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AUGUST

1 - 3 HARD SNOW TRIP

8 - 10 MEDIUM SNOW TRIP

13 GENERAL MEETING Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

16 PRESENTATION NIGHT DINNER

27 COMMITTEE MEETINGClubrooms @ 7:30pm

SEPTEMBER

10
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Pizza from 6:30pm Meeting @ 7:30pm

20 SEP - 12 OCT DROP IN, DROP OUT SA ADVENTURE

COMMITTEE MEETINGClubrooms @ 7:30pm

OCTOBER

8 GENERAL MEETING

Clubrooms @ 7:30pm 17 - 19

FWDVIC 50TH @ MERRIJIG

COMMITTEE MEETINGClubrooms @ 7:30pm

25 - 26 TRACK CLEARING

30 OCT - 5 NOV MELBOURNE CUP HIGH COUNTRY

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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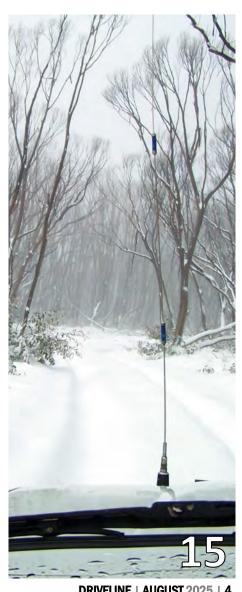
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2024-25 COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Geoff Davey president@geelong4wdclub.org.au

VICE PRESIDENT

Sophie Brocks vice.president@geelong4wdclub.org.au

SECRETARY

Jenny Carpentier secretary@geelong4wdclub.org.au

TREASURER

Graeme Jeffrey treasurer@geelong4wdclub.org.au

TRIP COORDINATOR

Tim Neville trips@geelong4wdclub.org.au

EDITOR

Danny Sparks-Cousins editor@geelong4wdclub.org.au

WEBMASTER

Danny Sparks-Cousins webmaster@geelong4wdclub.org.au

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

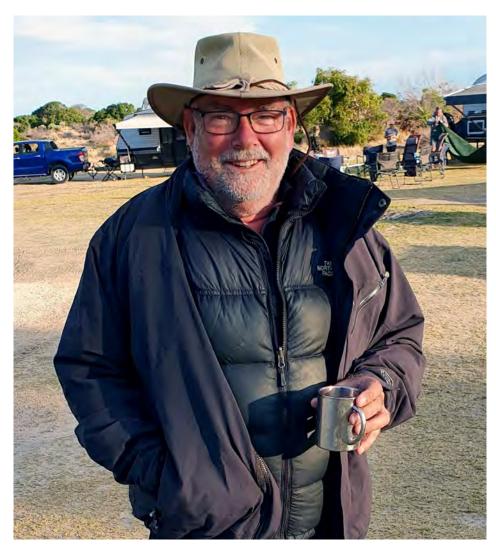
Mark Mensch region.rep@geelong4wdclub.org.au

ORDINARY MEMBERS

Jemma Brocks
Jimmy Halikias
Mark Mensch
Juanita Mountjoy
Daniel Murdoch
Keith Murdoch
Kelvin Rogers
Alanna Stratford

Cover Photo: Nathan Mudge





THE PRES SAYS

G'day all,

Our next social event is the Awards Night to be held on Saturday 16th August at the Cremorne Hotel. This is always a relaxed social evening so come along night so come for a bit of fun and a catch up. Please let Keith Murdoch know if you are attending.

A big thank you goes to Nathan Mudge for leading his first trip - Touring the Otways. This was a well organised trip with numerous points of interest including The Otway Fly, a visit to the Redwood plantation and walks to Stevenson's Falls and Hopetown Falls. There was a bit of four wheel driving too! Well done Nathan.

The Club By-laws have been updated and will shortly be posted on the Club website. Make sure you have read these. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself and comply with these By-laws.

Further dates to remember:

- The AGM will be held on Wednesday 10th September at the Clubrooms. There will be Pizzas and Door prizes.
- The Christmas Party will be on Saturday 29th November at the Queen of the West.

See you on the tracks, Geoff



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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting	General Meeting
Location	Clubrooms - 80 Edgerton Road, Lovelybanks
Date	Wednesday 9th July 2025
Chair	Geoff Davey
Minutes taken by	Geoff Davey

Agenda	
Meeting opened at	7.33 pm
Welcome to everyone present	Welcome all
New members	Mark and Tanya Bodger
Visitors	Nil
Present	Geoff Davey, Geoff Connors, Graeme Jeffrey, Ian Scott, Joel Martin, John Prowse, Josh Eades, Justin Brocks, Sophie Brocks, Kelvin Rogers, Ken Mellross, Levi Brocks, Juanita Mountjoy, PJ Jayathilake, Scott Latham, Tim Neville, Danny Sparks Cousins.
Apologies	Mark Rothon, Geoff Van Ingen, Sharon Van Ingen, Beth Rogers, Jenny Carpentier, Daniel Murdoch, Keith Murdoch, Jemma Brocks, Mark Mensch, Jimmy Halikias, Jake Cook, Daniel Jennings.

