DRIVELINE

SEPTEMBER 2025





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ON THE HORIZON

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

26 - 28 GRAND FINAL WEEKEND @ MOONAMBEL

OCTOBER

8

GENERAL MEETING

Clubrooms @ 7:30pm BBQ from 6:30pm

17 - 19 FWDVIC 50TH @ MERRIJIG

19 - 21 FWDVIC AFTERPARTY TRIP

COMMITTEE MEETINGClubrooms @ 7:30pm

25 - 26 TRACK CLEARING

30 OCT - 5 NOV HIGH COUNTRY LONG WEEKEND

NOVEMBER

12

GENERAL MEETING

Clubrooms @ 7:30pm BBQ from 6:30pm

15 SHOPPING TRIP

26 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.



IN THIS ISSUE

05

PRES SAYS

12

UPCOMING TRIPS

07

MEETING MINUTES

14

TRIP PREP TIPS

09

PIST'N BROKE

16

SNOW TRIP #1

11

AGM NOTICE

19

CLUB AWARDS

NIGHT



DRIVELINE | SEPTEMBER 2025 | 4

2024-25 COMMITTEE

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

Cover Photo: Tim Neville





THE PRES SAYS

G'day all,

This will be my last report as President. I've been in the position for 5 years and we are due (some would say overdue) for a change.

Personally I've gained a lot from my membership of the Geelong 4WD Club and serving on the Committee and as President has been a way to contribute back to the Club.

Through this period we have collectively made a number of achievements:

- Review of the Rules of Association and By Laws.
- Surviving COVID.
- Maintaining high trip numbers and member participation.
- Rebuilt the Moonambel Muster into a thriving event with a reputation for its organization and external social interactions.
- Reviewed and upgraded the Clubs financial systems.

These have been possible only by collaboration from Committee and the Club members. It's been nice to see these improvements during my watch, if I can put that in a self indulgent way.

I've said many times that the strength of the Club is defined by its members and their participation in trips and events. I hope to see this continue. Our continued success, or even survival, requires all members to participate and contribute.

Presentation night was held on the 16th August at the Cremorne Hotel with 24 attending (significantly down on last year). This was a great night which was enjoyed by all who attended. Congratulations to all the award recipients and thanks to Keith Murdoch for organising the event.

Don't forget the AGM (and General Meeting) at the Clubrooms on Wednesday 10th September. There are Pizzas from 6.30pm, door prizes and socialization. Please come along and enjoy the night.

I look forward to continuing my involvement with the Club.

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	7.37 pm
Welcome to everyone present	Welcome all
New members	Mark and Tania Bodger
Visitors	Chad Barnes, Noel Molloy, Lyn Molloy, Gareth Milloy.
Present	Byron Willey, Corey Allsopp, Corie Hale, Daniel Murdoch, Darcy Brocks, Geoff Davey, Geoff Connors, Harry Preston, Jimmy Halikias, Joel Martin, Grace Spano, Josh Eades, Justin Brocks, Sophie Brocks, Keith Murdoch, Kelvin Rogers, Ken Mellross, Levi Brocks, Nathan Mudge, PJ, Scott Latham, Tim Neville, David Dixon, Dave Hamann, Trevor Brocks.
Apologies	Mark Mensch. Graeme Jeffrey, Juanita Mountjoy, Danny Sparks-Cousins, Jemma Brocks, Don Bird, Rick Neville, Ron Bastin, Beth Rogers.

Acceptance of the previous General Meeting Minutes	
Moved Seconded	Tim Neville Ken Mellross
Business arising from the previous General Meeting Minutes	 FWDV 50th Anniversary - weekend at Merrijig. 17th-19th October. Gareth Milloy from FWDV gave a run down of the event. Please book early through the FWDV site if attending. Also list name on the Club Facebook event. Presentation Night - Saturday 16th August at Cremorne Hotel. By Laws Update - To be posted shortly. Taxation Update - Given by Geoff. AGM - Wednesday 10th September. a. Pizzas provided b. Door prizes c. Committee Nominations Christmas Party - Saturday 29th November at the Queen of the West.
New Business	Nil

Correspondence	
In	 a. FWDV - Request to attend next General Meeting, Re: FWDV Anniversary. b. FWDV - re next Regional Meeting 8-9 November. c. Thank you from Gavin Svanborg, Overland 4WD Club re Moonambel. d. Thank you from Amanda Martin re Woody rescue at Moonambel. e. Email from North Barwon Pigeon Club inquiring about Clubrooms. f. Email from FWDV re 50 year bookings.
Out	a. Driveline Magazine - August 2025.

