



Drive Torque eNewsletter

November 2022



Vice Presidents Message



Well things are really starting to look up. After being forced into isolation for so long due to the virus, and having to keep our heads above water during the floods, brighter days are now with us, as things start getting back to normal. Our club has done very well to keep things ticking along, but with more trips now happening, it's great to be able to share our passion for exploring the great outdoors.

A big thank you to those who have volunteered to run recent trips. Special mention here to Jo and Chris for organising the Weekday Wanders that have proved so popular, especially with the older (I mean more experienced) members of our club, and to Alex, who recently ran her first trip. Welcome, also, to the new members who have joined us in recent months. It's great to have you aboard.

Problems bring opportunities. The unavailability of the hall at Ermington has resulted in us meeting at a variety of venues, sometimes with an accompanying barbecue or dinner, and sometimes linked to a camping weekend. Special thanks go to David for organising our meeting schedule. Perhaps we can continue this plan next year. We welcome your thoughts on this.

One of the reasons that it's great to be in a 4WD club is that you benefit from the knowledge and skills of others. Our Driver Awareness Team has conducted two sessions over the last few months, one on track assessment and one on sand driving. The team now has a comprehensive set of recovery gear which they're looking forward to using on future training days.

On the topic of knowledge and skills, it's really important to know what to do when you, or someone with you, gets their vehicle stuck. Recoveries are potentially very dangerous, and it's all too common for people to jump straight in with high risk solutions like using a snatch strap. In order to maximise safety, you should take a step back and consider the hierarchy of recovery, which means looking for simple fixes to a problem before considering higher risk solutions.

I'll go into this in detail in the next newsletter.

Finally a huge thank you to Stephen Bennett for putting this newsletter together. It's no easy task, especially when trips have been few and far between, but looking at our calendar for the next few months, the trip reports should come flooding in.

Michael.

SUBARU AND RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING: Nil**

Date: Friday 14/01/2022

Venue: Camden Sports Club

QUOTE.

Henrik Ibsen first said "A thousand words leave not the same deep impression as does a single deed. After his death in 1906 this quote was plagiarized and para-phrased into what we know now.

In March 1911, the Syracuse Advertising Men's Club held a banquet to discuss journalism and publicity. This was reported in two articles. In an article in The Post-Standard covering this event, the author quoted Arthur Brisbane as saying: **"Use a picture. It's worth a thousand words."**

The only thing that I have of the Bare Foot Bowls meeting/event is 3 pictures. When I looked at these images, the first thing that came to mind was, the above phrase, and I believe that they are saying, a good time was had by all.





SUBARU AND RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

Date: Friday 8 July 2022

Venue: via Zoom

Meeting commenced at: 8:10 PM

Subject	Details
Attendance	Those attending were: Mark & Karolyn Honor, Ray Stanborough, Kevin McCormack. Alex Gatward, Geoff Adcock, John Hocking, Cath de Santis, Vaughan Butler, James & Rowena Carroll, Scott Ashurst, Jo Quinn, David Wellham, Brian, Heidi & Izzy, Andrew Rowlatt.
Apologies	Dave Cook, Troy & Sandi Strickland, Michael & Leanne Minny, Michael Hamilton (Mt Annan), Stephen & Sue Bennett, Bill Twyman, Brett & Fiona Hampson, Stephan Eakin.
Minutes of previous meeting	Held at Mt Wilson on 18 June 2022. Minutes held over until next meet meeting.
Business arising from previous minutes	Nil
Visitors/new members	Jim and Rowena Carroll.
President's report	<p>AGM/picnic day will be held next month on a Sunday, probably 14 August. The Club has applied for a stand at the 4WD & Adventure Show.</p> <p>As at 31 June 2022 there were 81 Club members. Association membership fees are \$21.70 per member. The fees need to be paid tis weekend.</p> <p>In the absence of either of the trip conveners at this meeting, Mark spoke about trips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept 16 – 18 – Yerranderie trip • Sept monthly meeting may be held in the Macarthur area • Oct – camping trip • Nov – BBQ on river • Dec – combined with Christmas party • There are three mid-week trips in the calendar, and Jo is planning three others, including Belanglo State Forest • Stockton trip was planned for tomorrow, but postponed due to bad weather
Vice President's report	No report.
Secretary's report	No report.
Treasurer's report	No report this month.
Membership Secretary's report	No report this month.
Editor's report	No report this month.

Driver Awareness Officers' report	<p>Those attending the last event in the Zig-Zag area had an enjoyable time.</p> <p>Other driver awareness events are listed in the Club calendar.</p>
Trip Conveners' report	<p>See President's report.</p>
4WD Assn Delegates	<p>David mentioned the 4WD & Adventure Show, to be held from 9 to 11 September at Eastern Creek. All tickets need to be obtained online – no cash at the gate.</p> <p>There was discussion as to whether we participate in the Show this year, as opposed to holding new members events.</p> <p>John mentioned discussions at the Association about the Newnes Plateau area, about encouraging tourists to visit the area. Comments on the new proposal closed on 5 July. It is also becoming difficult to book for camping in the area.</p>
Social	<p>No report this month.</p>
Fundraising	<p>No report this month.</p>
Webmaster	<p>No report this month.</p>
Serjeant at Arms	<p>No report this month.</p>
General Business	<p>Jim & Rowena attended the MT Wilson meeting.</p> <p>Kevin McCormack and Andrew Rowlatt went on the Kiama trip.</p> <p>Cath de Santis said that she and Tom are OK, but she has been suffering from long COVID symptoms since January.</p> <p>Ray Stanborough is planning a dam trip for next weekend. It's on the website.</p> <p>'David Wellham mentioned that 25% of those registered for the Mt Wilson trip had to pull out because of flu.</p> <p>Scott Ashurst is back in Kiama.</p>
Next meeting	<p>Vaughn and BJ – going OK, working near Broken Hill.</p> <p>AGM, 14 August 2022.</p>
Close	<p>9:20 pm.</p>

SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Date: Sunday 14 August 2022

Venue: The Dairy, Western Sydney Parklands.

Meeting commenced at: 11:30 AM

Details

As per attendance sheet (copy accompanies these minutes)

Ross Macbeth, Jim and Rowena Carroll, Kevin McCormack, Michael and Jean Dunstan, Iwan Sujono, Stephen and Susan Bennett, Brian Flood, Heidi Ploeg and Izzy, Evan and Jessica King.

Nil.

Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting on 27 August 2021 were accepted (moved: Michael Hamilton (Mt Annan), seconded: Michael Minny).

Nil.

Mark noted that the last 12 months have continued to be difficult for the club, with trips postponed because of COVID and floods.

Problems have also been encountered with the NPWS booking system.

Mark thanked the outgoing Committee for its work over the past year.

Mid week trips have been a success and thanks go to Jo, Chris and Kelly.

