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ON THE HORIZON

APRIL

9
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

17 - 21
EASTER WEEKEND @
BEACHPORT

23
COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

MAY

2 - 4
MOONAMBEL RECCY #1

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GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

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COMMITTEE MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

JUNE

6 - 9
MOONAMBEL MUSTER

11
GENERAL MEETING
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

25
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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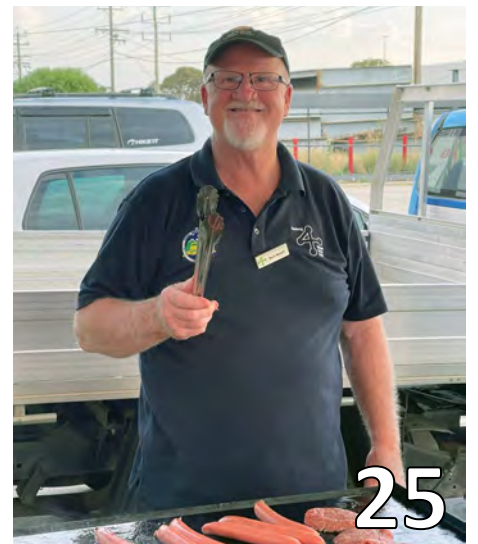
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GENERAL MEETING
AT ARB



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Mark Mensch
Juanita Mountjoy
Daniel Murdoch
Keith Murdoch
Kelvin Rogers
Alanna Stratford

Cover Photo: Nathan Mudge



THE PRES SAYS

G'day all,

The General Meeting at ARB was well attended with almost 40 present which was good to see. Thanks to Beran and his staff for providing the showroom facilities for the evening. There was plenty of banter, Club discounts from ARB and ARB vouchers as door prizes. Thanks to Mark Mensch and Ken Mellross for manning the BBQ.

The Bellarine Wine Tour was held on Saturday 29th March. This was a great social day with good fun had by all. Thanks to Keith and Belinda Murdock and Juanita Mountjoy for organizing this.

Planning for the Moonambel Muster on King's Birthday Weekend is now well underway. We are hoping to have flyers with details of the event in the near future. Watch out also for details of 2 reccy runs likely in early May and on the weekend of 24-25th of May. Save the date for Moonambel: 6-9th June 2025.

Easter is fast approaching and it is great to see the Mountjoy's Beachport extravaganza back on track and fully subscribed. This promises to be both a social and action packed weekend. We look forward to news of the beach boggings!

The date for the Awards Night has now been set for Saturday 16th August 2025 and the AGM for 10th September. Pencil these dates into your diaries. Further details later.

See you on the tracks,
Geoff

A handwritten signature of Geoff Davey in a cursive, informal script.

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Photo Circa 1982

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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting	General Meeting
Location	ARB Geelong - 304 Thompson Road
Date	Wednesday 12th March 2025
Chair	Geoff Davey
Minutes taken by	Geoff Davey

Agenda	
Meeting opened at	7.33 pm
Welcome to everyone present	Welcome all. Thanks to Berin and his team at ARB for hosting the evening.
New members	Nil
Visitors	Stephen Love, Ian Scott, Tom Reale, Shauna Bowen, Brendon Bryce, Bridgette Bryce.
Present	Michael Barry, Don Bird, Justin Brocks, Sophie Brocks, Levi Brocks, Woody Brown, Kerry Anne Brown, Geoff Connors, Jake Cook, Geoff Davey, Josh Eades, Dave Hamann, Colin Hatton, Kaleb Horrocks, Emma Van Der Weiden, PJ Jayathilake, Graeme Jeffrey, Scott Latham, Joel Martin, Ken Mellross, Mark Mensch, Nathan Mudge, Daniel Murdoch, Keith Murdoch, Paul Oberli, Heather Oberli, John Prowse, Bella Rotho, Bryan Innis, Mark Rothon, Danny Sparks-Cousins.
Apologies	Jennifer Carpentier, Tim Neville, Kelvin Rodgers, Juanita Mountjoy, Byron Willey, Alanna Stratford.