Regular Reports	
Treasurer	Presented by Geoff Davey.
Association Rep	Nothing to report.
Regional Rep	Regional Reps Meeting 8-9 November 2025. Alexandra.
Trip Co-Ordinator	Trips Out Touring the Otways - 18th – 20th July. Nathan Mudge. Snow Trip #1 - 1st - 2nd August. Tim Neville. Snow Trip #2 - 8th - 10th August. Mountjoys.
	 Upcoming Trips Drop In Drop Out SA Adventure - September 20th - October 12th. Mountjoys. Grand Final Weekend - 26th – 28th September. Moonambel / Summerfield Winery. Geoff Davey. FWDV 50th Anniversary - 17th-19th October. Weekend at Merrijig. 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	
Webmaster	
Club Permit Scheme	One car added to CPS.
Social	 Barefoot Bowls - Spring - TBC - Keith Murdoch. Shopping Trip
Fines	Corie Hale x7, Geoff Davey x5, Daniel Murdoch x2, Joel Martin x2, Levi Brocks, Jimmy Halikias, Corey Allsopp
Pist 'n' Broke	Corie Hale and Harry Preston
Members Draw	Nathan Mudge
Meeting closed at	8.29 pm
Next General Meeting	Wednesday 10th September 2025 - 7.30pm @ Clubrooms.

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Next General Meeting	Wednesday 10th September 2025 - 7.30pm @ Clubrooms.

AGENDA

Agenda Items for next meeting—Wednesday 10th September 2025		
	 Presentation Night review. By-Laws updated. 	
	3. Tax return finalised.	
	 Christmas Party - Saturday 29th November, Queen of the West. General business. 	
	5. General business.	

PIST'N BROKE AUGUST 2025



HARRY PRESTON & CORIE HALE

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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.





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 26th to Sunday 28th September **Trip Leader:** Geoff Davey | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

Trip Classification: Social with some easy - medium driving | Vehicle Limit: N/A

Departing: 9am Friday 26th from Batesford Roadhouse

Requirements: Standard recovery gear, rated recovery points, UHF radio and a

sense of humour.

Trip Details: A social weekend camping at Moonambel with lunch at the Summerfield Winery and watch the Grand Final after that. Possible short drives on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning depending on group requirements.

The Land Rover Club will also be at the Rec Reserve with 40 vehicles but they are happy to share with us. I have booked the winery but will need to confirm numbers, so please let me know ASAP if attending. Contact Geoff 0499 905 975.



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.





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



FWDV 50TH AFTERPARTY TRIP

Date: Sunday 19th to Tuesday 21st October

Trip Leader: Nathan Mudge | Tail End Charlie: TBA Trip Classification: Medium | Vehicle Limit: 10 **Departing:** From FWDV 50th event @ Merrijig

Requirements: Rated recovery points (front and rear), recovery kit, UHF, AT/MT

Tyres, Snorkel.

Trip Details: Anyone who is going to the FWD Victoria Anniversary Event is welcome to join the afterparty. Let's make the most of being up there for the weekend and extend out the trip to go and travel some of the tracks around Jameison and camp along a river. More trip details to come as to camp location and any activities.



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.



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.

SHOPPING TRIP

Date: Saturday 15th November Trip Leader: Belinda Murdoch Trip Classification: Social

Departing: TBA

Note: A full day shopping tour in Melbourne. Tickets will cost around \$55 per person. This will cover the cost of the bus. We will attend a number of different

factory outlet stores across the day for some pre Christmas bargains. Check Facebook for more information.



FIVE KEY STEPS TO PREPARE FOR A 4X4 TRIP

By: Juanita Mountjoy

A well-planned 4WD trip can be an incredible experience - whether you're exploring remote regions or just getting off the beaten track for a few days. But before you set off, it's worth taking the time to prepare properly. Here are five key things to keep in mind that can make all the difference out on the road.

Start with the Right Attitude – Be Flexible

No matter how well-planned a trip is, things can and do go wrong. Trip leaders typically map out routes, driving hours, and daily distances in detail—but detours, wrong turns, or unexpected challenges like breakdowns and recoveries are all part of the experience. Sometimes that means turning the whole convoy around, camping later than expected or skipping a destination altogether. The key is to stay positive and roll with the punches. Embrace the unpredictability—it's part of what makes 4WD trips memorable.