Acceptance of the previous General Meeting Minutes		
Moved Seconded	Graeme Jeffrey Ken Mellross	
Business arising from the previous General Meeting Minutes	 Presentation Night - Saturday 16th August. Membership Fees - are now overdue. Taxation Update - Almost done. Waiting on the tax department to approve our alternate financial year (31st May as registered with CAV). We will need to pay some tax. By-laws update - By Laws are complete. The club forms will be completed shortly and posted on the Club Website one approved by the Committee. Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 10th September 2025. FWDV 50th Anniversary - Weekend at Merrijig. 17th-19th October. Affiliation return for FWDV - Currently \$60 per member. Graeme has provided member names and membership numbers to FWDV to cover insurance listing. Christmas Party - Looking at the last weekend in November. TBA. 	
New Business	Nil	

Correspondence	
In	 a) FWDV - Club presidents and Delegates minutes. b) Email - from Mat Mason re: Western Liaison Group c) FWDV - Chainsaw course d) Email - from Keith Windle of Inverleigh Historical Society asking about G4WDC involvement in removing car bodies from Inverleigh Flora and Fauna Reserve in the 90s
Out	a) Driveline Magazine - July 2025.

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Regular Reports	
Treasurer	Presented by Graeme Jeffrey.
Association Rep	Nothing to report.
Regional Rep	Mat Mason is arranging a meeting of the Western Liaison Group. TBA.
Trip Co-Ordinator	Upcoming Trips Touring the Otways - 18th – 20th July. Nathan Mudge. Snow Trip #1 - 1st - 2nd August. Tim Neville - TRIP FULL Snow Trip #2 - 8th - 10th August. Mountjoys. Drop In Drop Out SA Adventure - September 20th - October 12th. Mountjoys. Grand Final Weekend - 26th – 28th September. TBA FWDV 50th Anniversary - Weekend at Merrijig. 17th-19th October. Track Clearing - 25th - 26th October. Danny Sparks-Cousins. Melbourne Cup Weekend - 31st October - 4th November. Daniel Murdoch. Anyone interesting in leading trips please speak with Tim. Reminder club funds available @ \$10 per car to cover eats & drinks.
Editor	Bumper Moonambel Magazine Edition. Thanks Danny and all contributors.
Webmaster	Nothing to report.
Club Permit Scheme	Nothing to report.
Social	Barefoot Bowls - Spring - TBC - Keith Murdoch.
Fines	Nil
Pist 'n' Broke	Levi Brocks
Members Draw	Joel Martin
Meeting closed at	8.01 pm
Next General Meeting	Wednesday 13th August 2025 - 7.30pm @ Clubrooms.

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AGENDA

Agenda Items for next meeting—Wednesday 13th August 2025	
	 FWDV 50 year celebration weekend at Merrijig. 17-10 October. Gareth Milloy from FWDV attending. Presentation Night. Saturday 16th August at the Cremorne Hotel. By Laws updated. Taxation update. AGM Wednesday 10th September. a) Pizzas provided. b) Door prizes. c) Committee nominations. Christmas Party Saturday 29th November at Queen of the West. General business.

PIST'N BROKE
JULY 2025



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Notice of Annual General Meeting Geelong 4 Wheel Drive Club (Driveline Geelong Inc)

Wednesday 10th September 2025, 7:30pm at the Clubrooms - Abe Wood Reserve

We hereby advise that the 2025 AGM will be held on Wednesday 10th September 2025 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 guorum 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.



JPCOMING TRIPS

HARD SNOW TRIP

Date: Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd August

Trip Leader: Tim Neville | Tail End Charlie: TBA

Trip Classification: Hard | Vehicle Limit: 10

Notes: Leaving Geelong cam Fida morning com BP Little Fiver

Staying at the Jamison Gravan and Please confirm position on trip with Imbefore calling and booking a calin under your same.

Saturday - Mt Skene plus tracks, pub dinner. Sunday - Mt Terrible onto Woods Point before heading home.

Mud tires highly recommended or very, very good quality all terrains. Snorkel and winch required as we will be attempting hard tracks. Contact Tim on 0478 065 716 if you would like to attend.



