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NOVEMBER 2024



Geelong



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



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**TJM** GEELONG



# ON THE HORIZON

## NOVEMBER

**1 - 5**  
**HIGH COUNTRY WEEKEND**

**13**  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
Clubrooms. BBQ from 6:30pm  
Meeting @ 7:30pm

**16**  
**ANGLESEA DAY TRIP**

**23**  
**TJM (re)OPEN DAY**

**24**  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**27**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

## DECEMBER

**11**  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
Clubrooms. BBQ from 6:30pm  
Meeting @ 7:30pm

## JANUARY

**22**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Clubrooms @ 7:30pm

**24 - 27**  
**AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND TRIP**

**MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS** are held at the clubrooms on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm.

Abe Wood Reserve, Edgerton Rd, Lovely Banks

Visitors and new members welcome. During daylight savings a BBQ precedes the meeting at 6.30 pm.

For more information email: [info@geelong4wdclub.org.au](mailto: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](http://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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Mark Mensch  
Juanita Mountjoy  
Daniel Murdoch  
Keith Murdoch  
Kelvin Rogers  
Alanna Stratford

Cover Photo: Juanita Mountjoy



## THE PRES SAYS

G'day all,

The Christmas festive season is fast approaching which means that the Club Christmas party is not far away either. This year is at the Queen of the West in Geelong West on Sunday 24th November. There will be a play area for the kids and a visit from Santa. Pizzas, canapés and kids meals will be supplied by the Club and drinks at bar prices. This is a little different to past years and promises to be another fantastic social event. Get your name down on the Club Facebook page or contact Alanna if you have not already done so.

The Club awards night was held on 12 October at the Cremorne Hotel. This was well attended and enjoyed by all. Congratulation to all of the prize winners and thanks to Keith and Alanna for organising the evening. More on this in the magazine.

We have also just completed our annual track clearing and track opening weekend in the Otways. This is done in association with Parks Victoria, DEECA and with the Bellarine, Otways and Warrnambool 4WD Clubs. Geelong was well represented this year with eight vehicles attending. There were a lot more trees down this year so there were some tired bodies from plenty of chain sawing and shifting of trees. We were a little more organised this year (no calendar clash with Awards night) so some were able to camp with this the Bellarine Club at Big Hill. This was a good opportunity to mix and exchange ideas around the camp fire.

At the time of publication we will have completed the Melbourne Cup High Country Trip. After that, don't forget Andrew Smith's Anglesea Trip on 16th November, this is always a good drive with plenty of opportunity to socialize as well.

See you at the Christmas Party,  
Geoff

A handwritten signature of Geoff Davey in black ink.

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# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting	General Meeting
Location	Clubrooms - Edgerton Road, Lovely Banks
Date	Wednesday 9th October 2024
Chair	Geoff Davey
Minutes taken by	Jennifer Carpentier

## Agenda

Meeting opened at	7.34 pm
Welcome to everyone present	Welcome all
New members	None
Visitors	Paula Jayathilaka (PJ), Will Kambovski, Kaleb Horrocks, Emma Van der Weiden, Harley Miller, Brittany Skurrie, Nathan Mudge
Present	Ron Bastin, Geoffrey Connors, Geoff Davey, David Dixon, Josh Eades, Corie Hale, Jimmy Halikias, Graeme Jeffery, Christopher Korb, Ken Mellross, Mark Mensch, Tim Neville, Harry Parke, Harry Preston, John Prowse, Kelvin Rogers, Mark Rethon, Jack Stratford, Keith Murdoch, Daniel Murdoch, Jennifer Carpentier, Danny Sparks-Cousins
Apologies	Jake Cook, Beth Rogers, Alanna Stratford, Sophie Brocks, Juanita Mountjoy, Geoff and Sharon Van Ingen, Daniel Jennings.

