

Central Coast 4WD Club



Respecting the Great Outdoors



February 2017
Issue No 418



The

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COMMITTEE

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president@cc4wdc.org.au

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Supper Co-ordinator

Alison Wallace

Lease Manager

Paul Kelly 0408 433 790

Social Co-Ordinator

Jo Kelly 4340 2900

CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings are held on the SECOND THURSDAY of each month at the Tuggerah Public School Assembly Hall, Old Pacific Highway, Tuggerah, at 8 pm. Members are invited to bring their friends to the club meetings and outings. THERE IS NO MEETING IN JANUARY OF EACH YEAR.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee meetings are held on the SECOND MONDAY *after* the general meeting. Woodbury Park Community Centre, 1 Woolmers Cres, Mardi. Meeting time 7:30pm

MAGAZINE INFORMATION

Any information or articles of interest are welcomed by the editor and can be emailed to editor@cc4wdc.org.au Please ensure that your articles and trip reports are sent to the editor as soon as possible so they can appear in the next magazine. The cut off date for production is the last Thursday of each month.

CLUB POSTAL ADDRESS

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The Central Coast Four Wheel Drive Club is a member of the Four Wheel Drive NSW & ACT Association www.4wdnow.com

Club delegates are: Peter Wade and Ralph Teeson.

ISSUE NO 418 December 2017

The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the club.

Any errors or typos are deliberately included for the purposes of authenticity and realism.



President's Report

Welcome back and happy new year to all members. I sincerely hope everybody had a great break and all have returned safe and sound. There is not a huge amount to report for January because most people have been away. This year the committee decided that we would go back to holding a committee meeting for both December and January. With everything that has been progressing we thought that a 3 month break was too long to keep everything rolling along and also some bills needed paying.

We have finally been successful in setting up an electronic banking process for the club. We now have 4 committee members who can access the clubs account and print statements as well as having the ability to pay invoices with a very tight approval process in place. Hopefully this should make the treasurers role a bit easier and give the club ability to function normally if the treasurer is away.

I would like to welcome Parsons Outdoor Equipment back on board as an advertiser in the club magazine. Parsons were a long time supporter of our Club and its great to see them back thanks to the efforts of Faye Goodman our Publicity officer.

I believe that in early January our Pink Ribbon Chicks hit their target of raising \$10,000.00 for breast cancer research. In my time with the club I have been involved in and seen quite a few charitable events run within the club. Never have I seen one as ambitious as trying to raise \$10,000.00. Well done to the ladies and everybody who helped out. Even if you just purchased a calendar your support is greatly appreciated.

One thing we will need to look at very soon is The Rosebud Cafe at the lease. Termites have invaded the main posts holding up the original section of the cafe. The committee is looking at several options and obtaining costings to find to best way to proceed so more news on that when it comes to hand.

Thats about all I have for now so hopefully I can catch up with everybody at the February meeting and hear about all the great stuff that happened over the break.

Cheers

Craig Green

Club President

Support Our **FUNDRAISER**

TOGETHER, LET'S ACHIEVE ZERO DEATHS
FROM BREAST CANCER BY 2030



During one of the Club "Ladies Days" outings to the local Watagans State Forest, and Wollombi, for which we had decked our trucks in 'pink ribbons' in support of breast cancer awareness month (Oct) we were inspired to do something more to support our friends and colleagues, past and present, young and old, who's lives have been touched by breast cancer. Hence, the CC4WDC Pink Ribbon Chicks fundraiser project kicked off.

We were influenced by the 1999 Movie "The Calendar Girls" and decided to do a 4WD themed calendar to raise awareness of and fundraise for breast cancer research. Our project kicked off just over a month ago, and in that amazingly short time we have sourced sponsorship, printers, photographer, location and a number of willing, but nervous volunteers. The day of the shoot was a lot of fun, and a valuable team building experience for an amazing group of 'real women'.



Our Calendar celebrates women of all ages who have 'dared to bare' in support of our dear friends, to raise funds for breast cancer research to try and prevent more women and men, dying from this disease.

If you would like to buy one, we hope they will be available to purchase at the DEC Club Meeting or

Please txt or call and leave a message. MONICA : 0431 997529 or ROZ 0427 536916

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE NATIONAL BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Editorial

Welcome back everyone to 2017! I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas break weather you had a nice relaxing one at home or away on a trip. This months mag, I will apologise now for as yes it is a little rushed as I have been away working in Sydney and when I got back home and well you know how life is and then all of a sudden I had to smash out the mag in personal record time!

With a new year come new an exciting things for the club, who knows what this year will hold for us all but I do know one thing! The Club Magazine has gone completely digital! That's right, not more paper mags, envelopes or postage stamps each month adding to landfill, even if you do recycle, not having paper in the first place is a huge environmental step forward, and we are a four wheel drive club after all. Lets not add to our carbon foot prints unnecessarily I say. So how can you ensure you get a copy of the magazine each month? There are three ways. One is to make sure that your email and contact details are up to date by letting Steve Farmer know your new email address or that maybe you haven't gotten an email in a while. He manages all the contacts and sends me an updated list each month so I don't miss new members. The second way is on the Club website when you can not only view this months mag but all previous ones as well! The third way is through the CC\$WD members group on Facebook. If you haven't been added to the group and would like to please get in contact with either myself or Faye, and we can set you up.

That's all from me folks,

Happy Driving!

Cheers Amber!



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Central Coast Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.

General Meeting

Thursday December 8th, 2016

Held at: Tuggerah Primary School, Tuggerah

Meeting Opened: 8:03 pm by President, Craig Green

Attendance: As per the Attendance Book

Apologies: Max & Maree Gear, Amber Evans, Jackie Cobbold, Bob Truscott, Steven & Cathy Thomas, Steve Pomare, Paul Fisher, George Cook, Steve Torpy, Scott & Lisa Good

Visitors: As per attendance book

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting of Thursday, 10th November, 2016 were tabled.

