellarine and Overland 4wd clubs. We headed toward the western side of the Pyrenees coming in on Crofts Track to climb up onto the ridge and follow Black Range Track. The drive along the ridge was through thick fog so unfortunately no views so we dropped back down to the valley on Dridan Track which had been recently graded.

We made our way around to Glenpatrick for a morning tea break, but just as we were about to leave one of the vehicles had a flat tyre. It was soon changed and

we made our way to Emery Track which has multiple options. Everyone opted to take the harder track with some steeper scabbly loose rock. All the drivers made it up the hill without any major difficulties and it was good to see the sense of achievement from the newer drivers.

We followed Emery Track to the Mount Avoca helipad (passing the extreme group who were having lunch) and stopped for lunch. We were joined by a larger group of 14 so it got a bit crowded on the helipad with 20 cars. After lunch we followed Main Break to Radigan

Track to drop down the eastern side of the ridge, then turned onto Lever Track. The group were keen for a bit more so we turned onto Glengully Track before tackling the bottom of Gollop track and making our way back to camp.

It was great to lead a couple of trips over the weekend and meet some enthusiastic four wheel drivers from different clubs. We will definitely be back in 2025.

Trip Leader – Steve Drummond – Ballarat District 4wd Club

RUSSELL & HELEN'S EASY/MEDIUM SUNDAY TRIP

WORDS: HELEN BROOKES (BALLARAT DISTRICT 4WD CLUB)

The numbers for the Sunday drive were a little down on the previous day, and the weather gods weren't smiling as favourably upon us. We led our little group of 6 out along Back Cemetery Road, zig zagging our way to Moonambel-Warrenmang Road, turning off at Wild Dog Road before discovering that the track comes to an end at Peerick Winery.

As it was a little early for a wine tasting, we turned around and headed further along the Moonambel-Warrenmang Road turning right onto the Glenlofty-Warrenmang Road and then right again onto Cactus Track, heading into the Landsborough Nature Reserve.

Our little group meandered through the bush along the Cactus Loop Track and

then followed Salt Patch Track along the border of the Reserve. There were many kangaroos along the way, one coming very close to being a Patrol hood decoration as it appeared suddenly on the driver's side of the vehicle. At the end of Salt Patch Track, we followed Mashado Road onto Mashado Track, taking a short break along Frenchman Track. So far, the tracks were easy.

From Frenchman, it was onto Glenisters Track until we reached Landsborough Ridge Track, from this point the track rose quite rapidly, with rocky ridges and steps, but with Russell's guidance all vehicles managed the steep sections without a worry. We stopped at the trig station before finding a larger open space to have lunch along the ridge, the

weather changing from a little foggy and misty, to allow views of the surrounding hills.

We followed the ridgeline a little further before heading down Work Track and met Glenisters Track once again following it all the way back up to Landsborough Ridge Track, onto Barkly Track and back out Cactus Track, retracing our tracks from earlier in the day, this time turning at Woods Street and heading back to the Redbank Lookout from the previous day's trip.

We followed Tablelands Track to Coleman Road and turned onto the Moonambel-Natte Yallock Road back towards the Recreation Reserve to finish off the day.



GRAEME'S MEDIUM SUNDAY TRIP

WORDS: GRAEME JEFFREY

Eight cars left at 9.30 for a medium trip to Kara Kara National Park / Landsborough.

Entering Kara Kara via Greens Lane, we drove up to the lookout where a couple of us did the short hard section along the way before a mandatory stop at the top to take in the views (foggy so not so good this morning).

We then exited down the backside and travelled up Tablelands Track (easy but good climbing track) along to Bridle Track into Long Gully which runs alongside the boundary fence and dam down the back.

We then took Reservoir Road (not shown on Maps / Hema) up, again another easy but good climb to Grumblers Track (also not shown) back across to Bridle Track to

cut through to Moonambel Track which has two short but tricky clay sections (particularly if wet).

Taltarni Track runs off Moonmabel Track and goes down along the boundary. It is not well used but comes back out onto Moonambel Track to again drive the clay section before continuing. From here we took Dead Mans Track down to the Redbank-Barkly Road.

A couple of weeks earlier on a reccy run Russell Brookes from Ballarat 4WD Club kindly took us to the next section crossing the main road to a CFA track (gated but both ends open) which is a great easy / medium climb over quite a long way.

My intention was to get through to either of the Teddington Camp areas for

lunch but unfortunately, we came across a locked gate which prevented us getting there, so lunch was had in the bush.

This however turned out to be a better option as it saved us going to the top of the park to cut across to the Landsborough area through open country. Once across we travelled up the Landsborough Ridge Track from the Barkly Track end.

This track has a very good medium climb for quit a long way and is always great fun. Once up the top there are awesome 360 degree views. The track is quite long with a few more good sections to enjoy on the way out to head to camp.

Thanks to all that came along on the two trips I ran making for two very enjoyable days driving.



ROSS' MEDIUM+ SUNDAY TRIP

WORDS: ROSS BARRY



We started out with 14 cars from camp and did Moonambel Back Road heading to Sardine Road where we caught another group, turning off onto Turpins Track only to discover we went the same way so waited for that group to clear the way in front.

Heading off we went into the climb which was rocky with some steep sections. About 3-4 cars got up that ok and stopped at the intersection of the track. A few cars needed a winch in this section and soon the rest of the convoy caught up again.