## Acceptance of the previous General Meeting Minutes

Moved	Graeme Jeffrey
Seconded	Keith Murdoch
Business arising from the previous General Meeting Minutes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>AGM Review</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) New committee. Welcome Jemma Brocks and Jenny Carpentier.</li> <li>b) Thanks to Sharon Van Ingen, Geoff Van Ingen and Juanita Mountjoy &amp; Graeme Jeffrey.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>Awards Night</b> - Saturday 12th October at the Cremorne Hotel.</li> <li>3. <b>Christmas Party</b> - Sunday 24th November at Queen of the West.</li> <li>4. <b>TJM reopen Day</b> - now Saturday 23rd November.</li> <li>5. <b>Not for Profit Self Reporting</b> - Update on status.</li> <li>6. <b>Chainsaw Course</b> - Tim Neville, Geoff Davey, Daniel Murdoch, Keith Murdoch, Jimmy Halikias, John Prowse, Mark Rethon &amp; Josh Eades interested.</li> <li>7. <b>Track Clearing</b> - 26/27 October.</li> </ol>

## Correspondence

In	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Consumer Affairs Victoria - Annual Statement Lodge Invoice</b></li> <li>b) <b>FWDV - eNews</b></li> </ol>
Out	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Driveline Magazine</b></li> </ol>



## Regular Reports

Treasurer	Presented by Graeme Jeffrey for information
Association Rep	FWDV AGM was held on 16th September. Geoff, Tim and Jimmy Attended.
Regional Rep	Track Clearing - 26/27th October
Trip Co-Ordinator	<p><b>Trips Out</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Coffs Harbour Trip</b> - 14 - 27 September - Mountjoys.</li> <li>• <b>Grand Final Weekend @ Little Desert</b> - 27-29 September - Geoff Davey.</li> <li>• <b>Grand Final Weekend @ Lake Burrumbeet</b> - 27-29 September - Sophie Brocks.</li> </ul> <p><b>Upcoming Trips</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Track Clearing</b> - 26-27 October - Danny Sparks-Cousins. Camping at Big Hill. All members welcome to join in. Social opportunity with other clubs around campfire.</li> <li>• <b>Melbourne Cup Weekend @ Butcher Country</b> - 1-5 November - Graeme Jeffrey - detail TBC.</li> <li>• <b>Anglesea Day Trip</b> - Saturday 16th November - Andrew Smith – BBQ lunch BYO meat, salad and bread provided. Easy/Medium trip</li> <li>• <b>Easter 2025 @ Beachport</b> - Contact Juanita Mountjoy if interested.</li> <li>• Anyone interesting in leading trips please speak with Tim.</li> </ul> <p><i>Reminder club funds available @ \$10 per car to cover eats &amp; drinks.</i></p>
Editor	Nothing to report.
Webmaster	Nothing to report.
Club Permit Scheme	Nothing to report.
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Presentation Night</b> - 12 October 2024 – Cremorne Hotel - 6pm start</li> <li>• <b>TJM (re) Open Day</b> - 23rd November 2024</li> <li>• <b>Christmas Party</b> - 24th November 2024 - Queen of the West</li> </ul>
Fines	Geoffrey Connors x 1, Tim Neville x 1, Geoff Davey x 1
Pist 'n' Broke	Tim Neville
Members Draw	Daniel Murdoch

## Other Business

	1. <b>Beachport update</b> – Private property areas near Beachport now closed - refer 4WDVic eNews.
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Meeting closed at	8.09 pm
Next General Meeting	Wednesday 13th November 2024 @ Clubrooms from 7.30pm - BBQ from 6.30pm

# AGENDA

## Agenda Items for next meeting—Wednesday 13th November 2024

	Christmas Party
	TJM reopening
	Presentation night review
	By Laws - member awareness
	General business

# PIST'N BROKE OCTOBER 2024



## TIM NEVILLE

# UPCOMING TRIPS

## MELBOURNE CUP WEEKEND - HIGH COUNTRY

**Date:** Friday 1st to Tuesday 5th November

**Trip Leader:** Graeme Jeffrey | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

**Trip Classification:** Medium+ | **Vehicle Limit:** 10

**Meeting:** BP Roadhouse Little River 9am

**Note:** Minimum Requirements - rated front & rear recovery points, own recovery gear, minimum all terrains

Need to be self sufficient for fuel, camping etc. There will be river crossings (not expected to be too deep). Friday night camp near Thomson Dam then head through Licola Saturday which will be the last fuel till we exit tracks.