Pack Smart and Efficiently

Packing efficiently is a bit of an art - especially for longer trips. Think carefully about how to best use the space in your vehicle while keeping it safe and balanced. Heavy items should be stored low and securely - such as in drawers or on the vehicle floor - while lighter items like swags or clothing can go on the roof rack.

Items you'll need regularly, like recovery gear or a first aid kit, should be easy to reach. There's nothing worse than having to unpack the whole car just to get to something important! Also, keep in mind that fuel and gas shouldn't be stored inside the vehicle cabin - roof racks or secure external mounts are the safest options.

Ask the Trip Leader What to Bring

It's easy to overpack, especially if you're heading somewhere remote. The trip leader will usually have a clear idea of what's needed, so it's always worth asking for a gear list. Recovery gear is essential for any trip, but depending on where you're going, there may be extra specialised items you'll need to pack. If you're not sure, just ask. And don't forget a decent first aid kit. It's one of those things you hope you won't need, but really want to have if you do.

Carry Sufficient Water—And Then Some

Water is one of the most important things to plan for. In remote areas, there's no guarantee you'll be able to refill, so it's best to carry more than you think you'll need. A general guide is around 5–7 litres per person per day, covering drinking, cooking, and basic hygiene. Always bring extra: a 20-litre emergency supply is a smart safeguard in case of delays

or breakdowns. Also, avoid relying on a single large container. Spreading your supply across a few smaller ones makes it easier to manage and gives you a backup if one leaks.

Plan for the Worst (Especially with Fuel and Water)

Things can and will go wrong - it's part of the 4WD experience. Whether it's a bogging or a mechanical issue, even minor setbacks can become big problems in remote areas. Start every journey with a full tank of fuel (including subtanks, if you have them), and refuel at every opportunity - especially when driving through challenging terrain like mud, sand, or steep inclines, which can drastically increase fuel consumption. Lowrange driving also uses more fuel, so factor that into your planning. As with water, carry an emergency reserve of fuel and know your vehicle's range under varying conditions. Never assume there'll be a servo just around the corner!

Preparing properly for a 4WD trip gives you the best chance of enjoying the journey, even when things don't go exactly to plan. With a bit of preparation and the right mindset, you're setting yourself up for a great trip, no matter where the tracks take you.







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SNOW TRIP #1

1ST - 3RD AUGUST 2025
WORDS: TIM NEVILLE - PHOTOS: TIM & GEOFF

9 of us met up on Friday Morning ready to hit the highway and make our way to Jamieson. Due to the calibre of car we had on this trip we travelled the longer way to Jamieson avoiding Mansfield.

We called past the Jamieson brewery and had a great lunch whilst some of the passengers settled after some car sickness. From here we made our way past the servo to top our cars with fuel before checking into the caravan park.

We decided not the let the perfect weather go to waste and piled in the cars and went for a drive in a new area just out of Jamieson towards Merrijig. This was a nice area to travel. There was plenty of firewood fallen on the side of the tracks, river crossings and steep climbs. The rivers were slightly up due to recent rain and so most of us watched the

bonnets of our cars disappear under water as we passed through.

We then tackled a steeper climb with some rock steps on an offshoot of Dungeon Gully Track. This climb had a few of us with wheel lifts as we climbed. Unfortunately Geoff didn't get to try this in the 200 as it decided to allow the electrical issues from Moonambel reappear. The 200 didn't know what was going on, was it stuck in low range or high range, it was having a fit and so Geoff turned around and made his way to the main road to limp back to the caravan park.

The rest of us continued the loop and then made our way back to the caravan park. On our way back we managed to overtake a certain silver 200 with its hazard lights on travelling down the highway quite slowly. Geoff's 200 decided once he

was on the black top that it would choose low range and stay in low range. We then went down to the pub for dinner where a few of us decided to stay and enjoy the cold beer they offered on tap.

The next morning we woke up to perfect weather again, little wind and the sun shining. We ventured up the Jamieson-Licola Road towards Skene. This year the road was in very good condition.

As a trip leader its always stressful as you climb the mountain not knowing what kind of snow to expect.