Motion: "That the minutes of the previous General meeting as printed in the monthly magazine be accepted."

Moved: Paul Kelly

Seconded: Tony Clarke

CARRIED

Business Arising from Previous Meeting

Nil.

Correspondence Inward

Inward - post

Bank statement, EFTPOS statement

Wyong Council invoice for committee hall

Xmas card from Careflight

Inward – email

1. New member and member renewal enquiries
2. Emails regarding guidelines of the National Breast Cancer Foundation for the girls of our Club to do a fundraising calendar
3. Various invoices now being emailed
4. Advertiser not renewing their advertisement
5. NSW/ACT 4WD Assoc
 - a. 4WD Now Issue #10
 - b. HRFWDC Dec meeting agenda
 - c. Adventure Show Volunteer thankyou day 26th February
 - d. Assoc website will be down for about 1 week whilst it gets upgrade
 - e. FYI – Martinsville Fire Brigade (plus others) attended a bush fire via Slippery Rock Rd. The fact that it was cleared meant the fire was addressed before it turned into something larger
7. Merry Xmas message from former members Ken and Deirdre Bailey
8. Convict Trail Project update and AGM notice
 - a. Port Macquarie 4WD Club Nov newsletter
 - b. Advertisers

Driving Oz with the Black Dog are offering to attend a meeting to discuss and raise awareness of depression, anxiety and others including mental health awareness dogs. Will be raising funds for Lifeline Australia and mindDog Australia.

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- Proud members of the Central Coast 4x4 Club

Adam & Megan Walters

4392 1327

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Delegates Report:

Scott updated the meeting with the main points from the Association's AGM and the Hunter 4WD Regional committee meeting. Anyone wanting to find out more contact Scott.

Last committee meeting held: 21st November, 2016 at the Woodbury Park Community Centre, 1 Woolmers Crescent, Mardi

Business Arising:

Looking at putting a member's My Truck spot on the website

As of tomorrow, we will have 4 people with electronic access to the Club's accounts and it will require making 2-person approved electronic payments.

Working on an accrual and budgeting program. At this stage looks like we will cover our expenses for 2017 and then 2018 is looking at approx. \$7,000 net income.

It was agreed to round out the forecast 6 months of fun fines to \$500 for presentation to the Pink Ladies

Next committee meeting to be held on Monday 19th December, 2016, 7:30pm at the Woodbury Park Community Centre, 1 Woolmers Crescent, Mardi

General Business:

Special thanks to Neale for his efforts in adding new courses to the DTU program. Winch Awareness was the first one and it was well received with great feedback from those who attended.

Google calendar now on our website so all our Club trips and events are easy to find and are updated as soon as known. Live links to the locations where the trip will be held will be added as well. Check it out and the visual changes made to the website.

Next year we will have a member's only section on our website where you will be able to access all the Club's documents and share information etc.

211 out of the first print run of 500 Pink Ladies calendars have already been sold. Sponsors have covered off the cost of the professional photographers. The Club presented the \$500 fun fine cheque and a standing ovation was given to the Ladies by the members present. Special thank you to Monica and Roz for their hard work getting this off the ground and for the other ladies for turning up on the day to take their clothes off!

Thank you to Jim Christopherson for his donation to the Club of \$170 which was then forwarded to the Pink Ladies.

Social Co-ordinator Extraordinaire: Jo Kelly

Thanks to everyone who came to the Xmas Party and for those who helped out.

Looking at new events in the New Year.

Trip Master: Bev

Quite a few trips in Jan & Feb but always looking for more. Just talk to Bev if you want assistance.

Bev wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all

Trip reports:

Dunns Swamp – Bev

Winch Awareness – Dave Edwards. Recommends everyone do it if given the chance

DTU 2 – Steve Farmer. Excellent instructors with a wide variety of challenges that included a practical real life vehicle recovery!

Items for Sale

GU Patrol draws – Glenn MacCreadie

Schmick camper trailer – Ralph Teeson

Fun Fines:

No badges

Craig for falling into or out of the camper

Cherrie for catching a \$10 dollar note when fishing! Bonus but then she went and bought a Nissan X- Trail!!

Lachie for finding the most overgrown track in Lithgow that needed the chainsaw out 7 times and then, at the end of the track there was no view!

Raffle:

Wine, shovel, hamper, after shave and more. 10 prizes in all!

Meeting Closed 9:18 pm

Next General meeting will be held on Thursday, 9th February 2017.

Merry Christmas to all. Drive safely and join in the fun and activities next year with this great Club!!

The minutes of this meeting were recorded by: Scott Sheldon, Secretary

Meeting Chairman

President Craig Green

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!
Happy Birthday Dear
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Patrick Kelly

Sophie Webber

Connor Wooden

Bailey Green

Tegan Trezise

Emily Vafionpoulos

Luke Wallace

Zane Whitbread

Penelope Brightmoore

Evan Enraght-Moony

Jack Webber

Andrew Bennett

Amelia Brown

Connor Byrne

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Michelle Sacs Water Bra (almost new) - \$60
No Name Water Bra (almost new) - \$40
Winch Pulley Block (almost new) - \$15

Gary Williams
0412 393 559

Weekend Winch Report

12th + 13th of November

By Jo

Attending; Trainers: Neil and Lachy. Attendees: Bev Fort, Jo Love and friend, Frank, Dave Edwards, Bob Montgomery.

Heading up to the lease on the Saturday morning I was driving through torrential rain so I rang Neil to check it was still going ahead. Affirmative, so I kept going. Once at the lease it was still raining, but a couple of hours later it ended up to be one of the hottest days so far this year.