## ANGLESEA DAY TRIP

**Date:** Saturday 16th November

**Trip Leader:** Andrew Smith | **Tail End Charlie:** TBA

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

**Meeting:** Great Ocean Road Chocolaterie - 1200 Great Ocean Road Bellbrae at 9:30am for a 10:00am departure.

**Note:** BBQ lunch will be on the tracks, BYO some meat - salads and bread provided. Trip will be easy / medium but will be weather dependant.

Contact Andrew smith on 0418 503 043 for any more details.



## TJM (re)OPEN DAY

**Date:** Saturday 23rd November

TJM Geelong will be holding a re-Open Day, celebrating the new ownership, management and refurbishments.

Our club has been invited to run a sausage sizzle for the day - plus talk to prospective new members who visit the store on the day. The store will be open plus plenty of outside stalls with many suppliers on hand for the day with promotions and discounts.

We need volunteers from the club to come along and spend some of the day helping with the sausage sizzle - it doesn't need to be all day - if we get plenty of hands up we can split the day into shifts, however we will need a presence there from around 8am til after 3pm. If you can lend a hand, please register on the Facebook event.

**NEW DATE**

(RE)OPEN DAY - SAT 23 NOVEMBER

**TJM**  
4X4 EQUIPPED



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



## CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Date:** Sunday 24th November - from Midday

Come along and spend an afternoon celebrating the amazing year the club has had with a fantastic Christmas Party - this year to be held at the Queen of the West hotel in West Geelong

There is an outside marquee for us, right next to the kids playground. The club will be providing pizza and canapés to members and for the children under 12 a kids meal and ice cream. Drinks will be at bar prices.

We will also be having a special visit from Santa. Please RSVP via the Facebook event with how many attending adults/ children and if you have children their name, age and gender.



## AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND

**Date:** Friday 24th - Monday 27th January 2025

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

**Trip Classification:** Medium+ | **Vehicle Limit:** 10

**Meeting:** TBA.

**Note:** Geoff will be running a trip over the Australia Day weekend 2025. Location and details still being finalised.

Please get in touch with Geoff on 0499 905 975 if you are interested in attending.



## EASTER 2025 @ BEACHPORT

**Date:** Thursday 17th - Monday 21st April 2025

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

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

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

**Note:** We will run day trips heading out from the caravan park each morning of the Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The trip is rated medium, however depending on the tides, the beach driving can also be easy to hard.

Participants must have good ground clearance, long handled shovel, sand flag, basic recovery gear, rated recovery points front and back, Maxtrax (or similar).

Please contact Juanita directly on 0467 809 040 if you would like to attend. There are only 7 places available.



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

GEELONG 4WD CLUB

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER - MIDDAY



PIZZA & CANAPES  
SUPPLIED

KIDS MEALS &  
ICE CREAM

DRINKS AT BAR  
PRICES

SANTA WILL BE  
VISITING

COME AND CELEBRATE THE AMAZING YEAR THE CLUB HAS HAD.  
CLUB PROVIDING PIZZA & CANAPES - KIDS MEAL & ICE CREAM FOR KIDS UNDER 12  
OUTDOOR MARQUEE, MUSIC, KIDS PLAYGROUND. DRINKS AT BAR PRICES

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# PRESENTATION NIGHT

12TH OCTOBER 2024

WORDS & PHOTOS: DANNY SPARKS-COUSINS

This year we held the annual club awards presentation night at the Cremorne Hotel - kicking off at 6pm and running late into the night. It was great to see around 40 club members attend - almost filling the bistro room.