However, as we topped over 1400m in elevation we started to see signs of snow. It was very icy snow, but none the less it was snow.

A few of us had some fun at the top finding deeper snow in the spoon drains on the side of the road that









required some winching. The kids all then enjoyed a great time in the snow throwing snowballs and building snowmen.

From here we ventured over the other side of Skene in the search for a new track I had heard of that links up to one of my favourite tracks in the area. Whilst we found the track (I'll call it a track but I know Geoffrey will disagree with me) it was very, very over grown. We made it about 2/3rds the way towards where it meets up with the other track we know of before I called it and we ventured back out the way we came

From here we did a loop I have done before, down Lazarinis, onto Webber Spur Track, this has a nice clay downhill section, on this section we came across a rolled Navara that was in the process of being recovered by a recovery group with their Unimog. We continued to the steep rocky climb on Webber Spur Track. This hill has a bit on with a few winches being needed, especially for Scott who nearly put his newly built GQ on its side. From here we doubled back towards the Woods Point - Jamieson Road, this had a few nice river crossings and a couple of steeper hills.

Unfortunately, this is where Corie's rear diff decided it did not want to play ball anymore. Due to his car now being only front wheel drive, we turned around and went for a longer but easier drive to the main road and home. This required Justin to tow Corie across a few rivers and up a few hills.

From here we went back to the caravan park, and for the first time in a few years we made it to our Saturday night pub feed on Tim's snow trip. A great feed was enjoyed followed by beers around the fire back at the caravan park.

Sunday unfortunately saw a few depart us, with Jake and Milly, Lachie and Eb, Scott and Brooke and Corie and Harry leave for Geelong. The rest of us took advantage of then extra permit we had and we went back over Mount Skene. To our surprise there had been a little dusting of snow overnight. We had a quick stop at the summit before we continued to the infamous N15 Track.

Geoff and Bruce decided this would be a little too hard for them and they continued on then main road and headed for Geelong. The rest of us started N15. The drive down to the river wasn't too bad and the river level was guite low. The climb out the other side though, that was a decent slog. It appears there has been a fair bit more traffic on the track and so there is a new rock step that has not been there before. This had a few of us winching whilst a few had a spirited drive and managed to climb it.

From here it is a long greasy climb with a few ruts. Levi unfortunately hit his door on the edge of a rut putting a nice dent in it. On the same section Daniel had to winch up. By the time we walked back down to him Jenny had the winch all hooked up and the car was already on then move again. The final section out of this track was very greasy and we all had to hit it reasonably hot. Unfortunately Joel had lost drive to the front left and then after a fair few attempts blew an automatic transmission line. We managed to trim the hose and get the car moving again but needed the car to be on flat ground to diagnose the lack of drive to the front. This had myself, Levi and Justin all attached in a train to be able to drag him up the hill. Once up the hill we established it was only a hub that had broken and so this was replaced.

Once at the top of the hill we made our way over Mt Selma, past the back of Woods Point and out via Marysville and home without missing an 8.30pm dinner at KFC!







CLUB AWARDS NIGHT

16TH AUGUST 2025 Words: Nathan Mudge - Photos: Various

The Cremorne Hotel was buzzing as club members gathered for our annual Awards Night, celebrating another year of adventures, camaraderie, and plenty of fourwheel driving.

With great pub food flowing from the kitchen and drinks never far from hand, the atmosphere was lively as members swapped stories from the past year and shared plans for the months ahead. A big thanks goes to Keith Murdoch for organising the evening, which saw a fantastic turnout and plenty of smiling faces.

The awards highlighted the dedication, spirit, and humour that make our club what it is:

Clubman of the Year & Dunny Seat Award – Geoff Davey

With an incredible 14 trips under his belt, most as trip leader, Geoff

clocked up 53 days on the tracks for a total of 72 points. He also managed to earn the most fines at general meetings (25 points), earning the Dunny Seat award 4 years in a row now.

Runner Up Clubman of the Year, Appreciation Awards & Perfect Attendance – Graeme Jeffrey Graeme's commitment saw him attend 11 trips, many as tail-end Charlie, totalling 31 days and 52









points. Graeme's tireless efforts in the club also saw him rewarded with the Club Appreciation Award. His perfect attendance record at club meetings was the icing on the cake.

Clubwoman of the Year – Juanita Mountjoy

Juanita led from the front, literally, with 5 of her 6 trips as trip leader. She racked up 35 days on the road and 38 points, showcasing her dedication and leadership to running some fantastic trips.