We started the training with Neil taking us through a comprehensive course he had put together, which cover all the various winches and associated equipment available and how they were used. Lachy added to the teaching periodically and between the two of them we gained a good understanding of the topic. Questions were encouraged which I appreciate as sometimes my brain needs confirmation of what I think I have heard to make sense of it all.

This part of the training was followed by a 'touch & explore' session. The guys had laid out a great range of winching bits and pieces for us to view and hold. The damaged equipment was most interesting as it showed us what to look out for when inspecting our own gear. The subject of 'maintenance' of one's gear was emphasised and accounts of what could (and had) gone wrong when one used damaged, or the wrong, equipment, was most enlightening.

By now we were ready for some practical training and right on cue, the sun came out blazing and the temperature soared. We headed up to the trees to test out our winches and stayed in the shade as much as possible. Between the trainees we had 6 vehicles so we got to try out 6 different winching scenario's, including; single line, double line, triple line, around one tree, around two, a vehicle winching another vehicle, using snatch blocks and more. Safety was always emphasised, and

the importance of using the right gear for the job. All in all, it was a very informative training session and I feel so much more confident now in my abilities to get myself or others out of a jam if needed.

After lunch we headed out for a drive up Graigs Hill which was so much fun and the perfect way to end the day! The lease really has some top tracks to tackle. That night the fire was lit but wasn't fired up much. Somehow sitting around a fire just seems right, no matter what the temperature. The next day, some of the group set off home while the rest of us headed off through the bush on a treasure hunt to find the local waterhole. After heading down a couple of long unused tracks (and turning around), we found the right one and were rewarded with a tricky, deeply rutted section to negotiate near the bottom (more fun!) then we headed through abit of farm land and onto Fosterton Loop Road. We soon found ourselves at the waterhole and said our goodbyes.

My friend and I and Frank, decided to have a swim at the waterhole, and were having a lovely time, until something bit Frank on the leg and that was the end of that. I still have a laugh thinking about it. It had taken us ages to pick our way over the slippery stones upon entry but we practically flew over them in our hurried exist!

Thank you to our dedicated trainers (Neil & Lachy) for providing such an informative training day and topping it off with some exciting tracks to tackle. It is so good to know how to use ones' equipment properly and I look forward to getting to test it all out again, 'on the track' one day. Jo Love

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PLB PROCEDURE AND GUIDELINES

- A Personal Locating Beacon (PLB), like a EPIRB, is an emergency position indicating beacon. When activated the beacon transmits your GPS position to satellites which then transmit to a land based receiver who then attempts to contact the registered owner to confirm that the signal is indeed an emergency. Should there be no response, or an emergency is confirmed then relevant emergency services rescue is initiated. Activation of the PLB should occur only in situations of life threatening danger where other means of communication (i.e. mobile, UHF, sat-phone) are unsuccessful or unavailable.
- The Club has purchased a PLB for members to use only when travelling to remote areas within Australia (i.e. where mobile phone reception is unlikely).
- The registered owner of the PLB is the Club Tripmaster.
- The registered owner (Tripmaster) is listed as the emergency contact person for when the PLB beacon is activated. The President is registered as the Club's secondary contact and The Editor as a third contact.
- The Club Tripmaster is the holder of the PLB and is responsible for coordinating the booking out and return of the PLB unit to members.
- A member wanting to take the club PLB on a trip is to email the Tripmaster the request and the dates of the trip. The trip may be either a Club trip or a personal trip of any length however Club trips will have the priority.
- The Tripmaster determines whether the PLB is available and confirms this with the member by email cc'd to the President. If the PLB is not available, the reason needs to be stated to the member by email.

Approval for use of the PLB may be rescinded by the Tripmaster up to two weeks before the date of the trip based on a priority rating centred on the length and remoteness of the trip. (see table below). Rescission shall be by email cc'd to President.

	Central Aust Desert	Cape York	High Country	Western NSW/QLD/VIC
>3 weeks	1	2	3	4
1 – 3 weeks	5	6	7	8
5 – 7 days	9	10	11	12

Any trip

that falls outside of this table shall be of lowest priority.

A trip cannot be rescinded by a trip of the same priority and in this situation it is a first come first serve.

The member/trip leader wishing to take the PLB is to provide a full itinerary (ideally broken down into a day by day format) and their mobile phone contact number to the Tripmaster, the President and the Editor at least one week before the start of the trip. The PLB will not be handed over until this has occurred.

The Tripmaster determines when and where the PLB is to be collected and returned. The member using the PLB is to abide by this decision but can appeal to the President if they believe the Tripmaster is being unfairly unreasonable. The President's decision will be final.

A member can cancel a booking at any time prior to collection of the PLB unit from the Tripmaster who shall notify the President and Editor of this change.

The Tripmaster will maintain an up to date PLB booking register.

Should the PLB be activated the land based receiver contacts the registered owner of the unit (the Tripmaster in this instance). The Tripmaster will consult the register to confirm the unit has been assigned to a member, consult the trip itinerary and then confirm these details with the land based beacon receiver. The President and the Editor are listed as the alternate contacts for the Club on occasions when the Tripmaster cannot be reached.

Neither the President, the Committee nor the Club will be accountable for the decision the land based receiver takes in regard to an emergency response.

The Club provides the PLB at no charge to members and will not be held accountable for any expenses incurred when the holder activates the PLB.

If the member activates the PLB they are to return the unit to the Club who shall organize replacement battery or PLB as advised by the manufacturer.

If a member loses/damages the PLB they are to reimburse the Club the cost of an equivalent replacement limited to a maximum of 120% of the cost of the original unit. The Tripmaster shall source such unit and inform the member of the cost. If the unit costs more than 120% of the original unit's purchase price the Committee must approve the purchase and the Club will pay the difference above what the responsible member is required to reimburse.