The Ermington Community Centre room has not been re-booked at this stage because the renovations will probably continue until March or April 2023. Therefore, we will continue plans for meetings at other venues, including outdoor venues. There was some discussion concerning whether some general monthly meetings could be held on days other than Fridays. Some possibilities for future meetings included Camden and a BBQ/picnic on the river at Ermington.

Copies of Brett's reports for June and July 2022 and the 2021 – 2022 financial year accompany these minutes

For the 2021 – 2022 financial year the opening and closing balances were:

Opening - \$9,396.53

Closing - \$11,324.84.

John Hocking summarised his recent written report (copy accompanies these minutes). John acknowledged the contribution of David Wellham to the Association's meeting and voting procedures.

Leanne mentioned that there had been many driver awareness events postponed over the past year, due primarily to COVID and bad weather. Leanne would like there to be a team of members involved in driver awareness this year, rather than just two people. The next driver awareness event will be at Stockton in mid October.

SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – SUNDAY 14 AUGUST 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELECTED

Election of officers

Committee positions were filled as follows:

Position	Nominee	Nominator	Seconded	Accepted?
President	Mark Honor	David Wellham	Alex Gatward	Yes
Vice President	Michael Hamilton (Mt Annan)	Mark Honor	Alex Gatward	Yes
Secretary	Paul Sistrom	Cath de Santis	Mark Honor	Yes
Treasurer	Brett Hampson	Sandi Strickland	Kaitlyn Strickland	Yes
Membership secretary	Karolyn Honor	Sandi Strickland	Michael Hamilton (Mt Annan)	Yes
Trip Convener	Brett Hampson	Mark Honor	Cath de Santis	Yes
Trip Convener	Bill Twyman	Troy Strickland	Kaitlyn Strickland	Yes
Driver Awareness Officer	Brian Flood	Mark Honor	Michael Minny	Yes
Driver Awareness Officer	Leanne Minny	Alex Gatward	Troy Strickland	Yes
NSW 4WD Assn Delegate	David Wellham	Paul Sistrom	Jo Quinn	Yes
NSW 4WD Assn Delegate				
NSW 4WD Assn Delegate				
Social/Catering	Alex Gatward	Leanne Minny	Mark Honor	Yes
Public Relations Officer	Jo Quinn	Troy Strickland	Mark Honor	Yes
Webmaster	Troy Strickland	Mark Honor	Karolyn Honor	Yes
Editor	Stephen Bennett	Jo Quinn	David Wellham	Yes
Fundraising	Fiona Hampson and Sandi Strickland	Mark Honor	Paul Sistrom	Yes

Meeting closed at 12:20 AM.



SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.**ATTENDANCE LIST**

SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC

GENERAL MONTHLY MTG & AGM 14-8-22

ATTENDANCE LIST

Paul & Jenny Sistrone
Mark & Carolyn Honor
Michael & Leanne Minny.

Troy & SANDI STRICKLAND

TOM & CATHIE SANTIS

Jeffy Carins

Chris Mifsud

Kelly Maxwell

John Hocking

Sean Hocking

Steve Pimmington

DAVID BENNETT

Michael Hamilton

JAMES SIMMONS

Brett & Fiona Hampson

ANDREW ROWLATT

Bill Twyman

Sergie Stuparik

Kathie Strickland

David Wallman

Alexandra Gashmud

SCOTT ASHURST

Bernadette Tiller

Chris Tiller

SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

Treasurers Report

Aug-22

Cash Book Balance Brought Forward	\$10,052.74
Plus Income	\$650.00
Less Expenditure	\$16.00
Closing Balance	<u><u>\$10,686.74</u></u>

<u>Income</u> -	Memberships	\$650.00
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<u>Expenditure</u> -	Paypal fees	\$16.00
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Bank Reconciliation

Bank Account Balance as at 31/8/2022	ANZ	\$5,035.98
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<u>Less</u> Unpresented Cheques	\$0.00
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<u>Plus</u> Funds held in Pay Pal as at 31/8/2022	\$5,650.76
Cash on Hand	\$0.00

Available Funds as at 31/8/2022	<u><u>\$10,686.74</u></u>
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SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

Date: Friday 9 September 2022

Venue: Camden Sports Club

Meeting commenced at: 8:22 PM

Subject	Details
Attendance	Those attending were: Mark & Karolyn Honor, Evan and Jessica King, Bill Twyman, Michael and Leanne Minny, Paul and Renee Williscroft, Brett Atkins, Michael Hamilton (Mt Annan), Brett and Fiona Hampson, Paul Sistrom.
Apologies	Dave Cook, Vaughan Butler, Alex Gatward, Stephen and Susan Bennett, Troy & Sandi Strickland, Michael & Leanne Minny, Brian and Heidi, Michael Hamilton (Mt Annan), Bill Twyman, Brett & Fiona Hampson, Stephan Eakin.
Minutes of previous meeting	Available on website. Accepted (moved: Karolyn Honor, seconded: Mark Honor)
Business arising from previous minutes	Nil
Visitors/new members	Nil
President's report	<p>Arrangements for the next 3 or 4 general meetings will be put on the Club website. November meeting will be at Mt York.</p> <p>December Christmas party. Maybe Myall River Camping Ground near Hawks Nest.</p> <p>January 2023 – barefoot bowls at Camden.</p> <p>Mark hopes to be able to send some material to Stephen Bennett soon for inclusion in Drive Torque. There was discussion about whether to produce Drive Torque in hard copy – decided against.</p> <p>Mark noted that there were a few trips coming up soon, and that the Club had decided not to take part in the 4WD & Adventure Show this year.</p>
Vice President's report	Michael noted that Alex was keen to do another trip to Stockton soon.
Secretary's report	No report
Treasurer's report	Brett noted the current bank balance as \$10,686.74.
Membership Secretary's report	There are 51 plus 9 life members at present. Clothing shop is on-line, but gold and black colour combination is no longer available.

Editor's report	No report this month.
Driver Awareness Officers' report	<p>Leanne mentioned that a Stockton sand day was planned for 15 October. Four more driver awareness days are presently planned, and some will be on Tuesdays. There is an EOI (Expression of Interest) form on the Association's website for those interested in training for qualifications.</p> <p>Purchase of recovery gear by the Club - the Committee has authorised spending of an estimated amount of about \$1,000.00 on recovery gear (e.g. snatch straps, winch extension strap (tree trunk protector), shackles (steel and soft) and hand held UHF radios (2 x 5W and 2 x 2W).</p>
Trip Conveners' report	Bill noted that Brett Hampson has offered to assist with trips. Bill expressed thanks to those who are putting trips up on the calendar.
4WD Assn Delegates	No report this month.
Social	No report this month.
Fundraising	Fiona noted that there will be a raffle tonight.
Webmaster	Nothing special to report this month.
Serjeant-at-Arms	No report this month.
General Business	<p>Leanne and Michael are considering an extended trip in 2023 (4 to 6 weeks in duration).</p> <p>It was agreed that the Club would purchase a few hundred new car stickers (moved: Bill Twyman, seconded: Michael Hamilton).</p> <p>Fiona informed the meeting that Karen Campbell has cancer, and she would like to send a card.</p> <p>It was also agreed that members try to stay in touch with Craig Fitzpatrick.</p> <p>In relation to the Christmas party, Mark asked whether we would like to get caterers in, or ask members attending to do a pot luck dinner. Mark will investigate and come back to the members.</p>
Next meeting	BBQ in park on river at Ermington, 14 October 2022.
Close	9:15 pm.

SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

Treasurers Report

Sep-22

Cash Book Balance Brought Forward	\$10,686.74
Plus Income	\$450.00
Less Expenditure	\$11.20
Closing Balance	<u><u>\$11,125.54</u></u>

<u>Income</u> -	Memberships	\$450.00
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<u>Expenditure</u> -	Paypal fees	\$11.20
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Bank Reconciliation

Bank Account Balance as at 30/9/2022	ANZ	\$5,135.98
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<u>Less</u> Unpresented Cheques	\$0.00
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<u>Plus</u>	Funds held in Pay Pal as at 30/9/2022	\$5,989.56
	Cash on Hand	\$0.00

Available Funds as at 30/9/2022	<u><u>\$11,125.54</u></u>
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SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

Date: Friday 14 October 2022

Venue: George Kendall Reserve. Ermington

Meeting commenced at: 7:55 PM

Subject	Details
Attendance	Those attending were: Michael Hamilton (Mt Annan), Cheryl and Ray Bonello, Bill Twyman, Craig Fitzpatrick, Susan and Stephen Bennett, Dave Cook, Jessica, Evan, Jaiden and Mathias King, Paul and Renee Williscroft, Mark, Caitlin and Logan Williscroft, Stephen Eakin, Rowena and Jim Carroll, John Hocking, Brian and Parker Flood, Troy and Sandi Strickland, Alex Gatward, Iwan and Evie Sujono, Brett and Fiona Hampson, Andrew Rowlatt
Apologies	Darren Powell, Mark and Karolyn Honor, Paul Sistrom, Kevin McCormack, David Wellham, David and Julie Bennett, Leanne and Michael Minny
Minutes of previous meeting	Correct the apologies by deleting Michael Hamilton (Mt Annan)
Business arising from previous minutes	Accepted (moved: Michael, seconded: Brett) Nil
Visitors/new members	Nil
President's report	No report
Vice President's report	Great to see more trips being added to our calendar If you want to go somewhere, we'll help you lead a trip Driver Awareness on tomorrow. Mid week trips being planned Bill doing Basic Driver Training Course tomorrow at Awaba December Christmas Party - book with Myall River Camp David W. and Jo Q. interested in re-doing a Club brochure
Secretary's report	No report
Treasurer's report	Brett noted the current bank balance of \$11,125.54
Membership Secretary's report	No report
Editor's report	Stephen advised that if he does not receive a trip report from the trip leader, he will email the participants and request a paragraph from them which he will put together himself

**Driver Awareness
Officers' report**

Recovery gear being purchased as per last meeting

\$1000 budget

Use will be limited to demonstrations of technique/safety

Trip Conveners' report

Stockton trip going ahead

Yerranderie trip going ahead

Myall River - book early / \$40 per night

Alex reported on her first experience as trip leader

Chris reported on the trip to Pretty Beach and other mid week trips

Dave spoke about his upcoming trip to Capertee

4WD Assn Delegates

No report

**Social
Fundraising**

Alex was thanked for arranging tonight's BBQ

Raffle conducted

Webmaster

Nothing new to report

Serjeant-at-Arms

Heidi was fined for mistakenly thinking that Steven had expected to get some help with trip reports from the "females", when he actually said he expected to get some help from the "emails"

General

Brian reminded us that we should not book on a trip unless we are committed to go. He also advised that for some trips, it is not possible to provide full details until a few days out from the event

Business

Stephen B. suggested that if a trip is postponed, those registered should have priority when it is put up again

Craig spoke about the possibility of establishing a relationship with SubaXtreme

**Next
meeting**

Saturday, 12 November, combined with Mount York trip

Close

8:32pm



Association News & Updates: November 2022

Hello from David Wellham – your Delegate to the Association – Four Wheel Drive NSW & ACT. Please contact if you would like to represent our club to the Association. Association documents are located on our website. For any information about these topics or in relation to the Association, please contact us – delegates@subaruclub.com.au

Well Hello There! It has been a long time since we wrote a Delegates report and I'm sure you know all of the Local, Regional, National & International events that have occurred, and are still occurring that have resulted in many trips being cancelled or postponed. Ongoing there are still many closures due to wet weather, floods and road damage and some of our favourite local places to travel might not open for another six months – or more if the rain continues. This article starts with the AGM report from John Hocking. I would like to thank John for his many years as a Delegate representing our club to the Association – John was always available to attend meetings. Then there are a few short items that might be of interest and to finish are articles from Association about flashing headlights and live traffic updates. Looking forward to seeing you all on the tracks or at a meeting soon.

Delegate's report tabled at the AGM of the Subaru & Recreational 4WD Club on Sunday the 14th August 2022 by John Hocking.

Hello Folks,

There were 10 meetings in the last year covering the business of the Greater Sydney Region (GSR) of the Association. Additionally, there were 4 Quarterly meetings of the Association. Most of these were conducted outside Sydney in NSW Regional Areas. All 14 meetings were attended by Subaru Club delegates.

There are 70 clubs and 3,500 members represented by the Association

The Association covers 4WD interests with the

Federal Government (vehicle standards) and State Government (road rules)
Manufacturers and vendors
National Parks
National Council

Effort this year has been on

Gaining access to tracks and keeping those that are available open
The 4WD Show at Eastern Creek
Driver Training
First Aid Course
Establishing an office with professional help to support members

Items covered

Submissions to National Parks on the Gardens of Stone State Recreational Area proposal for the Newnes Plateau
Support for the 4WD Show at Eastern Creek
Volunteer work for National Parks for example Green Gully project
Camp Oven Cook Offs (COCO)
Driver Training Unit development
Repair of the Bridle track towards Hill End
Establishment of an arrangement for paid assistance in the Association office
Guidance to the Association by our David Wellham in regard to office procedures, voting for motions and for the Association committee at the AGM.
I thank the Club Committee for the help provided to the delegates during this last year.

Best wishes, John

Club Insurance - AON

Certificate of Currency - COC has emailed to our club.

AON Policy Documents - The 2022/23 policy documents are available should you want to read them.

Spring Aerial Baiting Program & Aerial Shooting

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) Blue Mountains Branch undertakes twice yearly landscape scale aerial baiting efforts conducted since the 2019-20 bushfires, which have resulted in fewer stock losses for neighbouring graziers, reductions in wild dog and fox sightings and increases in native species such as koalas and quolls. Aerial shooting of vertebrate pests is planned in the NPWS during Spring and Summer.