With live music playing, everyone enjoyed a few drinks and plenty of socialising before ordering and digging into some great meals. Many stayed on after the awards presentation and enjoyed a few more drinks, plenty of chats and great live music.

## **Awards were presented to the winning members with the following results:**

- Clubman of the Year - Geoff Davey (69 points)
- Clubman of the Year Runner Up - Tim Neville (53 points)
- Clubwoman of the Year - Jenny Carpentier (38 points)
- Clubwoman of the Year Runner Up - Juanita Mountjoy (29 points)
- Most Active New Member - Scott Latham (16 points)
- Dunny Seat - Geoff Davey (43 points - next nearest 13)
- Editors Award - Sophie Brocks
- Perfect Attendance - Geoff Connors, Geoff Davey, Jimmy Halikias





**CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR  
GEOFF DAVEY**



**CLUBWOMAN OF THE YEAR  
JENNIFER CARPENTIER**



**CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR - RUNNER UP  
TIM NEVILLE**



**CLUBWOMAN OF THE YEAR - RUNNER UP  
JUANITA MOUNTJOY**



**MOST ACTIVE NEW MEMBER  
SCOTT LATHAM**



**DUNNY SEAT AWARD  
GEOFF DAVEY**



**EDITORS AWARDS  
SOPHIE BROCKS**



# COFFS HARBOUR TRIP

14TH TO 26TH SEPTEMBER 2024

WORDS: ADAM MOUNTJOY, HOLLIE SMITH,  
JUANITA MOUNTJOY & BEC FITZPATRICK

PHOTOS: VARIOUS



## Saturday 14th

The first day of the trip was a full day traveling to get to Bathurst. Once we arrived we all meet up at the Macquarie woods campground.

## Sunday 15th

On Sunday we headed off to do the Bridle Track from camp, and then a slow lap around Mount Panorama. The morning started with the mighty 200 Series breaking some front wheel studs. Luckily we were in town so it was a quick fix.

We finally started the Bridle Track that wove a very windy and hilly trail along the steep cuttings and over the hills beside the Macquarie and Turon Rivers. We finished the afternoon with our lap of Mount Panorama before heading back to camp.

## Monday 16th

Monday morning we all headed off for another full day traveling to get to Myall lakes. After arriving we set up in the caravan park - our base for the next two days.

## Tuesday 17th

We stayed at Myall National Park, and it rained though the night. We had a nice slow start to the morning and took advantage of the facilities, including getting some washing done. We eventually left camp around 10am.

We caught a ferry across the river and after a small drive we arrived at Mungos Beach and had a bit of a play. Down the road was Sandy Point where we checked out the beach and

saw a dingo! We then stopped at Black Point and the kids played in the sand dunes, before more beach driving on Bennetts Beach.

We had a communal lunch of left overs from dinner the night before. At Bennetts Beach, before we drove back, we aired up & then headed to Mungo Brush. We went for a little walk at Mungo Brush and saw a goanna. Back on the ferry to cross the river again and get back to camp. We had dinner and played some cards all together for a quiet evening.

### Wednesday 18th

The next morning we woke up to a cold morning, with ice on the swags and trailers. We tried to use the morning sun to dry a couple of things and hit the road at about 9:30. On the way out of the caravan park we saw a red belly black snake on the road and multiple kookaburras.

After being on the road a while we had a break at Kempsey at the Slim Dusty Museum. We planned on doing the Akubra factory but it has been closed since covid, so we fuelled up and had some free time in Kempsey.

We made our way to camp & were met with a road closure that blocked us from getting to the camp we had planned. After asking a local at the pub, we finally made our way to camp. We camped at Black Bird Flat Reserve campground and had dinner under a little rotunda, then played cards all together.