If, once the trip has commenced the holder of the PLB must withdraw, the PLB is to be handed over to another club member and the Tripmaster, President and Editor must be informed and given the name and contact mobile number of the new holder as soon as possible.

If, once the trip has commenced the itinerary has to be substantially altered for any reason, the holder of the PLB is to inform the Tripmaster, President and Editor of the details of the new itinerary as soon as possible.

Comprehensive information on emergency beacons can be found at; www.amsa.gov.au/beacons

Please complete the following and return to the Tripmaster. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

Trip _____ Start/Finish date _____

Trip leader/ Holder _____ Mobile No. _____

Car (make & colour) _____ Rego _____

No. of Cars in Group _____ No. of People in Group _____

I have read and understood the above responsibilities and procedures and agree to reimburse The Club if the PLB is lost, stolen or damaged as outlined above.

I have also provided a detailed itinerary to the Tripmaster, President and Editor.

Signed _____ Date _____

Bendethera – Australia Day Weekend Trip

Attended by:

Trip Leaders: Tony Clark & Faye Goodman - Mitsubishi Challenger
Wombat - Nissan Navara
Bev Fort – Toyota Prado
Gary, Thomas & Alex Noorbergen - Toyota Prado
Jo Love – Mazda BT 50

Meeting at Braidwood (a totally gorgeous little historic town), we headed off for the 3hr drive south to the Bendethera Valley. Driving along Cooma Road towards Deua National Park we passed the following road kill, a wombat (or a wild pig, hard to tell at speed), a fox, (in beautiful condition), some budgies, a roo and an Echidna (this one could have been alive). We turned left onto Middle Mountain Road where stopped to air down, and then continued on til we turned left onto Minuma Range Fire Trail. We had morning tea on this trail before we turned right onto Dampier Mountain Fire Trail. From there It was a long and steep descent down into the valley. Dropping around 1200m's above sea level to around 300m at Bendethera camp in just a couple of kilometres, the drive down was kind of fun! Once there the valley revealed itself to be a gorgeous green and grassy flat expanse, perfect for camping, and although it was busy we still found a good spot by the Deua river.

The valley has a most interesting history and from 1860 to 1939 it was home to the George family who raised livestock and grew crops there. They used an ingenious technique consisting of 'runs' dug into the valley to divert water from the Deua River to their crops. The remains of an enclosed cattle enclosure are still intact and the remnants of the large crumbling bread oven are a testament to the industrious family. The Georges raised 15 children in this remote valley, and when one of the boys broke a leg some way up the valley, his father set the leg, built a shelter around his boy, and carted food and water to him every day for two weeks until he could be safely moved. There is a cave system in the bush, but being a 2.5hr round walk, we didn't have the time to do the 8km round trek to see them. Next time for sure!

The next day TC and Faye took us on a tour of the valley and in the very last accessible camping area we found large amounts of wombat holes (didn't see any wombats, but saw loads of roo's) and an abandoned camp fire which hadn't been put out properly. After tending to this and recovering a couple of left behind logs for our fire, we set off to do a leisurely circuit of the ranges encasing the valley. Leaving the valley, we turned left up the Bendethera Fire trail and started climbing up the steep track before turning left again onto the Merricumbene Fire Trail where we began transversing the ridges on the top of the ranges. The scenery was breathtaking, changing through the course of the day and including a wonderland of tall slender white barked trees, ferns, grass trees, yellow paper flowers and of course the rare Bendethera wattle. A lot of the driving was straight up and straight down which was a lot of fun and with the trails being quite dry, no one had any trouble negotiating the steep inclines/declines.

We eventually reached the Mongamula Fire Trail and down we went the steep trail until we reached the lovely valley with an old homestead in it. Apparently, it is privately owned although it doesn't look like anyone lives there permanently.

After we had crossed the Deua River, which was very low, for the third time in a short distance we began our steep ascent and eventually turned left onto the Minuma Range Fire Trail. We were now on the homerun, and eventually we turned left onto the Dampier Mountain Trail and began to descend back down to the valley. It was an amazing drive which ended up taking us around 6 or so hours and saw us covering around 100kms. We were all keen to refresh ourselves in the river afterwards, and then refresh further after that with a well-deserved drink around the camp fire.

Day 3 - We departed the valley via the Bendethera Fire Trail before turning left again onto the Merri-cumbene Fire Trail on this trail for quite some time until we forked off to our right onto the Dry Creek Fire Trail and headed down to Dry Creek Camp Ground. It was too full to camp here but TC and Faye had arranged for us to camp in a privately-owned property not far away. So, we just stopped here for lunch and a lovely swim in one of the beautiful swimming holes. Oh, and TC and Faye did their good deed for the day and snatched a 4wd in distress who had managed to get himself stuck in the sand! This would be a top place to spend a few days as the river is fabulous with rocks to jump off, sandy beach areas and lots of shade.

After lunch we continued up the track, turned right onto Araleuen Road, and after not long, made a sharp left onto McGregor's Creek Fire Trail. We continued down here, making a couple of turns until we reached Full Circle River Farm at 1304 Quart Pot Road. The friendly owners came down to meet us, and collect the \$14 per adult and \$6 per child camp fees, before we set up camp in a lovely shady grass area with a large fire pit surrounded by logs to sit on. Hot showers and a flushing loo were in close proximity and a large swimming hole in the Buckenbowra River was a short walk. As that was an incredibly hot day (high 30's I think), we all ended up there before too long. It was soon discovered that there was another Wombat in the campground and that some of the campers knew others from our club etc. Lots of laughs were heard coming from the waterhole as campers sat in the river with a coldie and chatted and the kids were kept busy with the Canoes that were provided. All in all, it was a top spot to spend the night.