National Parks

Gardens of Stone submissions closed in July. The MAC & RAC have been looking at them and meetings have occurred regarding changes. There were over 400 submissions received, a lot were from four-wheel drivers and motorbike riders. We are seeking to change some wording in the plan regarding "Safe four-wheel driving".

Green Gully project (Megalong Valley): Has been delayed due to wet weather. Watch out for details and updates. If you volunteer with this clean up there is a chance to access closed areas.

We have a Grant for 5000+ trees to plant in Blue Mountains Fire-affected areas. Again, this has been delayed due to wet weather. Will need hands/ help/heartbeats when the date eventually comes up. (May be short notice).

Craig Thomas has been reappointed for a further 4 years on Ministers Advisory Committee (MAC). This will be his last term - can only serve 2 x 4 year terms. Our own Heidi Lawson has also been reappointed to the Blue Mountains Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). Craig attended a meeting with NPWS regarding sub-committee user groups in National Parks - pushing for legislation changes to allow 4WD NSW/ACT to have a voice. This will be of great advantage in general but particularly for Goolwa National Park, Royal National Park & Gardens of Stone.

State Forest - when traveling in a state forest, Association clubs are covered and DO NOT need to pay entry due to formal agreement with State Forest/Assoc.

Watagan's Road Closures

Conditions off the main roads are still extremely slippery.

NPWS & Forestry Corporation produced a map that showed the closures in the Watagan's in both National Park and State Forest, to help people better understand the current closures and to provide better clarity.

MAP [HERE](#)

The key messaging remains **check the NPWS and FCNSW websites for alerts and closures when planning a trip**. The situation is evolving and assessments are ongoing.

<https://www.forestrycorporation.com.au/visit/closures>

<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alerts/alerts-list>

Heaton State Forest remains closed.

Forestry are investigating a slip near Warrawolong. The road is currently closed at the immediate area.

Article from Association about Live traffic updates

Live traffic updates expanded to include regional local roads. Real time traffic information will soon be available for motorists using local roads across 22 regional Local Government Areas (LGAs).

Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, Sam Faraway said the NSW Government is expanding the Live Traffic NSW website and app to provide more reliable information to drivers, especially during emergencies like bushfires or floods.

"We have created a platform which allows councils to share real time live traffic information from their local roads into a central hub, which will give more information to motorists when they are travelling on the state's network of regional highways," Mr Faraway said.

"We've taken on feedback from communities and recommendations from the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements Report to develop 'OneRoad' a backend portal for councils to feed their data into Live Traffic NSW so road impacts across local and state roads are all in the one place.

"The initial 22 LGAs have been chosen in consultation with the NSW Police, RFS and SES with the view to have all 128 LGAs across the state on board by 2024.

"LGAs will continue to come onboard in stages, with the priority given to the regional councils who have been impacted most by bushfires and floods.

"In the event of road closures through floods or fires, they will no longer have to piece together information from different sources to work out what roads are open and safe to use.

Live Traffic NSW website

<https://www.livetraffic.com/>

[Article from Association about flashing headlights](#)

Can I flash my headlights to warn motorists?

Flashing your headlights at oncoming vehicles to let them know of a traffic hazard, speed camera or hidden police car up ahead is a frequently observed custom on Australian roads. But is it legal?

An NRMA Member recently asked us this very question on Facebook. We consulted our Motoring Advice team who gave the response below.

What does the law say about flashing headlights to warn motorists?

There is no specific Road Rule in NSW stating you are not allowed to dip your lights to warn other road users that the police are ahead. However, you could still receive an infringement notice for it if a police officer alleges that while you were warning another driver, you also dazzled them.

Laws on headlights

[NSW Road Rule 219](#) states: ***"a driver must not use, or allow to be used, any light fitted to or in the driver's vehicle to dazzle, or in a way that is likely to dazzle, another road user"***. This type of offence can attract 1 demerit point and a \$110 fine.

Another more specific Road Rule in NSW is [Road Rule 218](#) which states:

"The driver of a vehicle must not use the vehicle's headlights on high-beam, or allow the vehicle's headlights to be used on high-beam, if the driver is driving: (a) less than 200 metres behind a vehicle travelling in the same direction as the driver, or (b) less than 200 metres from an oncoming vehicle."

Both 218-1 (a) & (b) each attract 1 demerit point and a \$112 fine.

Once again, you could receive an infringement for breaching this rule while in the process of warning an approaching driver of a speed trap ahead.

Hindering a police officer

Furthermore, under Section 546C of the Crimes Act 1900 (NSW), it is an offence to hinder a police officer in the execution of their duty. The legislation sets out that:

"Any person who resists or hinders or incites any person to assault, resist or hinder a police officer in the execution of his or her duty shall be liable on conviction before the Local Court to imprisonment for 12 months or to a fine of 10 penalty units, or both."

It is arguable that flashing your headlights to warn of police would fall into the definition of 'hindering police' in the execution of their duty (i.e., catching speeding drivers).

In conclusion

While the law does not provide any specific legislation to govern whether it is an offence to flash your vehicle's headlights to warn oncoming traffic, if you are hindering a police officer in executing their duty, using high beams illegally or dazzling a fellow motorist, you could be committing an offence.

Members can call our Motoring Advice team on 13 11 22 or you can reach out on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) if you have any questions.

Drive safely, everyone!

Sergeant-at-arms report

Date: November 2022

With all the issues associated with Covid over the last 2 years it's been a little difficult getting members attending monthly meetings or to take up on the occasional trips that had been organised.

Therefore, it has been a little challenging for me as the "Sergeant-at-Arms" to enforce the code of conduct on the general membership over this time.

However, there were 2 people worthy of prosecution this year.

Firstly was Michael Minny who was demonstrating to the training group at Newnes Plateau how to (responsibly) travel through a long puddle of muddy water, when he saw the opportunity to drench Leanne because she was standing next to the "said puddle" giving an oral presentation. Michael received the "Golden Shackle" award for his efforts.

Secondly was Heidi at the October general meeting/BBQ, where Heidi ripped into the VP when Heidi misunderstood what Steve the editor had said, that he is still waiting on all the "email trip reports" to come in for the magazine. Heidi thought Steve had said waiting on all the "females trip reports to come in".

I also look forward to re-kick starting the lost campaign of collecting a gold coin donation for the RFDS at each meeting.

Bill Twyman

The Phippen Residence

Scotts Main Ridge Rd, Byrnes Gap.

John Hocking & I did the daylight run to Yerranderie (the clubs Yerranderie trip) on Friday 19th Nov, where we talked with Mark the National Parks Ranger at his residence at the Private Town campground.



He told us about this old house we should check out on our way to Guntawang, our campsite for the weekend. He said it looks a bit rough on the outside but 5 star on the inside, well maybe 3.