Acceptance of the previous General Meeting Minutes	
Moved Seconded	Sophie Brocks Geoff Connors
Business arising from the previous General Meeting Minutes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Moonambel Muster Clothing being finalised with Hip Pocket. Food / coffee vans will be operating. If willing to lead a trip, contact Tim. Bylaws review - Suggestions are welcome. Chainsaw training report - 6 attended from Geelong 4WD Club.

Correspondence	
In	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> FWD Vic- March presidents / delegates meeting. PO Box - Renewal
Out	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Driveline Magazine

Regular Reports

Treasurer	No report.
Association Rep	The Presidents and Delegates meeting to be held in the Grampians on 29-30 March has been cancelled.
Regional Rep	The Regional Representatives Meeting is to be held on 3-4 May in the Otways.
Trip Co-Ordinator	Trips Out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sprint Cars - 1st March Labour Day Weekend @ Moonambel - March 7th - 10th. Upcoming Trips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter 2025 @ Beachport - Contact Juanita Mountjoy if interested. Medium / hard trip. Mystery Trip - 18th May. Contact Juanita Mountjoy. Moonambel Reccy Run - TBA Moonambel Muster - Kings Birthday weekend June 6th - 9th 2025. Snow Trip(s) - TBA Great Australia Bight - September 20th - October 12th. Contact Juanita Mountjoy. Medium / hard trip, tents / swags only and 8 cars max. Anyone interesting in leading trips please speak with Tim. Reminder club funds available @ \$10 per car to cover eats & drinks.
Editor	Business as usual.
Webmaster	No report.
Club Permit Scheme	No report.
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winery Tour 2025 - Keith Murdoch, Jen Carpentier and Juanita Mountjoy. March 29th 2025. 18+ event. Barefoot Bowls - TBC - Keith Murdoch.
Fines	Ken Mellross 3, Graeme Jeffrey 2, Mark Mensch, Geoff Davey, Nathan Mudge.
Pist 'n' Broke	Graeme Jeffrey and Ken Mellross.
Members Draw	Vouchers from ARB. \$200 Jake Cook, \$100 Don Bird, \$50 Ken Mellross.

Other Business

	Nil
Meeting closed at	8.06 pm
Next General Meeting	Wednesday 9th April 2025 - 7.30pm @ Clubrooms.

AGENDA

Agenda Items for next meeting—Wednesday 9th April 2025

	Moonambel Muster update.
	ABN and tax update.
	Presentation night - 16th August.
	AGM - Wednesday 10th September.
	Bylaws update.
	General business.

PIST'N BROKE MARCH 2025



**KEN MELLROSS &
GRAEME JEFFREY**

GEE LONG 4-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB



MOONAMBEL MUSTER 2025

FRIDAY 6TH TO MONDAY 9TH JUNE
MOONAMBEL RECREATION RESERVE

CAMP SITE (UNPOWERED) \$20/NIGHT
CAMP SITE (POWERED) \$30/NIGHT

Registration and site bookings contact - Graeme Jeffrey
treasurer@geelong4wdclub.org.au - 0456 846 857



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POLO \$40

TEE \$35



BEANIE \$15



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**KEBABS & POTATOES
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MOONAMBEL


MUSTER MUNCHIES

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UPCOMING TRIPS

EASTER 2025 @ BEACHPORT

Date: Thursday 17th - Monday 21st April

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

Trip Classification: Medium+ | **Vehicle Limit:** 7

Meeting: Participants will make their own way to Beachport SA on the Thursday.

Notes: We will run day trips heading out from the caravan park each morning of the Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The trip is rated medium, however depending on the tides, the beach driving can also be easy to hard. Participants must have good ground clearance, long handled shovel, sand flag, basic recovery gear, rated recovery points front and back, Maxtrax (or similar). Please contact Juanita directly on 0467 809 040 if you would like to attend.



MOONAMBEL RECCY #1

Date: Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th May

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

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

Meeting: TBA

Notes: First reccy run for the Moonambel Muster this year. We will try to clear some tracks and cover decent ground. Will also look for an old track that has been inaccessible for a number of years to see the odds of reopening it.