Day 4 – Time to head home but the fun wasn't over yet. Bev and Wombat headed directly back to Braidwood, while TC and Faye, Jo and Gary and kids, took the long route, via Mt Bolero Firetrail. This was a really fun track, with stunning cycads, along the way and was in the Monga National Park. TC said it was in better condition than the last time he did it. We made our way to Misty Mountain Road and drove through tree ferns and majestic trees until we reached Kings Highway, where we aired up before turning left toward Braidwood.

This is where the trip ended and a big thank you to TC and Faye for putting this awesome trip on. If anyone else is planning on doing a similar trip down that way, please let me know, as I want to go back again!

Jo Love

THE VIC HIGH COUNTRY 16/17

It was a fantastic trip but I would like to say never accept where a gps tells you to go. Always question as I didn't and found myself going down Collingwood Spur with a camper trailer on our way there. One of the scariest moments I've had when we jack knifed half way down sending us sideways facing the wrong direction. We managed to get down Ok with my girls walking the rest of the way (not happy about that I tell you).

The daily trips were great with a variety of choices to go on. I thoroughly enjoyed the trip and hope it will happen again and a big Thanks to all the trip leaders who organized the daily trips.

P.s I will let you know how much the damage was after it comes back from the panel beater. And no, it won't buff out.

Cheers, Mark Roper

On Thursday 5th December Bev Fort arranged a trip consisting of 3 vehicles. The rest of the group were still on their overnight trip. We travelled along Matheson Spur Trak arriving at Harrison Cutting where the water rushes back to the river. It was then up Stock Route Trak followed by a challenging downward drive along Murdering Spur Trak stopping for morning tea at Camms Hut. From there we went on Dane Trak up to Birregun road to Dogs Grave for lunch.

Very scenic and interesting tracks, thanks Bev.

Cheers, John Bryce

The trip was amazing, but follow the gps no way. Always, and I mean Always question the gps cause when we went down Collingwood Spur, the scariest moments of my life. But it was worth nearly dieing because I think dad almost wet himself. When we got to the bottom I asked him if it was scary and he answered "Scary! I think I almost wet myself." I laughed. The day trips were so cool, my sister and I made a new friend Lucy (Corp). After most day trips the three of us went into the river. But before we could go in we had to beg dad to blow up the floaties it worked (obviously). Well to end my experience I would like to say one more thing. On one of the day trips we hit a big bump and dad hit his head on the window and messed up his sunglasses. Well thats the end of my experience.

Thanks, Savannah Roper

The 2016/2017 Victorian High Country was our first big club trip, and our first trip to the High Country. We were anticipating some amazing off road adventure, some great fun and banter with club members, and seeing some of those iconic High Country trails. All were delivered!

At the beginning of the camp, the rainy weather made the trip into the campsite challenging, with several members slipping and sliding into Talbotville. The stormy weather threatened to make the tracks difficult, but fortunately all we encountered were some interesting river crossings. We ventured out, despite the weather and had some great drives over the next couple of days; along Crooked River, along Blue Rag Trak, stopping in at the Grant Historic site, and visiting Harrisons Cut.

By the time the weather had settled, the Dargo Hotel was doing a roaring trade, used by the club as a great refreshing stop for lunch. There were any number of tracks being driven with club members testing themselves and their vehicles through some very steep and rocky terrain. Relaxing in the river at the end of the day with a couple of cold beverages and retelling stories of our heroic driving skills was a great way to unwind and get to know the members of the club.

The highlights of the trip typically started anytime Bev flashed over the radio "let's see what's down this track", you knew there was going to be something challenging ahead. Having had the opportunity to drive the iconic Blue Rag and Billy Goats Bluff, with Bob's advice spurring us on, visiting Australia's first beer garden, and sharing it all with some great people made for a truly great trip!

Cheers,
Mick & Claire

As a beginner I must say I had a wonderful time and not having participated in this type activity before, I was pleasantly surprised by the trip organisation, particularly when it came to safety. I have only done DTU1.

It was quite a journey to find Talbotville our camp site for eight days. This as large and close to the river which meant plenty of lolling in the water happened to relax at the end of a strenuous day of driving. Maybe also occasionally when the day had not been so strenuous!

I did my first deep and nervous river crossing in the Crooked River but little did I know there were six crossings in all on that track and on another track there were 24. Or was it 26. No one seemed to know as I think everyone lost count. I think I can manage the odd river crossing now. Plenty of helpful tuition was always available anticipating an problems.

Tracks were many and mostly challenging for me, but I think also for others. The ones that stand out are Billy Goat Bluff track. This track gets talked about a lot, but word has it it has been tinkered with and is not nearly as difficult as it used to be. I only managed this one down, very steep. The other one that stands out is Blue Rag. Fantastic journey there, it was steep and long and at the top were 360 degree views. Magnificent. I'll never forget the "hang in the seatbelt" moments, there were several, and the sky looked very blue going over some of the humpty dooze (if thats what they are called) We had an overnight camp at Wonangatta historic station. Very enjoyable. Why would you select such an isolated place to set up house?

There were several visits to the village of Dargo where there is a lovely pub and a longer trip to Omeo, a larger place. Omeo was a good place to replenish the stocks of food and drink.

I must thank Bob for organizing such a spectacular trip with due care and attention given to everyone, in particular me. Safety was number one priority. On the trips I was placed between two very experienced drivers which gave me confidence and only twice did I need assistance. Would I do this again? I think so. I now have new tyres (had a puncture) and I'm ready to go!

Graeme Rollings

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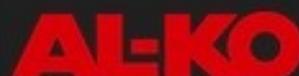
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After an eleven-and-a-half hour drive from Sydney to Talbotville, Jackie and I arrived to an affectionate and warm reception at 6.30 pm on the 1st January.