The residence owned by Brian Phippen lies between the 1st & 2nd locked gate after the Yerranderie campground. The front door is never locked just a sign saying to keep door shut. It is a very spacious building with a concrete floor, 2 wood fuel stoves, a couple of fireplaces & a stack of fire wood, there must be a genset somewhere onsite as there was inside & outside lighting plus a microwave oven. Scattered around the inside & outside is a lot of old memorabilia artifacts, the place has a heap of old lounge chairs & a dining table with bench seating.

Around the outside is a fossickers delight with abandoned old machinery & bits from yester year, it also has Mens & Ladies flushing toilets. We could only see the one main living area of the complex but there were several padlocked internal doors within the building.

Given the time it's well worth a stopover to check it out. Bill Twyman



AUSTRALIA DAY BOOT CAMP CORRIMAL

Well, I don't think you could get better weather for almost a week on the coast.

We arrived down at Corrimal on Tuesday afternoon around 3:30. Some had come down earlier and some arrived later after work. The plan for Australia Day was very relaxed and everyone could do as little or as much as they liked.

For us, Australia Day started with a morning run up towards Bulli, then we set up some marquees and decorated them with Australian Flags.



Evan and Jessica came down for the day with the kids along with their friends.

We soon got organized and set off for a bike ride to a bike park I had discovered in Bulli. So off we went with the Kings and Clint and Verena and their two boys. We rode along the coastal bike path till we reached the park. A long ride of about 7km for some of the kids. Mathias, Cedrick and Sandi had a great time going up and down the hill over the bumps and jumps. After about 10 runs we headed back to fire up the barbie for some snags for lunch.

Some of the group then went over and enjoyed a swim in the beach. After we all regrouped we then started playing some Aussie games with Weet-Bix eating competition (with optional vegemite) which Mark won, Lamington eating competition with Mark again the winner, and then Thong throwing competition which I won for the men, Verena taking out the ladies and Cedrick was the winner for the kids.

We were then entertained by some planes and helicopters doing a fly-by which was very exciting. Dinner was basically lots of nibbles ranging from cheeses to cevapi. Finally, we had a quick game of cricket and then said goodbye to those who came down for the day. It was a great day and night.

Thursday morning saw David and myself head up the mountain to Brokers Nose on Mountain Bikes. Sandi and Lauren went for a run then a hike up the mountain too. Others did their own thing, from walks, photography or cafes. After we returned, we then had a full peloton of riders mass for a ride to Wollongong lighthouse with a mix of e-bikes and normal mountain bikes. We stopped at the lighthouse for some photos and then ice-cream from Lennivis. We all then headed back to camp for lunch.

Friday saw some of the group head off to work (Lauren and Sandi, Mark, Heidi and Brian), while lucky ones stayed and did some more activities, shopping, walk, run, swim, surf or bike rides to get coffee. I went for a morning run and was followed by David and Brett with cameras in hand. Karolyn and I went for a bike ride and Karolyn extended herself by riding on the road!

Saturday for me was my big run up to Brokers Nose so headed out early on day break. I reached the top about 10 mins before the chasers (that is David and Sandi) on e-bikes caught up to me. It was a tough run back down but I also checked out some new tracks too. We then spent a relaxing day around camp. Mark and Karolyn had family come down for fishing but although there were lots of bites they did not bring home anything for the BBQ. Late in the afternoon we decided to go for a ride in search of ice-cream. We finally found an open café in Bulli. The ice cream was a little on the soft side so it was a rush to eat it before it melted. We got back by 6 and Maria made a delicious Mexican layered dip which we all enjoyed before either heading out to dinner or making dinner at camp.

Sunday saw us all pack up and say our goodbyes till next time.

All in all it was a very relaxing few days of great company and doing as much or as little as we liked. Thanks to everyone who went along!

Troy and Sandi
Lauren and Matt

Kaitlin

Heidi, Brian and Izzy

Craig F

Mark and Karolyn
Brett and Fiona

Brett and Cheryl

Michael H

Kim N

Evan and Jessica (A Day)
Verena, Clint and Boys (A day)







Weekday Wander #1

Kiama Explorer

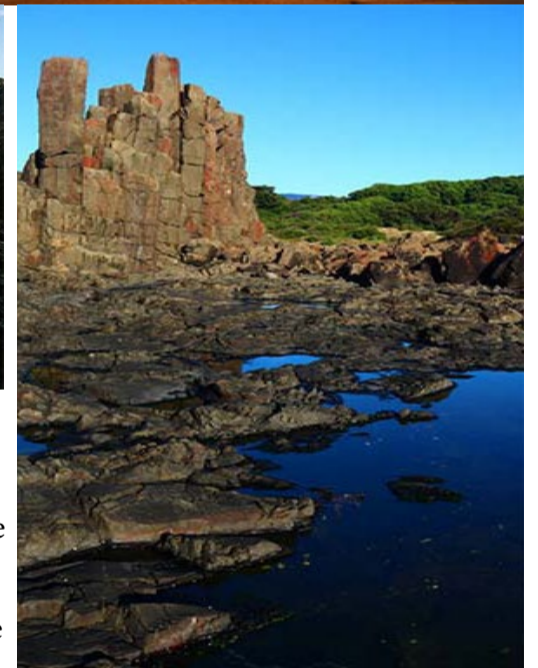
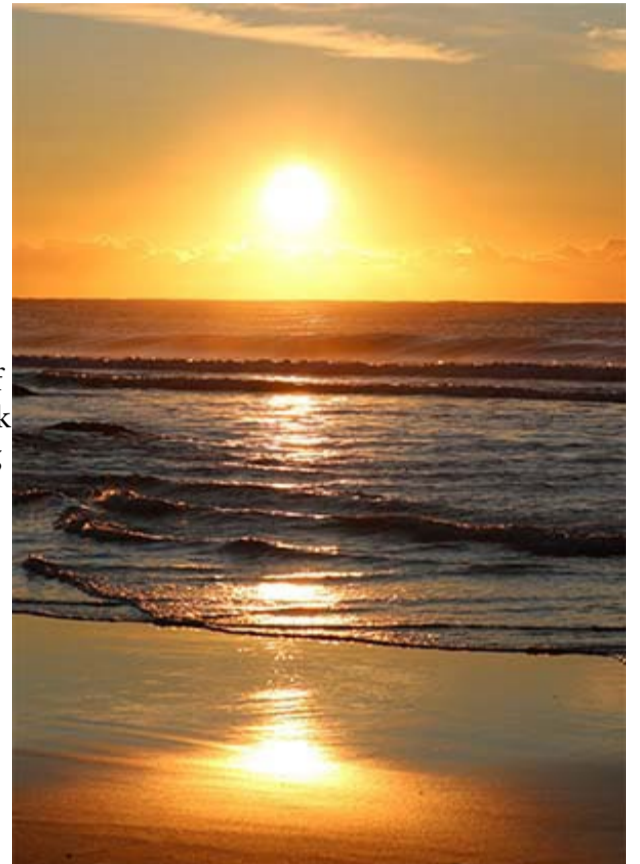
Trip Leader: Jo Quinn

Our first Weekday Wander trip was down to the Kiama Region on the 22nd June. With 16 cars registered we had a good turnout.