Heading up on the Thursday night - driving both Friday and Saturday and home on Sunday.
Contact Tim on 0478 065 716 if you would like to attend.

4WD MYSTERY ADVENTURE

Date: Sunday 18th May

Trip Leader: Juanita Mountjoy

Meeting: Geelong Waterfront, Cunningham Pier - 9am

Notes: Back in 1975, a Geelong 4WD convoy vanished while transporting valuable cargo. Their final transmissions hinted at rough terrain, sabotage, and betrayal—but the convoy was never seen again. Now, it's your turn to retrace their journey, solve the mystery, and complete the challenges they faced along the way.



Navigate an off-road route inspired by the convoy's last known path. Decode cryptic clues and uncover the truth piece by piece. Face a mix of driving challenges, problem-solving tasks, and hidden messages. Work as a team to outsmart the saboteur and reveal what happened to the Lost Convoy. Are you ready to test your driving, problem-solving, and survival skills? Will you make it to the final destination in time, or will history repeat itself? This is a half-day event, finishing with lunch and a convoy debrief. Prizes for the quickest and cleverest team to participate. Contact Juanita Mountjoy or indicate your attendance via the Facebook event.



UPCOMING TRIPS

MOONAMBEL RECCY #2

Date: Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th May

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

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

Meeting: 9am Friday 23rd @ Batesford Roadhouse

Requirements: Standard recovery gear, rated recovery points, UHF radio. Self recovery if driving more difficult tracks.

Notes: Camping at the Moonambel Recreation Reserve. Run a variety of tracks in the Pyrenees, clear and scout trips by trip leaders as required. We may split into smaller groups to cover more tracks and different degrees of difficulty as required.

Geoff will leave Friday morning but the option is to travel up Friday evening or Saturday morning if that suits better. For more information contact Geoff on 0499 905 975.



MOONAMBEL MUSTER 2025

Date: Friday 6th - Monday 9th June (Kings Birthday Weekend)

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.

If you're interested in leading a trip (even if you have never led a trip before) this is the perfect opportunity. Anything from easy to extreme can be catered for. Get in touch with Tim on 0478 065 716 if you are keen.



CLUB AWARDS NIGHT DINNER

Date: Saturday 16th August

Book it in your diary and come along for dinner to celebrate members who have won the various annual club awards. Venue to be confirmed soon.

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.



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



UPCOMING TRIPS

GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT

Date: Saturday 20th September - Sunday 12th October

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

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

Meeting: *Option 1:* Ampol, Bannockburn. Saturday 20th September, 6.15am.

Option 2: Tourist Info Centre, Port Augusta. Sunday 21st September, 9am.

Option 3: Esperance, WA. No later than the night of Thursday 25th September.



Trip Details: We will begin our trip by crossing the Nullarbor along the Eyre Highway, followed by a few days of rest in Esperance, WA. From there, we'll make our way back across The Great Australian Bight, exploring beaches and coastal tracks.

This trip has been rated as medium to hard, as the beach driving becomes increasingly challenging the further east we go. The return leg across the Bight, from Esperance to Ceduna, spans approximately 1,400 km. We'll aim to cover about 100 km per day in the more difficult terrain, which, while it may not sound like much, will involve slow and demanding driving.

We've allocated 15 days to complete the crossing, finishing in Ceduna, SA. Should we finish ahead of schedule, an optional trip up Googs Track will be available for those interested.

Requirements: Participants must have the following - A reliable set of recovery tracks (e.g. MaxTrax), front and rear recovery points, spare tyres and a tyre repair kit, long Handled Shovel, basic recovery gear, including a snatch strap, sufficient fuel, water, and food to last the duration of this remote trip.

Our first opportunity to refuel will be on Day 7, and the first water resupply will be on Day 9, likely from a bore water source. This trip will be strictly tents and swags only—no campers. For those interested, fishing and surfing opportunities may be available along the way.

For further details, or to register your interest, please contact: Juanita Mountjoy on 0467 809 040 or Matthew Mountjoy on 0400 389 230.