We had a beer and promptly crashed into a deep sleep, waking up to a beautiful day in the Victorian High Country. The rest of the crew were heading into Omeo to resupply all their food and GROG, so I decided to show Jackie around the local steep Talbotville tracks, including Crooked River, Bulltown, Collingwood and Eaglevale. On the way out we ran into Ben who decided to accompany us.

As we crossed 23 rivers, went up and down the steep and magnificent tracks, Jackie was blown away by her first taste of the high-country terrain and views. We drove past the entry to Billy Goats Buff track and Ben called on the radio "TC, you know you want to do it. It will only take 30-40 minutes" After careful thought, as it was Jackie's first day in the high country and by this time it would be a "four o'clock track", we decided to do it then, just in case we didn't get another chance.

Up we went and as we approached the actual bluff, we saw three cars coming down. Turned out that at that very point we had met up with two other CC4WDC members Wayne and Kerrie Parsons and Johnny and Louise and their friends.

After a friendly greeting, we let them past and continued up to The Pinnacles – pictures taken and excitement growing as we now had to negotiate the descent of Billy Goats Bluff and get back to camp for a late Happy Hour, (only 40 minutes Ben, right! Hehe). Anyway, we all made it back with a smile on our faces that was hard to remove.

This is only a portion of the fun, excitement and comradeship that I experienced on this 2016 Vic High Country trip.

Thank you, Bob, for running and co-ordinating this trip.

Tony Clarke (TC)



CLUB WEBSITE AND FORUM

Click here to visit our club website www.cc4wdc.org.au

The website is a great resource with information about our club as well as club magazines, up coming trips, past trips, FAQ's and memorabilia. If you have anything you would like to contribute please email webmaster@cc4wdc.or.au

The club member's forum is an opportunity to engage with other club members. It is always a great place to seek answers to your questions, whether they be technical, travel related or you are just looking for a great campground.

- Click here to go to our forum www.cc4wdc.org.au/forum then click "register"
- Complete your details
- Once accepted you can join in on the conversations or start up your own topic.

CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

Our Club Facebook page now has close to 900 followers and is a great place to view recent club trips videos, photos, tips, information about state forests and national parks. Just search on Facebook for Central Coast 4wd club and "Like" our page.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE NSW & ACT ASSOCIATION

The Four Wheel Drive NSW & ACT Association has its own website with information about the association and its current activities

- Click here to go to www.4wdnow.com
- Find the "login" option on the left of the page
- Register your details
- Once verified by our club you will have access to the members area

Visiting LOOK-OUT'S, LEARNING how to put on a Trip and having LAUGHS at the end of the Day

WHEN Sunday 23rd April 2017

FOR WHOME This Trip is Restricted to the Newer Members who would like to put on a trip but do not know how to go about it.

MEETING PLACE Cnr Freemans Drive and Martinsville Road Cooranbong

MEETING TIME 08.00am

TRIP LEADER Contact Neale Simpson 0404 843 445 or dtu@cc4wdc.org.au

WHAT TO BRING 1. Standard Recovery Gear (ie. Snatch Strap, Rated Shackles, Equilising Strap, Dampners and Gloves.)

2. Enough food and water for the day + 1 extra day
3. Suitable Clothing for the predicted Weather (the trip will be going ahead no matter what the Weather)
4. Maps of the Area (ie. Central Coast Forest Map, Topographical Maps and Suitably Scaled GPS etc.)

TRIP GRADE This trip is graded "D" but could easily become a "C"

VEHICLE LIMIT This Trip is limited to 8 Vehicles

TRIP OVERVIEW This trip is a single Day Trip where we will visit quite a number of the Look-Out's within the Wattagan Mountain's. We will also

visit a number of attractions and camping areas.

We will delve into the requirements of putting on a trip and the easy way to go about it. During the day we will discover how to

read and scale maps (state, local and topographical)

We will go through the process of putting on a trip as well as doing a reconnaissance run of a projected trip.

Tour De Barringtons

4-5 March 2017



Trip Leader: **Tony Clark 0411 090 653**
 Faye Goodman 0423 008 628

Where: **Barrington Tops National Park, West of Gloucester**

When: **Saturday 4th March, 2017—Sunday 5th March 2017**

Meet: **9 a.m. Carpark, cnr Church and Denison Streets, Gloucester**

Class: **C—C minus**

Bring: **Food and drinking water for two days, usual recovery gear. Bag of firewood, full tank of fuel at meeting point.**
 N.P. Camping fees apply - \$6 per adult \$3.50 per child

Limit: **10 Vehicles**

This a very scenic and easy four wheel driving weekend through the stunning World Heritage Barrington Tops area. With altitudes of up to 1570 metres, magnificent stands of ancient Antarctic Beech Trees, brumbies and snow gums—this is a truly amazing area.

After meeting at Gloucester, we will head up into the Barringtons, visiting some interesting and iconic sites—"The Watergauge" on the Manning River, Thunderbolts Trail, Tuglow Trail, Thunderbolts Lookout, Dilgry Circle with its most unusual shaped rock formation, Gumni Falls, Junction Pools and Mount Barrington.

Camp will be the Little Murray campground where there is a pit toilet and plenty of level grassy spots. Bring warm clothes as weather can change frequently.