Two options for the start of the trip saw about half turn out to be early risers and met at 6:30am at Cathedral Rocks, Kiama Downs to watch the sunrise over the beach. Years of erosion have shaped these volcanic rocks into stunning sculptural forms that provided distinctive formations for sunrise photos. A tad chilly, but the view was awesome and we saw dolphins playing in the waves.



Next stop was where we met the rest of the group at Bombo Headland for a quick overview of the day before walking along the headland down to Bombo Quarry. The rock formations are a product of the region's rich mining history and blue metal quarrying in the 1880s and 1900s, along with centuries of exposure to the powerful ocean forces. A great spot for heaps of photos as we walked around what was like a prehistoric terrain.



In the cars we convoyed up to Kiama Lighthouse & Blowhole. Whilst we had a perfect Winters' day weatherwise, the lack of breeze led to bugger all swell, so as a result the blowhole was quiet inactive.

Kiama's famous Blowhole is the largest in the world and the landmark has attracted people to the region for over 100 years.

Silently watching over the headland and treacherous coastline is the Kiama Lighthouse. Established in 1887, the lighthouse sits 36.5m above sea level.

After watching the rocks hoping the blowhole would perform it's magic, we eventually gave up and moved on to the next stop.





Saddleback Mountain Lookout, rising 600m above sea level, was only a short drive and took us up into the rolling green hills renowned in the Kiama region. The lookout offered panoramic 360-degree views which could encompass from Cronulla to Jervis Bay on a clear day. We had great views all the way up and down the coast and could retrace our steps from earlier in the day. The section of escarpment that runs between Kiama and Gerringong is particularly dramatic, with the mountains running directly down to the coast.



On the road again (that would be a great name for a song!?) it was across to Jamberoo Mountain Lookout. A tight car park saw us all squeeze in for a quick look.

Jamberoo lookout is perched on the edge of the coastal escarpment, and its viewing platform offers a striking panorama over rolling hills and paddocks and out to the Pacific Ocean. Not enough room for everyone for lunch, we went down to Barren Grounds Picnic area.

Last stop, which was originally to be the Illawarra Fly, but had to be changed due to COVID opening days, was Nan Tien Temple off Five Islands Road at Berkely.

Nan Tien Temple is the largest Buddhist Temple in the Southern Hemisphere. With a name that translates to “Paradise of the South” in Chinese, this Buddhist temple complex is a modern architectural treasure. Our group strolled around at leisure going into various temples and exploring the gardens. Here our first Weekday Wander trip ended and everyone made their way home once they had seen enough of the temple and grounds.



Weekday Wander #2

Belanglo Overnighter Trip Leader: Jo Quinn

On July 19th, in the middle of winter, during one of the country's wettest winters on record, at one of Australia's most notorious forests, we headed off on Weekday Wander #2 to Belanglo State Forest.

The Backpacker Murders were a spate of serial killings that took place between 1989 and 1993, committed by Ivan Milat. The bodies of seven missing young people aged 19 to 22 were discovered partially buried in the Belanglo State Forest, 15 kilometres south-west of Berrima. Five of the victims were foreign backpackers (three German, two British) and two were Australians from Melbourne. Milat was convicted of the murders on 27 July 1996 and was sentenced to seven consecutive life sentences, as well as 18 years without parole. He died in prison on 27 October 2019, never having confessed to the murders for which he was convicted.

Notwithstanding its reputation, Belanglo State Forest is predominately a pine plantation with some areas of native forest around the edges & is a great spot for group camping. Daley's Clearing is a large, level camping area with a drop loo and only 5km off the Hume Highway, has easy car access. Due to the high volume of rain, the forest tracks were closed with access only to the camp area. It was somewhat boggy in lower lying areas as well. We basically had the campground to ourselves with only 1 other vehicle there.

The Winter sun was nice on arrival and in the midst of setting up camp we got the campfire going ready for a camp oven dinner feast. We had 400kg of firewood ready to go, enough to cook on with a decent size fire to keep us warm as well. We had a bit of a walk around, but were wary of the "track closed" signs so we retreated to the fire for a few beverages and some relaxation time.

With the coals building up we had fivies and a pumpkin & chive camp oven damper as preparations began for dinner. As the sun set it cooled dramatically and a slight drizzle started. Despite the weather we had great choices for dinner; roast lamb & veges, Guinness stew, Coke Cola spareribs & baked potatoes & roast chicken & rice. Definitely some repeat recipes in there! With the rain getting a bit beyond a drizzle, we all retired relatively early.



The rain hadn't stopped during the night and we woke to it being a bit soggy underfoot and an extinguished fire. After a leisurely breakfast we all packed up and everyone left for home at their own pace. It was definitely great to get away, relax and catch up with friends.



Weekday Wander #3

4wd-ing For Your Feet Trip Leader: Jo Quinn

We struck it lucky again with a perfect blue sky, sunny, windless Winter day for our walk to Little Marley Beach in the Royal National Park on the 17th August. This weekday Wander trip was in 2 parts; an 8km walk to the beach followed by a picnic lunch at Bonnie Vale in Bundeena. It gave those members who didn't want to walk the opportunity to still catch up for a BBQ lunch.



The walk from Bundeena Drive to Little Marley Beach leads through heath, past fresh water pools and creeks, and on to scenic beach views overlooking the rugged coastline. The start of the walk was an easy stroll along a somewhat narrow sandy track that in some places was full of large puddles from recent rains. The highlight of the walk, right from the start, had to be the prolific wildflowers in all shapes, sizes and colours – simply stunning! Our sandy track started to descend, and the rock scrambling began and in some places was quite difficult to navigate. At this point some of the group decided to head back to the cars and go down to Bonnie Vale. About 1km on, the remaining 4 of us were treated to a fantastic view as the track widened out. A small creek crossing, where the water flowed down 3 tiers into a crystal clear, rock & fern surrounded, natural plunge pool; Deer Pool it was called according to the directional sign. Would be perfect for a summer's day dip, but no doubt if it was swimming weather we wouldn't have had the pool to ourselves!



We followed the track up the other side of the creek where it soon joined Mowlee Ridge Fire Trail. The trail sloped down towards the coast with views of Marley Lagoon on the left-hand side. At the bottom we reached a maintained boardwalk that took us to Little Marley Beach. A strip of deserted sand surrounded by rocks with blue green waves braking on the shore, it was picture perfect. We could easily have spent a lot more time on the beach but we retraced our steps to meet the rest of the group at Bundeena. A relatively easy 8km walk that had a total elevation of only 240m, was pretty clearly marked and involved some rock scrambling. Well worth the hike for the views!