Note: If you are new to beach driving, you'll be required to attend the Beachport trip being run over the Easter school holidays as a prerequisite.

TRACK CLEARING WEEKEND

Date: Saturday 25th to Sunday 26th 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

LABOUR DAY WEEKEND AT MOONAMBEL

7TH - 10TH MARCH 2025

WORDS: NATHAN MUDGE - PHOTOS: NATHAN MUDGE & GEOFF DAVEY



The trip began at our Clubrooms with half of the trip attendees, the others would be meeting at camp later that evening or the following morning.

With a cruisy drive towards Moonambel, we stopped in at Lake Learmonth for a quick rest and to get the pies into the ovens in preparation for lunch. From Learmonth we stopped again in Avoca to quickly refuel for the weekend ahead of us before hitting the road again.

Once arriving at the Moonambel Recreation Reserve the convoy was quick to begin setting up camp so we

could hit a few tracks before dinner. Airing down the tires, we set off for an adventure through some easy to medium difficulty tracks including Farnsworth Track, Jacksons Track, Main Break, New Nowhere Track - with a loop detour through the bush where trees would become quite tight, requiring ample attention to navigation - No 2. Creek Track and Sardine Track, where there were some steep rocky sections that required careful wheel placement and slow crawling to navigate the terrain.

On the way back from our run we took a detour to see some mines on

the way home. Unfortunately, these have the entrance barricaded and the gates locked now.

With the first day of driving over we had our first casualty with Ken taking a sidewall puncture to the rear drivers tyre.

The second day started slow, waiting for the remainder of the convoy to arrive first thing in the morning. The plan was to have a relaxing day with a short morning trip before lunch at the Summerfields winery. Following Geoff, we headed up Potter Track to a challenging section that had a bypass to the side. Half of us opted



to take the bypass leaving this section to the better equipped and more talented before moving up to a lookout over the Redbank Nature Conservation Reserve and a couple of group photos.

Leaving the lookout, we took a steep decent down through Potter Track, Camp House Track, Dead Man's Track and Greens Lane before joining back into Potter Track and heading back to camp to freshen up for lunch. However, as everyone was getting thirsty, we all rushed off in 3 cars to the winery while somehow leaving a man behind. Graeme came back from the shower block with not a person in sight, his only saviour from a long walk being Geoff speeding back down the road to pick him up. Reunited, we all dined on woodfired pizzas, wine and beer until we were the last ones left from the lunch rush.

After leaving the winery we all started to settle into our camp chairs and beverages for the afternoon, chatting late into the night.

We started our final day of driving after a hearty breakfast and coffee before heading for our biggest driving day for the weekend. With Kenny not wanting to risk another puncture he jumped in with Graeme. We began our adventure



on Squatter Track to warm ourselves up for the challenges ahead before moving onto Billy Goat Track where a fallen tree blocked the track, threatening to roll down the hill if not cut in the right places. Geoff made quick work of the tree by chainsawing it into a more manageable size while the convoy had the cars parked safely away from the dangers of a rolling tree.

Tim was able to get his Stedi Patrol off to the side to winch the remainder of the tree off the track into a safe position where it wouldn't roll down the hill, before the convoy continued onto Black Range and Dridan Track. We made a small detour to attempt the start of Old Kingtree Track for a steep and difficult challenge. Only a handful of cars attempted the section as it required steady control of the throttle and careful wheel placement to ensure you didn't scrape against a tree or get stuck in one of the many holes. Everyone that did try this section succeeded without any issues and the convoy then continued onto Cameron Campground along Cameron Track.

However, along Cameron Track there were a couple of rock steps that needed to be navigated carefully and unfortunately Nathan tried to follow the big boys, slipping off the line and taking a dent to his





fuel tank. Luckily there was no significant damage and no fuel was leaking so we all continued on.

Once at Cameron Campground we met up with the Warrnambool 4WD Club where we had lunch and Geoff went to fulfil presidential relations with the other club.