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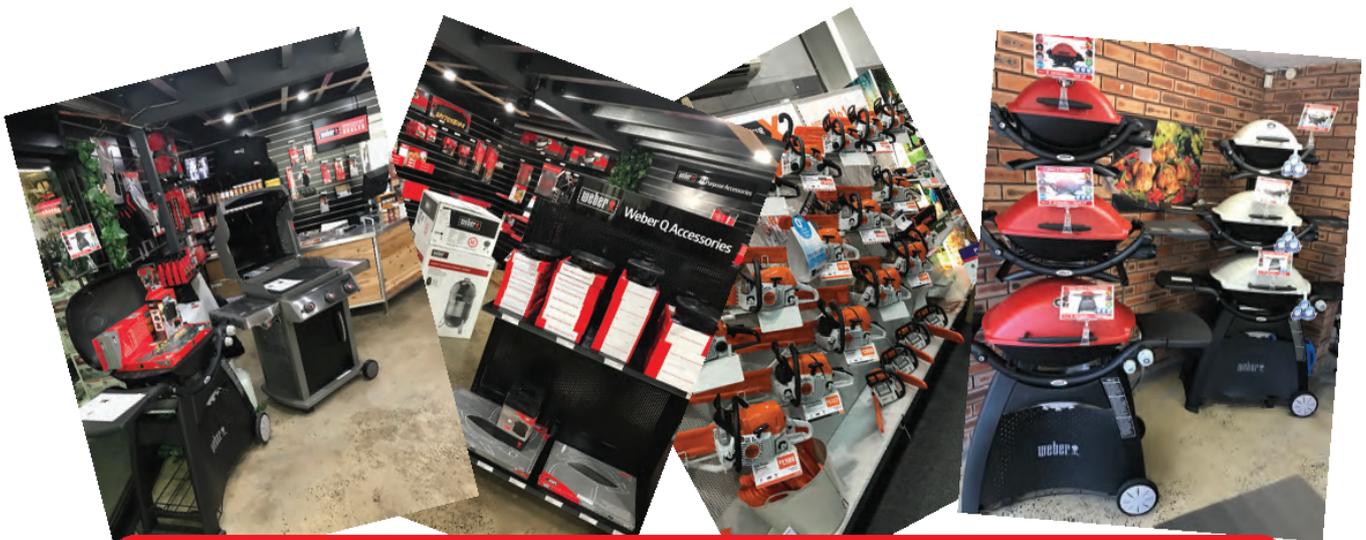
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Coming Events Guide

Date	Event	Class	Trip Leader	Telephone	
9th Feb 2017	Club Meeting			8pm Tuggerah Public School , School Hall	No Limit
18th + 19th February 17	Cells River	C– C+	Tony Clark Faye Goodman	0411 090 653 0411 090 653	8
19 February 2017	Driver Training Awareness 1	C	Neal Simpson	0404843445	
20th Feb 2017	Committee Meeting	NA		7.30pm at the Woodbury Park Community centre	
4-5th March 2017	Tour De Barringtons	C—C+	Tony Clark Faye Goodman	0411 090 653 0411 090 653	10
9th March 2017	Club Meeting			8pm Tuggerah Public School , School Hall	No Limit
19th March 2017	Driver Training Awareness 2	C	Neal Simpson	0404843445	
9th April 2017	Driver Training Awareness 1	C	Neal Simpson	0404843445	
23rd April 2017	LOOK-OUT'S, LEARNING, LAUGHS	D-C	Neal Simpson	0404843445	8
26 August 2017 (8 Weeks)	The Western Wonders Adventure	D	Scott Horn	0431578142	12

For any trip rated C or higher, you must have first completed DTU Stage one . If you haven't, it will be up to the trip leader's discretion.

Contact: **Trip Mistress - Bev Fort on: tripmaster@cc4wdc.org.au**

The Western Wonders Adventure

9am—5th August 2017

TRIP LEADER: SCOTT HORNE—0431578142

WHERE: OUT BACK NSW, SA AND SOUTH WEST WA! APPROXIMATELY SEVEN TO EIGHT WEEKS (11,00–12,00 KM RETURN TRIP) TO CENTRAL COAST VIA VICTORIA

MEET: WATTARA REST AREA 15 NEWCASTLE HUNTER FREEWAY

TRIP CLASS: D/E (MAYBE A C TO BUSH CAMPING AND COASTAL AREAS)

LIMIT: 6 VEHICLES, CAMPER TRAILERS AND SMALL CARAVANS WELCOME.

BRING: SPARE FUEL AND ENOUGH WATER FOR REMOTE AREAS/ OPTIONAL SHOWER TENT, GOOD WALKING SHOES AND FISHING GEAR IF DESIRED.

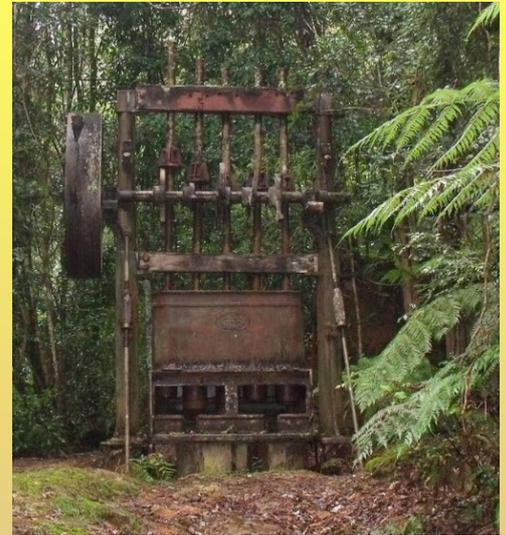
BUSHWALKS, SCENIC LOOK OUTS, MUSEUMS, BEACH FISHING AND CAVE TOURS!

A MORE DETAILED NOTICE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN MONTH COMING . IN THE MEAN TIME EXPRESSION OF INTEREST WELCOME, INCLUDING THOSE WHO MAY ONLY WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN SECTIONS OF THE TRIP. AFTER WE HAVE NUMBERS THERE WILL BE A MEETING 2017 FOR MORE DETAIL!