The afternoon was perfect for a BBQ picnic down at Bonnie Vale with Port Hacking shimmering on a clear day. Not a breath of wind, the bay was like glass. It was great to sit back, have a feed and chat to friends as we soaked up the winter sunshine with panoramic views. The local laughing wildlife took an interest in our BBQ, but they were out of luck as no one was willing to give up their lunch. It was a great spot to while away the afternoon, wind down & relax. Thank you to all those who came – an awesome day out!



Pretty Beach (Murramarang National Park) - Trip Report

Weekday Wander Overnighter #4 - September 20, 2022

Tuesday 20th - Wednesday 21st September 2022

Trip Leader: Chris Mifsud

A few of us arrived at the Pretty Beach Campground on Monday the 19th (Kevin, Geoff (Pathfinderman), Jim, Ross (Jim's son), Jan & Bill. The weather was lovely & warm.

We had our first night's fire with small numbers with starry skies, we had Five Sie and evening meals, then around 9.30 we agreed to call it quits and go to bed. As this was happening, we felt rain drops and by the time we had reached our van's/cabin, it started pounding down. It went on for over 30 mins.

Next morning (Tuesday) was a bright and sunny day. We saw the early arrival of Jo Quinn (who left home at 4:15am) then Craig, who brought a fire pit with him, but was out done by the two-storey model of Kevin's. Shortly after Chris & Kelly, Stephen & Sue and David & Julie arrived.



When everyone had set up, we had lunch then Chris took a group on a "short easy walk" to a look out just north of Pretty Beach, called Snapper Point. A very scenic spot. We spotted a couple of whales in the distance frolicking around, (**BUT if Chris tells you, it's an easy walk - think twice**), by the time some of us had got to the lookout huffing & puffing, Chris was ready to walk back to camp.

When we returned to camp, we found that we had icebergs in the group, as a couple of them took off for a swim/surf in the cold Pacific Ocean. Arrrrrggggg. Not this little brown duck.

The kangaroos were in abundance day & night as where the possums going through people's camp sites looking for tucker. Jo Quinn had a very insistent roo that requested bacon eggs I believe.

We didn't do any driving on this trip just, talking & socializing. Later in the afternoon Kim made a grand entrance riding his magnificent BMW motor bike before setting up his one-man tent for the night. Kevin (as usual) had put together another spectacular fire (again in his unique fire pit) where



more spirits & conversation flowed, Chris was tempting everybody with Kelly's strawberry baileys liqueur.

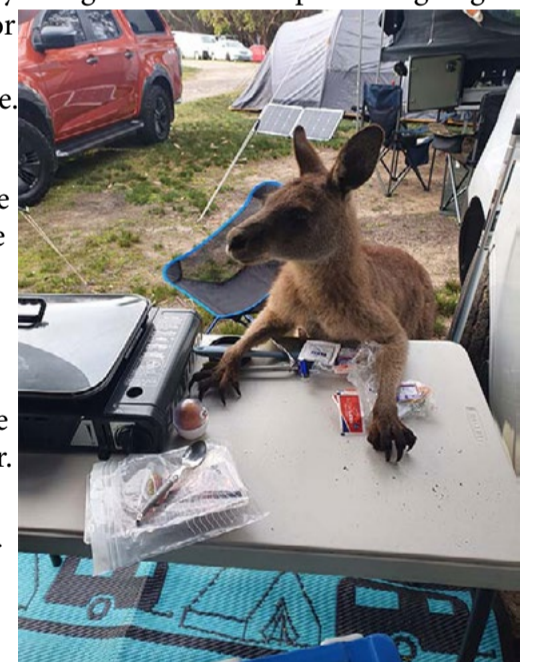
Wednesday saw Jo, Kim, Jim, Ross, Jan and Bill break camp and head off for home. (Commitments)

Bill had run the fridge in the back of his truck without any driving for a day & a half, the starter battery and the auxiliary battery were stone dead motherless flat. After a jump start, it was up and going. A faulty DC-DC charger was the problem.

Not wanting to go home on the same road as they came down, Jan & Bill headed further down the coast to Batemans Bay & then up the Kings Highway, a scenic drive, except for the roadworks, up to Braidwood for a custard tart & coffee, then onto Goulburn and then the Hume Highway back to Sydney.



Wednesday evening, we were expecting to be washed out, but the next downpour waited till we had our fire, five sei, socializing and evening meal. Then the heavens opened and it belted down for approximately 4 hours.



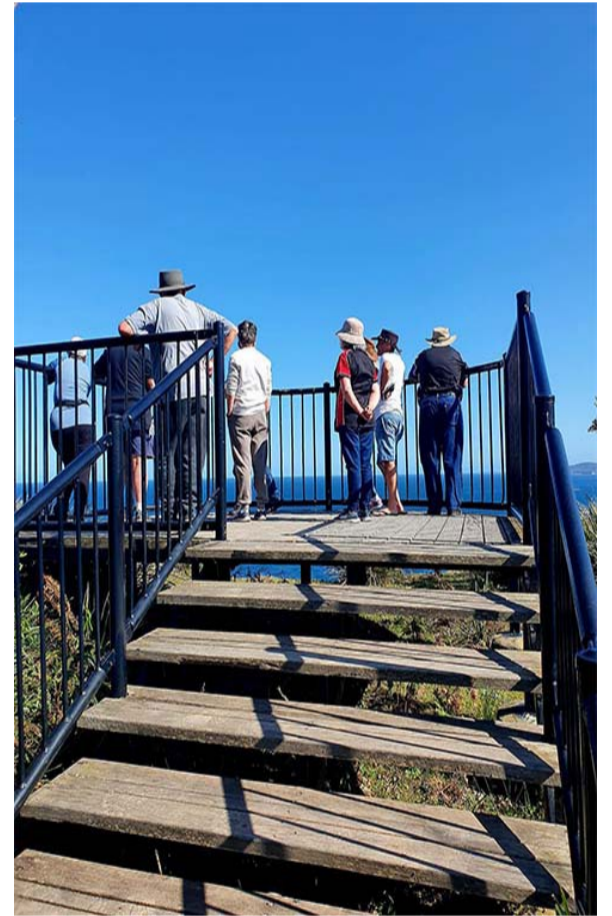
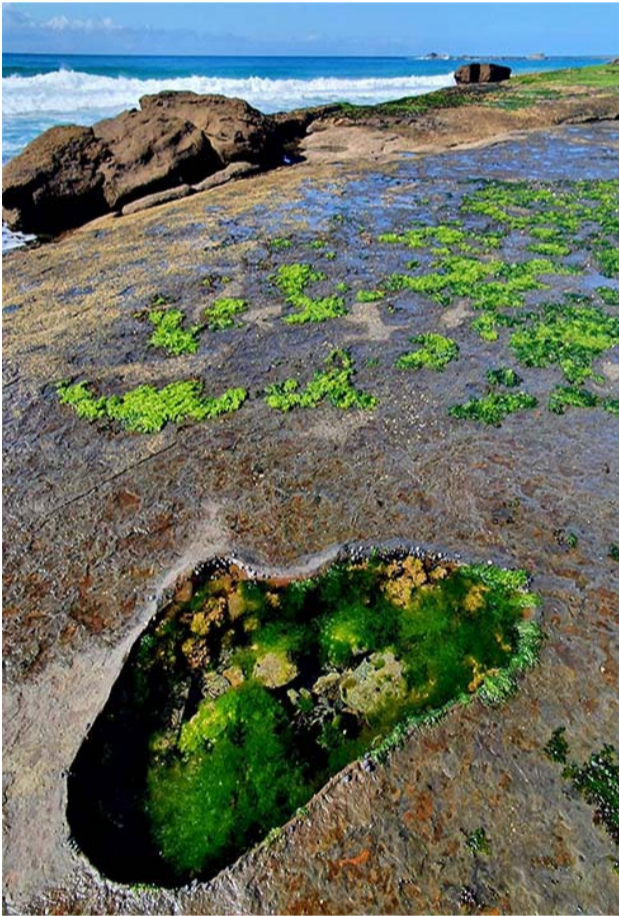
In the middle of the night/early morning Chris and Kelly were awakened by screaming from their neighbouring campers. When Chris went to check if everything was ok, it turned out that there was a rat in their tent. It appears that it had eaten its way into their tent at the height of the heavy rain.