### Thursday 19th

Today we woke up, had breakfast, packed up and hit the road around 9am. We stopped at a camp ground to drop off the campers and the swags before heading out onto the tracks.

We drove on Bicentennial Track, which had many river crossings and was really enjoyable. After the track we had lunch at George's Junction



campground under a bit of shade. We then made a quick pit stop at a little look out before we stopped about 50km out of Coffs at Dangar Falls campground to set up camp for the night. Everyone had dinner and again played some cards all together.

### **Friday 20th - Monday 23rd Morbid Trail**

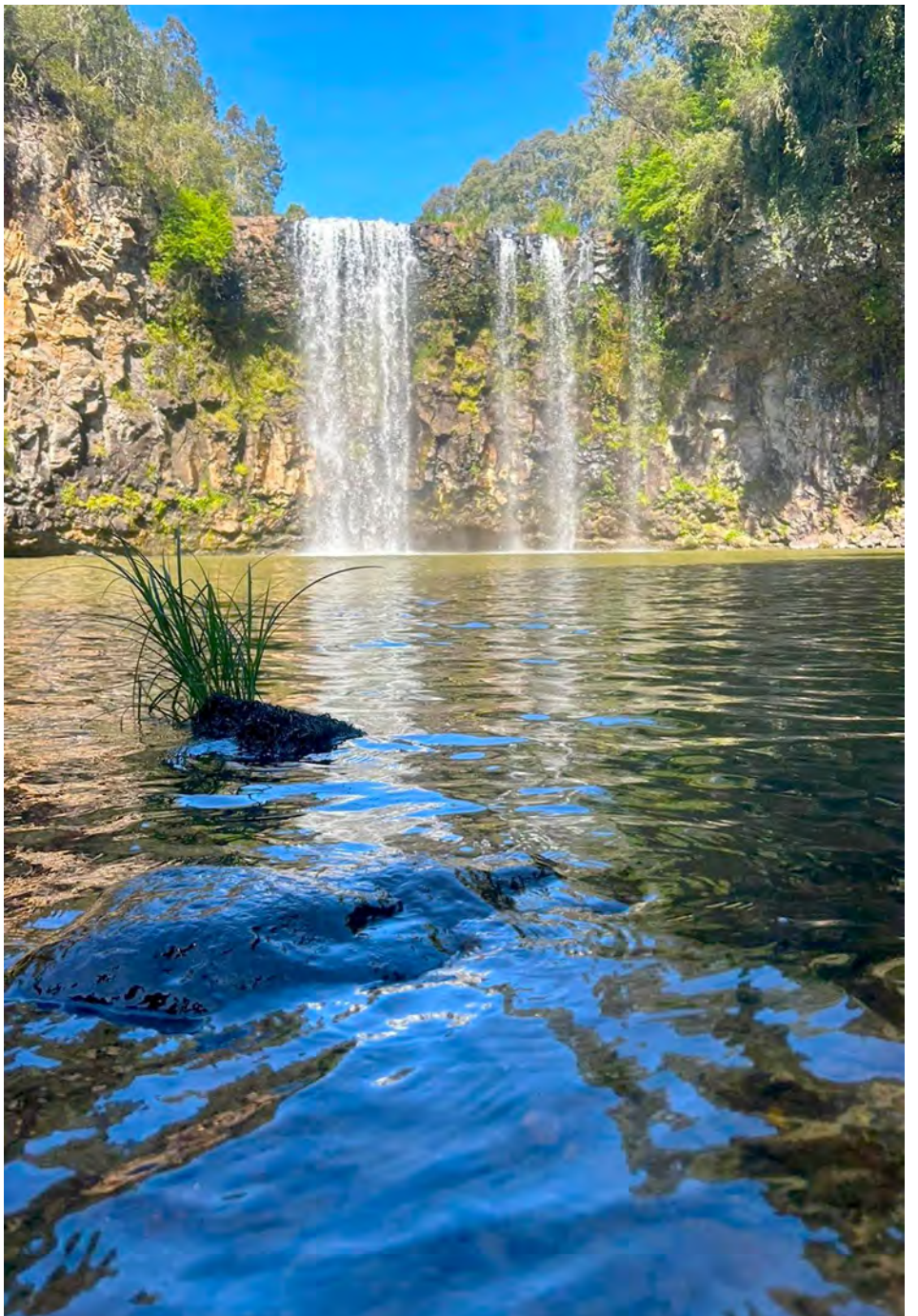
Coffs Harbor is well known for having some of the most difficult 4WD tracks in Australia, and Morbid Trail was a perfect example of a difficult to extreme track.