Cells River

18-19 February 2017



- Trip Leader:** Tony Clark 0411 090 653
Faye Goodman 0423 008 628
- Where:** Cells River (Doyles River State Forest—South West of Wauchope)
- When:** Saturday 18th February, 2017—Sunday 19th February 2017
- Meet:** 9 a.m. Carpark, cnr Church and Denison Streets, Gloucester
- Class:** C—C +
- Bring:** Food and drinking water for two days, usual recovery gear. Bag of firewood, full tank of fuel at meeting point
- Limit:** 8 Vehicles
- Minimum Requirements:** All terrain or mud tyres, Stage 1 awareness

Leaving Gloucester, we will travel through rolling countryside around Bakers Creek, stopping along the way to visit the scenic Blue Knob lookout and the picturesque Tapin Tops picnic area. We will then set up camp at Maxwell's Flat Campground, a basic campground with drop toilet and a creek nearby. We will then traverse the steep (and often muddy) Cells Jeep Track past some interesting gold mining relics, through 4 crossings of the Cells River. Back up the rutted Eagle Hawk Track and loop back to camp for happy hour. Sunday we will be head back to the Cells River via the Corn Cob trail for some more interesting four wheel driving in the area, after packing up camp we will head home via Knodingbul Road and the scenic and rain forested Potaroo Road, then back to Gloucester.

Note: this area can become treacherous in wet weather, so if we do encounter bad weather we may have to re-route some parts of the trip.

Driver Awareness Training

Stage One

Dates for 2017— all sessions start at 8 a.m. and run until approximately 4 pm

Sunday 19th of February 2017

Sunday 9th April 2017

Sunday 18th of June 2017

Sunday 20th August 2017

Sunday the 15th of October 2017

Where: Cooranbong Community Centre, 614 Freeman's Drive, Cooranbong.

What to bring: Food and drink for the day, a pen, basic recovery gear and a readiness for learning.

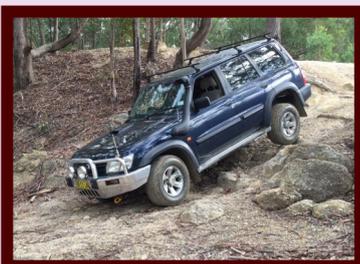
What to expect:

Stage One training is an introductory course to 4WD. The day is split into two parts, initially at the community centre and involves theory, starting with the basic mechanics and safety knowledge of a 4x4.

Morning Tea break allows the trainers to work with each participant and their vehicle, locating and identifying the necessary safety equipment in their truck.

The next session outlines driving techniques over various terrains and an introduction to club protocols.

After lunch we move into a practical training session allowing you to practice your skills in a safe, supervised area. This session will cover the essential safety technique of a stall start recovery, followed by practice in picking a line in ascents, descents and basic rock steps.



Driver Awareness Training

Stage Two

Dates for 2017—sessions start Saturday 8 am, with additional opportunities on Sunday

Saturday 19th March

Saturday 21st of May

Saturday 16th July

Saturday 17th of September

Saturday 19th November

Where: Club Lease 'We-Leaser' Dungog.

What to bring: Food and drink for the two days, however, dinner is provided on the Saturday night. Vehicle checklist from Stage One training and recovery gear.

Recovery Gear: Front and Rear recovery points, snatch strap, bridle or tree protector, dampener and rated shackles.

Please note, that a trainer will accompany you during the practice drive and there must be a seat available in your vehicle.

What to expect:

Stage Two training is a full day of practical exercises completed as a team to expand on the knowledge gained in Stage One training.

We further investigate aspects of vehicle maintenance, practising pre-trip inspections and completing a tyre change.

After morning tea, we revise the stall start recovery and simulate simple snatch strap recovery techniques- this is where you finally get to use all that wonderful gear you've brought along.

In the afternoon we head out the back gate and put our training into practice. Taking the back tracks through the State Forests we complete rutted and rocky tracks and simple water crossings.

Prior to dinner, we complete a simple revision assessment as a group.

Upon completion of Stage Two, you will be prepared to undertake the NSW and ACT 4WD Association Accreditation certificate, a nationally recognised qualification.



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Club clothing is a great way to promote our club and show your support for responsible 4WDiving and the clothing is good value.

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Club Shirt (with Embroidered Club Logo)	\$30.00
Long Sleeve Bisley Shirt (with Embroidered Club Logo)	\$55.00
Optional Extra (with first Name only)	POA
Extra name plate badges (new style)	\$10.00
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Floppy Hats (like Cricket hats with Embroidered Club Logo)	\$18.00
Beanies (with Embroidered Club Logo)	\$15.00
Scarves (with Embroidered Club Logo)	\$18.00
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Club Stickers	\$5.00
CC4WD Club Windscreen Stickers Large	\$20.00
CC4WD Club Windscreen Stickers Medium	\$12.00
CC4WD Club Windscreen Stickers Short	\$8.00

Our windscreen stickers are made by one of our club members, Chris Newbold and donated to the club. Thank you Chris!

Contact: Allan Booth on 49732249



OUR CLUB WEBSITE

Click here to visit our club website www.cc4wdc.org.au

The website is a great resource with information about our club as well as club magazines, up coming trips, past trips, FAQ's and memorabilia. If you have anything you would like to contribute please email publicity@cc4wdc.org.au

CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

Find us on 

Our Club Facebook page now has close to 1000 followers and is a great place to view recent club trips, videos, photos, tips, information about state forests and national parks. Just search on Facebook for Central Coast 4wd club and "Like" our page.

CLUB FACEBOOK MEMBERS GROUP

This is a closed Facebook group that is only open to current financial members of our club. It is a great place to post your trip photos, have a general chat and discuss all things four wheel driving!.

To join, search for **CC4WDC members group** on Facebook and click the blue button "Join Group"

Your request to join will then be submitted for approval by one of the Admin team who will check that you are a financial member and then approve your request.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE NSW & ACT ASSOCIATION

The Four Wheel Drive NSW & ACT Association has its own website with information about the association and its current activities

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