After lunch we bid farewell to the Warrnambool club and Timmy, who had to drive off to Brisbane, and made our way to Old Tiger Cat Track. The rest of the day was spent driving various tracks with steep climbs and descents causing our water and transmission temps to rise and fall with the terrain. The convoy continued through Old Mill Track, Emery Track, Frasers Track, Old Bluff Track, No 2 Creek Track and again finishing on Sardines Track.



The trip wouldn't be complete however without another bit of damage - this time to Graeme who got a puncture while going through Sardine Track. Ken's bad luck from the previous day was brought with him as a passenger with Graeme.

With the driving finished for the day everyone sat down to enjoy a drink while Nathan and Alma went for a swim at the local pool. Before long everyone had to scramble for cover as heavy rain rolled through forcing



everyone to find shelter. Nathan and Alma lowered their gazebo into a little hobbit hut and dug trenches to keep water out while the others fled to the cover of the Rec Centre's veranda. The rain not letting up, everyone bunkered down into their campers and swags for the night waiting for the clear skies of the morning.

The warm and sunny morning of the final day arrived to reveal the still muddy ground and drenched campsite. A slow start for the day, everyone let their gear dry a little in the sun while having coffee and breakfast before packing up. The trip was now over. Fun was had by all and with the sun high above us we all began to head home one by one heading our own separate ways.

Nathan

Participants

Geoff Davey (Trip Leader)
Jason and Robin Clark
Mark Mensch
Ken Mellross
Paul and Heather Oberli
Nathan and Alma Mudge
Kaleb and Emma Horrocks
Jimmy Halikias
Pula and Theo Jayathilake
Tim Neville
Graeme Jeffrey (Tail End)





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WINERY TOUR SOCIAL DAY

SATURDAY 29TH MARCH 2025

WORDS: BELINDA MURDOCH - PHOTOS: GEOFF & KEITH



On Saturday 29th March, thirteen members ventured off on a winery tour along the Bellarine Peninsula.

The first stop was the Flying Brick Cider Co where a few members tried the wine tastings and the cider paddles, it was a great start to the day.

We had lunch at Clifton Springs Golf Club where there was a wide selection of meals to choose from. Everyone enjoyed their meals along with a few refreshments.

After lunch we visited Terindah Estate where we enjoyed stunning views while sampling some of their finest beers and wines. We all jumped back on the bus and headed to our next stop - Bellarine Estate, where espresso martinis were enjoyed by a number of members whilst others enjoyed the rest of the cocktail menu.

Our last stop was McGlashan Wallington Estate, home of Farm Dog Brewery; where gin tastings and pizzas were appreciated.

Thanks to Chris for driving the bus and putting up with a rowdy crew and Keith and Juanita for organising this amazing day out.

Cheers,

Belinda



GENERAL MEETING AT ARB

WEDNESDAY 12TH MARCH
WORDS & PHOTOS: DANNY SPARKS-COUSINS

Our March general meeting for 2025 was held at the ARB Geelong showroom on Thompson Road.

With good weather for the evening, the team at ARB had the gazebo out and the BBQ ready for Ken and Mark to get to work cooking snags, burgers and onions for everyone to enjoy - thanks

guys! Along with the food there was a selection of refreshments - all ice cold in the ARB display fridges.

We had a good turnout for the meeting with almost 40 members in attendance. We were able to browse the store before the meeting and chat with the ARB

team about product information and advice, with a few good deals and purchases made.

Berin was able to give us all a rundown on some new ARB products for the year, including the range of new brushless compressors, the new range of Zenith bull bars, and the



awesome Slimline 100 battery which has a massive 100Ah LiPo capacity in a very space saving size.

The actual general meeting went well and ran fairly quick. After the usual updates and info, it was time for a few prizes. The Pist'n Broke award this month went to the duet of Ken Mellross and Graeme Jeffrey - who both managed to stake tyres recently on the same 'Easy/Medium' Moonambel trip. Lucky door prizes were next, with Jake Cook grabbing the \$200 ARB voucher, followed by Don Bird with the \$100 voucher and Ken Mellross with the \$50 voucher.

Big thanks to Berin and the team at ARB Geelong for hosting us again and helping making this a great night out.

Back to the clubrooms next month.

Danny



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