Immediately upon entering the track, we came across a large tree that required us to move it out of the way. A huge pile of bulldozed dirt was at the entrance of the track, to prevent vehicles that were not capable of attempting the track, from doing just that. Matthew got stuck attempting to drive over the dirt, just lacking the clearance needed. Adam in his 79 series was the only vehicle that went up that section of track, the rest of us went around on what I would normally call the “chicken track” but it was anything but.

The track was rutted out in many places and there were quite a few challenging hill climbs. Adam was quick to rejoin the group, before coming unstuck when he dropped his rear tyre into a rather large hole! Using Andrew’s vehicle as an anchor, Adam was able to winch his car out. At this point, Andrew and Rachel left the group, leaving Tyler and Hollie to continue with the group.

It was not long before we ran into trouble again when James popped the tyre off its bead on a steep hill. The difficulty here was jacking the car on the incline. With a bit of creativity, we managed to get the car jacked, fixed, and we were off again.

The track continued in a steep incline and the higher we got, the



more difficult the track became. A couple of hundred metres from the end of the track and we were done. The final part of the track had huge ruts and massive rock steps that would have put the vehicles dangerously off camber. The only way we were getting to the top was by winching and risking damage to our vehicles. So we turned around and headed back to camp for lunch.

### **Convincing Ground Trail**

After lunch we thought we'd do a medium track, as we had two L platers driving. Two vehicles headed out to drive Convincing Ground Trail, but one wrong turn found us back on a difficult track. The track was incredibly overgrown, so a bit of scrub clearing was required and our car earned a few new pin stripes as a result. This track also had a few challenges including steep uphill inclines, rutted out sections and one narrow section where we had to avoid a huge hole on one side and a tree on the other. A shout out to Tyler who drove this track superbly in the 79 series, even if he did give the tree a light tap!

### **Beach Driving**

Today we thought we'd take it down a notch and do some beach driving. We started the day with a walk along the jetty, watching the whales breach the water and dolphins swim past. It took us a while to actually find the entrance to the beach, but when we did, we drove the Coffs Beach without any hassles.

After Coffs Beach run we headed to Woolgoolga. The tide was too high to drive the beach, so we headed to the foreshore for some lunch and a swim.

In the afternoon we headed back to the beach. The tide had dropped so we gave it a go. We hadn't bothered to let down our tyres so it was no surprise when Tyler became stuck in the sand. Lower tyre pressures and a quick snatch and he was on his way again. We had a great time cruising up and down the beach for



the afternoon before cleaning the cars and heading back to camp.

### **Tuesday 24 September**

The group split in two today. Matthew, Juanita & Adam spent the day 4WDing. Rachael & Bec took all the kids to the Big Banana for the day where they had an absolute blast, while Andrew and James separately spent a few hours in town doing odd jobs.

### **Wednesday 25th September**

We left camp about 9am and headed to Bindarri National Park with the intention to take the 4WD tracks to Bangalore Falls.

We spent several hours travelling on some rough tracks as well as some very overgrown tracks. Enroute we met two other vehicles travelling in the same direction. One of the vehicles had hit a tree stump and damaged his rim, so we had to wait some time for that to be changed over.