Date: Friday 8th - Sunday 10th August

Trip Leader: Matthew & Juanita Mountjoy | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA **Trip Classification:** Medium | **Vehicle Limit:** 8 (Permit Required)

Notes: Make your own way to Jamieson Caravan Park on Friday night and settle in. On Saturday, we'll head over the stunning Mt Skene (fingers crossed for a

fresh blanket of snow!). After that, we'll hit a few more tracks in the surrounding area.

Saturday night, we'll warm up with a group dinner at the Jamieson Brewery and Grill, great food and a perfect way to unwind. If there's interest, we'll tackle a few more tracks on Sunday before heading home. Permits need to be organised ASAP, so let me know quickly if you'd like to attend! Juanita Mountjoy 0467 809 040.



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. We will be heading to the Cremorne Hotel for a great meal, a few drinks and a night of fun with mates.

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





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



DROP IN, DROP OUT - SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ADVENTURE

Date: Saturday 20th September - Sunday 12th October

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

Trip Classification: Medium | Vehicle Limit: 8

Meeting: This is a drop in, drop out trip, meaning you can drop into the trip at

any of the main points.

Trip Details: The trip is going to be divided into three distinct parts: ranges, de-

sert and beach.

Requirements: Participants must have a reliable set of recovery tracks (e.g. Maxtrax), if travelling the desert or beach legs, sand flag, front and rear recovery points, long handled shovel, basic recovery gear including a snatch strap. For further details please contact Juanita on 0467 809 040 or Matthew on 0400 389 230.



Date: Friday 17th to Sunday 19th October Trip Leader: TBA | Tail End Charlie: TBA

Trip Classification: Easy / Social

Departing: TBA

Note: A fun, social weekend away to celebrate Four Wheel Drive Victoria's 50th anniversary. Live music, entertainment, pop-up bar, food trucks, local vendors,

industry exhibits / partners, prizes and more. Camping available on-site. Bookings essential. More info coming soon.

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.

MELBOURNE CUP LONG WEEKEND

Date: Thursday 30th October to Wednesday 5th November

Trip Leader: Daniel Murdoch | Tail End Charlie: TBA Trip Classification: Medium+ | Vehicle Limit: 10

Departing: TBA

Note: Longer than normal, this will be an epic High Country trip doing a lot of

iconic tracks in the Alpine National Park and making our way to the Dargo pub.



newersary 2025





Traveller trip, swags and tents only. No Trailers. Must have a snorkel and front and rear recovery points, good all terrain tyres or better. People can head back on the Tuesday if needed. For more info contact Daniel on 0498 683 330.



TACKLING THE WHITE STUFF: TIPS FOR DRIVING IN SNOW

By: Juanita Mountjoy

Winter's here, and it's time to turn our hand to snow driving. Tackling snowy tracks can be a fantastic 4WD experience, provided you know what you're doing. Here are a few tips that will help you stay safe on your travels.

Before you even leave home, make sure your vehicle is in top condition, especially the battery. Vehicle batteries struggle in freezing temperatures, and if yours is on the way out, now's the time to replace it. Add anti-freeze to your radiator coolant to prevent cracking, and make sure your mix is suitable for sub-zero conditions. If you're running diesel, fill up with Alpine diesel, which contains additives to prevent "waxing" (when diesel thickens and

clogs the fuel system in extreme cold). And don't forget to run a set of quality all terrain tyres.

Being stranded in cold conditions can turn serious fast, so it's important to be prepared. Pack warm clothing for everyone, including solid boots, gloves, and beanies. If you're venturing into remote areas, bring extra food, water, and a blanket or bivvy bag in case you're stuck overnight. And always let someone know exactly where you are going and your estimated return time. Hypothermia is a real risk, don't underestimate it!

Always carry appropriate recovery gear if you are travelling on remote snow-covered tracks. A UHF radio,

tyre deflator and compressor, snatch straps, rated shackles, tree protectors, winch gear and rated recovery points (front and rear) should be part of your standard kit. Someone in your convoy should also have a winch and carry a chainsaw. A snow shovel and traction boards (like Maxtrax) can make all the difference when recovering a vehicle stuck in snow. Clearing snow from around your tyres and using traction aids can be the key to getting out safely.

In Victoria, all vehicles entering alpine resorts during the declared snow season are legally required to carry snow chains, and they must be fitted when directed by signage or authorities. While 4WD's may not always be required to fit them, they



still need to carry them and be prepared to fit them if conditions dictate. On Mt Skene, only the lead vehicle is currently required to carry chains.

When driving in snow, always stick to the tracks. Hidden under the snow are things that can damage your vehicle, suck as tree stumps, rocks and deep ruts. Try to limit any sudden changes in steering, acceleration and braking, as these can quickly cause you to loose traction. Smooth, gradual changes will help you maintain control. Always keep your headlights on, as they increase your visibility to others. Use your fog lights (if you have them) when conditions worsen. You'll also want to let your tyre pressures down. A good starting point is 20psi,

but you can drop them lower depending on the conditions.