Runner Up Clubwoman of the Year – Sophie Brocks

Sophie put in a strong year with 7 trips and 17 days of 4WDing, finishing with a well-deserved 35 points.

Most Active New Member & Editor's Award – Nathan Mudge

As a new member, Nathan threw himself into the club with 7 trips totalling 21 days and 26 points. His photos and detailed trip reports made him stand out as a strong contributor to the magazine.

Perfect Attendance – Geoff Connors Geoff never missed a beat, showing up every time at every general meeting for the year.

The night wrapped up with plenty of laughter, applause, and anticipation for the year ahead. With members already planning the next adventures, it's clear the spirit of the club is alive and thriving.

Here's to another year of 4WD fun, challenges, and great memories on and off the tracks.





CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR GEOFF DAVEY



TUANITA MOUNTOY



CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR RUNNER UP GRAEME JEFFREY



CLUBWOMAN OF THE YEAR RUNNER UP SOPHIE BROCKS



MOST ACTIVE NEW MEMBER NATHAN MUDGE



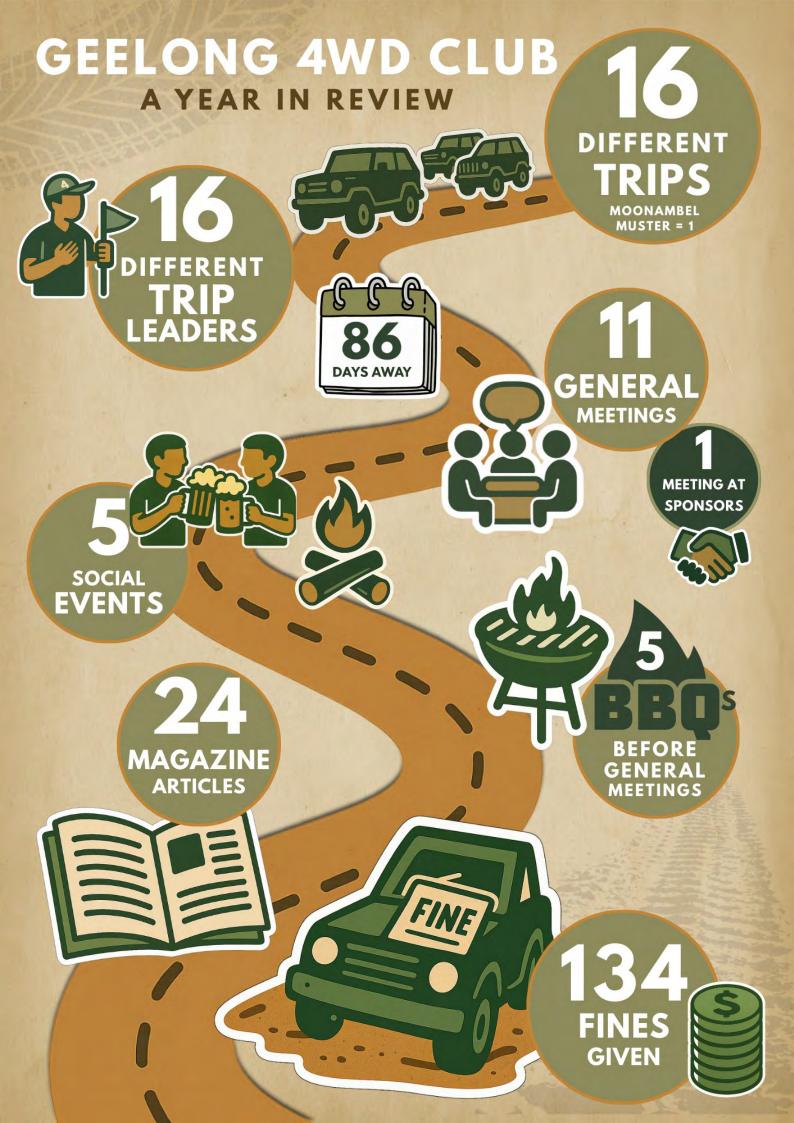
DUNNY SEAT AWARD GEOFF DAVEY



APPRECIATION AWARD GRAEME JEFFREY



EDITORS AWARD NATHAN MUDGE



THE GEAR TO GET YOU THERE.





