As we progressed, the tracks were becoming very overgrown and we were spending a lot of time clearing the tracks of fallen trees so we made the decision to turn around and head to Bangalore Falls via the main road. It was a short 1.2km walk to the falls for a look before heading back to camp, arriving around 4pm.

### **Thursday 26th September**

With the official end to the trip, Matthew & Juanita and Adam commenced their drive home.

The Fitzpatrick & the Smith families headed north to Kingscliff where they will spend the next 6 days exploring the area, enjoying the beach, and taking on the Gold Coast theme parks. The kids are really looking forward to this.

Thanks to everyone who came along and enjoyed the trip.



# TRACK CLEARING

26TH TO 27TH OCTOBER 2024

WORDS: DANNY SC & KEN MELLROSS - PHOTOS: VARIOUS

Another track clearing is done and dusted (literally, it was pretty dry and dusty on the tracks). It was great to have a few people available for both days this year, something we will work on building in future years.

The track clearing & opening weekend has been running now for over 20 years - a partnership between Parks Victoria, DEECA, Four Wheel Drive Victoria, and the local clubs surrounding the Otways.

Working together this ensures that the tracks in the area that are part of the seasonal closures are checked, cleared and re-opened safely, ready for the summer season.

Saturday we were able to run two teams - with one heading to Deans Marsh to work with the Bellarine 4x4 Club, and the other heading down to Gellibrand to assist with the Otway 4WD Club and Warrnambool 4WD Club.

Four vehicles - Keith, Harley, Ken, John and Geoff, met at Moriac then onto Deans Marsh for a briefing with the Bellarine 4WD club. After tracks were allocated all vehicles headed off together for Dunse Track, which only had a few trees to clear.

We then proceeded to Thompsons Track via Benwerrin - Mt Sabine Rd. We parted ways with the Bellarine crew and it was just Geelong doing this track which had to be cleared to



approximately four metres wide as it is a primary access for emergency vehicles. Not many large trees down, but a lot of small branches that did not require cutting. Then it was onto Newcombe Spur Track. This was a totally different track to Thompsons Track. The vegetation is very close and there is a couple of interesting creek crossings at the start, then it becomes an easy drive. There were a lot of trees across the track, so progress was fairly slow. We had lunch about halfway down the track, then continued on to Hayden Track which had very little clearing for us to do. We came back onto Thompsons Track and then back to Benwerrin - Mt Sabine Road where we aired up. John and Geoff went to Big Hill campground for more clearing on Sunday. Keith, Harley and Ken headed home via Barwon Downs. It was a great day enjoyed by all.

Our other four vehicle team of Danny, Daniel, PJ, Graeme and Nathan headed to Colac and met up with John Carew from the Otways 4WD Club. We stopped at Gellibrand and met with the rest of the crew, including members from the Warrnambool 4WD Club. Splitting into two teams with two chainsaw operators in each team, we headed out onto the tracks that needed to be checked and cleared. It wasn't long before the saws were





out and we were clearing many trees across the tracks. We managed to clear Rifle Range Track, Bunker Hill Track and Old Carlisle Track before we stopped for lunch at Carlisle River. Both teams made good time allowing us to catch up for lunch at the same time.

After lunch we ran as one combined larger team, which allowed us to 'leap frog' each other and fairly quickly clear another four tracks before we called it a day. After a quick debrief, Graeme & Nathan along with PJ headed back to Geelong, and Danny & Daniel followed those who were camping overnight to Dando's Campground before making our way back to Big Hill campground to camp with Geoff & John and the Bellarine crew. It was a great night around the fire, with a few refreshments to clear the dust.



Sunday saw us clear all of our usual allocated tracks along with Garvey & Sharps tracks. It was great to have John on the chainsaw for the day where he was able to get some good practice on a variety of trees that needed clearing. With all our tracks cleared and opened it was time to head home after a great weekend.

Thanks to everyone who came along and helped out.





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