Slowing down is critical in snowy or icy conditions. Black ice is a major hazard in snow driving and it's almost invisible. Drivers should anticipate it in dark or shaded areas, or early in the day. If you hit black ice and start to slide, ease off the accelerator and steer gently in the direction you want to go. Recovery may take time, but avoid braking hard or jerking the wheel. You'll only make things worse!

Finally, make good use of your gears instead of your brakes. Engine braking is especially useful on slippery descents. When approaching a descent or a slippery slope, select a low gear early and feather your

brakes. This will help avoid lock-up and reduce the risk of skidding.

Snow driving offers a whole new way to enjoy your 4WD, so grab a few mates and head out. Be safe, respect the conditions and get out there and enjoy the fun.

Juanita.



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TOURING THE OTWAYS

18th - 20th July 2025 Words: Nathan Mudge - Photos: Various

A bit of cool weather and the odd splash of rain couldn't dampen spirits for our weekend touring the Otways — a trip full of winding tracks, towering trees, and great company.

Friday - Setting Up and Scouting Out

The trip began at Waurn Ponds
Bunnings, where Geoff, Colin, Lisa
and I met up to grab some firewood
– a must for any winter camp. From
there, we headed towards Dando's
Campground. Much of the
campground was muddy, a clear sign
of the rains earlier in the week, but
we managed to find a dry enough
spot to claim for the weekend.

Once camp was set up and secured for anyone joining us on Saturday, we aired down and headed off for a recce of one of the unnamed local tracks. It didn't take long to realise it hadn't been driven in a while – overgrown, deeply rutted, and increasingly tight. Halfway through, we made the call to turn back rather than push on blindly.

That afternoon, we made our way into Forrest in search of a pub drink, only to find it shut — much to our thirsty disappointment. We salvaged the detour with a visit to the newly refurbished Stevenson Falls picnic area. With a short walk to the falls it is well worth the visit. The night finished the way any good camping night should: around the fire, bellies full and drinks in hand, sharing stories under the stars.

Saturday – Into the Treetops
Saturday morning started slow and

social with breakfast, hot coffee, and a small fire to fight off the morning chill. We waited to see if any others would join – and were soon joined by Libby. With our convoy complete, we rolled out around 9:30am.

Our path took us along Lardner Track, but we soon diverted up Carmen Track, which provided an entertaining challenge. A steep, slick climb through native forest was easily handled in low range and rewarded us with a scenic ridgeline view over logged hills scattered with flowering white lilies.

Back on the bitumen, we headed toward one of the weekend's main highlights: the Otway Fly Treetop Walk. Starting at ground level, the walk winds through lush fern gullies







and whimsical community-built garden displays before beginning its climb into the canopy. As we rose, the wind picked up and the suspended walkways swayed beneath our feet. At the highest point – nearly 10 metres below the top of tallest trees – we could feel the trees themselves moving in the wind. Some of us even braved the cantilever platform, which offered the most sway and the best views (and a good test of nerves!).

Rain threatened but held off just long enough for us to finish the walk, air up our tyres, and begin the journey to the Californian Redwoods. Following the map led us to Old Coach Road – or at least that was the plan. What we actually found was a slippery, rutted descent with rain streaming through the ruts. Undeterred, we pressed on, weaving through a deep forest trail filled with dense canopy. Despite the map indicating a dead end, the track surprisingly opened up onto Aire Valley Road, just a stone's throw from the Redwoods.

We pulled in for lunch and took a short walk among these towering trees. At over 60 metres tall, they're still considered "teenagers" compared to their North American relatives, but their size and presence were awe-inspiring. The dense canopy even kept us mostly dry as



the rain finally arrived.

Before heading back to camp, we squeezed in one final stop at Hopetoun Falls. A short stair-filled descent brought us to the base of the falls, where the roar of crashing water against rock provided a perfect final scene for the day's adventures.

That night back at camp, we settled in once again with food, drinks, and a bit of music, talking until late.

Sunday – Farewells and Coastal Views

Sunday started slow, with a few tired eyes and damp awnings to shake off. After packing up, we made our way toward Apollo Bay for a well-earned brunch at Little Crumb Bakery. The coffee was hot, the food was excellent, and the lively atmosphere gave us one last boost before the drive home.

Our route back took us along the iconic Great Ocean Road, winding beside the ocean until we reached Lorne. From there, we turned inland again, through bush-lined roads that eventually led us back to Geelong. One by one, we peeled off, returning home with muddy 4WD's and some great photos from the experience.

Nathan.







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