Turning onto Donkey Track we continued to Sardine Track and then onto Main

Track. A little detour onto Bluff Track saw us meet a convoy about half way heading the other way. Bluff Track has not long been graded so made for an easy descent, then turning onto Fraser Track back to Main Road where we stayed until Mount Avoca for lunch.

After lunch we said goodbye to Chris, Nat and the kids as they wanted to get to camp early and let the kids play. Then we headed down Glenpatrick Track onto Emery Track up to Tiger Cat Track.

We then turned onto New Tiger Track and there was a rocky rutted section again. After getting the first 2 cars up the third car had trouble getting up and had

to winch. It was then decided it was getting too late and some didn't want to head up so the rest of the convoy turned around and went back up Tiger Cat Track onto Main Road and met us at the top of New Tiger Track.

We continued along Main Road until we got to Hardy Track. This was another easy track until we regrouped and found the sealed road, then made our way back to camp beating Chris.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the day. Thanks to all that came and Geoff for being tail end charlie.

Ross.

TIM'S EXTREME SUNDAY TRIP

WORDS: SOPHIE BROCKS



Today's trip was led by Timmy, we had a total of 10 cars on this trip. We headed off at 9:30am again from gate two.

We made our way to the creek run that was opened a few years ago. Along the way, we encountered a stray cow, thankfully some of the convoy was able to get it back into a paddock.

Half the convoy completed the creek run with Tim nearly destroying ANOTHER tail shaft, with some Maxtrax needed to lift the car up and over a large rock. Timmy does tell us that he is a good driver, but we had a few questions in our head at this point.

After a quick lunch stop, we made our

way down one of Tim's special tracks. This one was a very steep descent. Once at the bottom, we took it in turns of heading back up. The cars once again made this look easy (some rain would have been nice for the extreme trips). No winching was required.

Once we were all together again, we headed down North Glenpatrick Track. Once at the bottom we spun around and climbed the steep hill, with an interesting rock step. Whilst this was a challenge with a few cars needing two attempts, Brad made an error in line choice that saw him cross up on the hill with a big wheel lift hanging precariously.

The winch was swiftly pulled out and the car was recovered back onto all four wheels. At this point the convoy received a phone call regarding a broken vehicle from another convoy so we headed to them to assist with the recovery of the vehicle. Some with children headed back to camp, and then ventured out with the car trailer for the recovery mission.

The remaining members of both convoys made their way into camp at about 7:30pm with all vehicles accounted for, and everyone ready for the raffle.

It was a great weekend, full of lovely views, and lots of laughs.



MONSTER RAFFLE

WORDS: KEITH MURDOCH - PHOTOS: ALANNA STRATFORD

Moonambel Muster 2024 has been a huge success with nearly 80 cars attending. One of the favourite events that we run at Moonambel is our Sunday night Monster Raffle. This year, however, calling it a Monster Raffle is an understatement - there were around 90 prizes to be won in total! This is all thanks to our extremely generous major sponsors; TJM Geelong, ARB Geelong, Ironman (Geelong 4 Wheel Drive & Camping), Kerr's Hire and Bay City A1 Tyres.

We also had donations from local businesses such as:

STEDI Lighting, Runva, BCF Waurin Ponds, Supercheap Waurin Ponds, Bursons Auto Grovedale, the 3 Repco stores Geelong, Waurin Ponds & North Geelong, JAXS Tyres, APCO Head Office, Barwon Tyres & Auto, Auto One, 12 Pound Tinting, R&J Batteries, Drysdale Mowers, Adventure Park Geelong, and Hip Pocket Workwear and Safety Geelong.

Firstly, congratulations to Chris Korb for winning the gate prize which was a Kincrome spanner/driver kit donated by Bursons Grovedale. Now for the raffle winners: first drawn out was Stephen Foster who chose the Ironman 50 litre fridge/freezer; Jake Cooke was next drawn out and he chose the STEDI driving lights kit. Third prize winner was Ann Marie Filsell (Overland 4wd Club) who decided the Runva winch was for her, fourth ticket drawn out was Brett Bonnett (Warrnambool 4wdClub) who chose a STEDI light bar, and next drawn out was Jack Stratford who chose a Stihl garden pruner kit kindly donated by Drysdale Mowers. It was a great night of fun had by all.

Thanks to Danny Sparks-Cousins, Daniel Murdoch, Jenny Carpentier, Geoff Davey, Alanna Stafford for helping me with organizing prizes.

Cheers,

Keith



CHRIS KORB
Gate Prize



STEPHEN FOSTER
1st Prize



**JAKE
COOKE**

2nd Prize



**ANNE-MARIE
FILSELL**

(OVERLAND 4WD CLUB)

3rd Prize



**BRETT
BONNETT**

(WARRNAMBOOL 4WD CLUB)

4th Prize



**JACK
STRATFORD**

5th Prize



**GRAEME
JEFFREY**

6th Prize



**SAM
FISK**

(WARRNAMBOOL 4WD CLUB)

7th Prize



**DAVID
HILL**

(WARRNAMBOOL 4WD CLUB)

8th Prize



**JOEL
MARTIN**

9th Prize



**MATT
ANDERSON**

(HAMILTON & DISTRICT 4WD CLUB)

10th Prize

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