Thursday saw Kevin, Craig, Julie, David, Susan and Stephen depart leaving Chris, Kelly and Geoff to stay another night and leave on Friday. They decided to fill in some of Thursday, and do a trip down to Mogo just past Batemans Bay.

Trip Participants: 10 vehicles - 15 people - (100% attendance)

- Kevin McCormack
- Jim Brown & son Ross
- Geoff Adcock
- Jo Quinn
- Craig Fitzpatrick
- Chris & Kelly Mifsud
- Stephen & Sue Bennett
- David & Julie Bennett
- Kim Nolan
- Bill & Jan Twyman

Trip Report by B. Twyman & G. Adcock (aka Pathfinderman)



Sand Driving Awareness Day

Stockton Beach - Saturday October 15, 2022

Report written by Michael Hamilton

Trip led by Leanne Minny and Brian Flood

Participants - Albert Hakvoort (Subaru Forester), Danielle Cavallari (Subaru XV), Dave Cook (Subaru Outback), Michael Hamilton (Toyota Fortuner), Paul Williscroft (Toyota Prado), Mark Williscroft (Toyota Hilux), James Simmons (Toyota Hilux) and Alex Gatward (Toyota Prado).

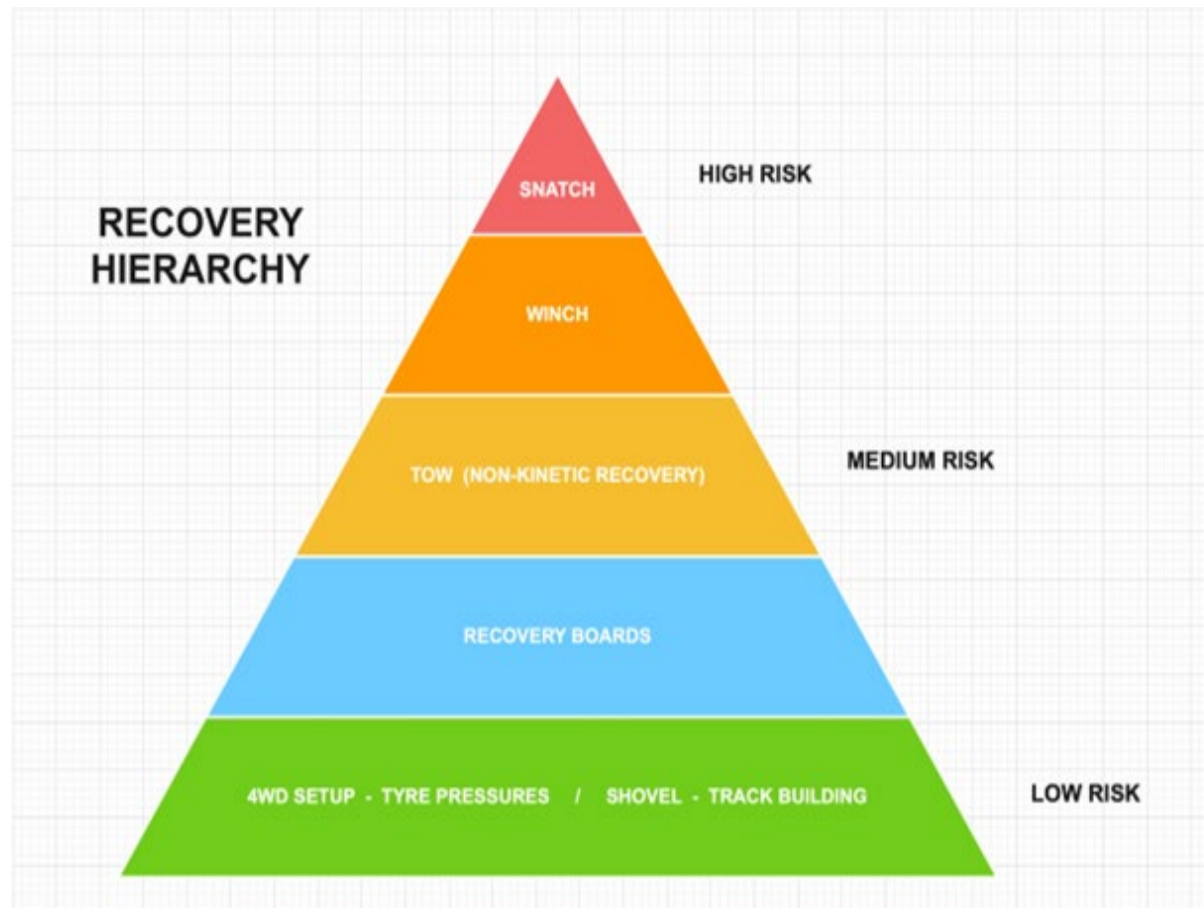


We met at Macca's on Lavis Lane. It was a stunning morning, and we were all excited at the prospect of a day on the sand. After purchasing our beach permits, listening to a safety briefing and airing down in the Stockton Beach carpark, we drove in convoy along the sandy access track.

The day consisted of beachfront cruising, sand dune climbing, shovel wielding and lots of cheering, as we explored the capabilities of our vehicles and the technical skill of our driving.

Dave's Forester played up a couple of times, with its CVT overheating, and reducing power to the wheels, especially in reverse, which made it tricky to back down the dunes for another go at a climb. But it was nothing that a bit of digging and the use of traction boards couldn't fix, except on one occasion when a gentle tow was required.

Part of our training was to reinforce the idea of a hierarchy of recovery, which means looking for safe, simple fixes to a problem before considering higher risk solutions.



As you may have seen in the video clip posted on our Facebook page, we had a lot of fun using momentum to scale one of larger sand dunes. Here you can see Danielle showing us how it's done ...



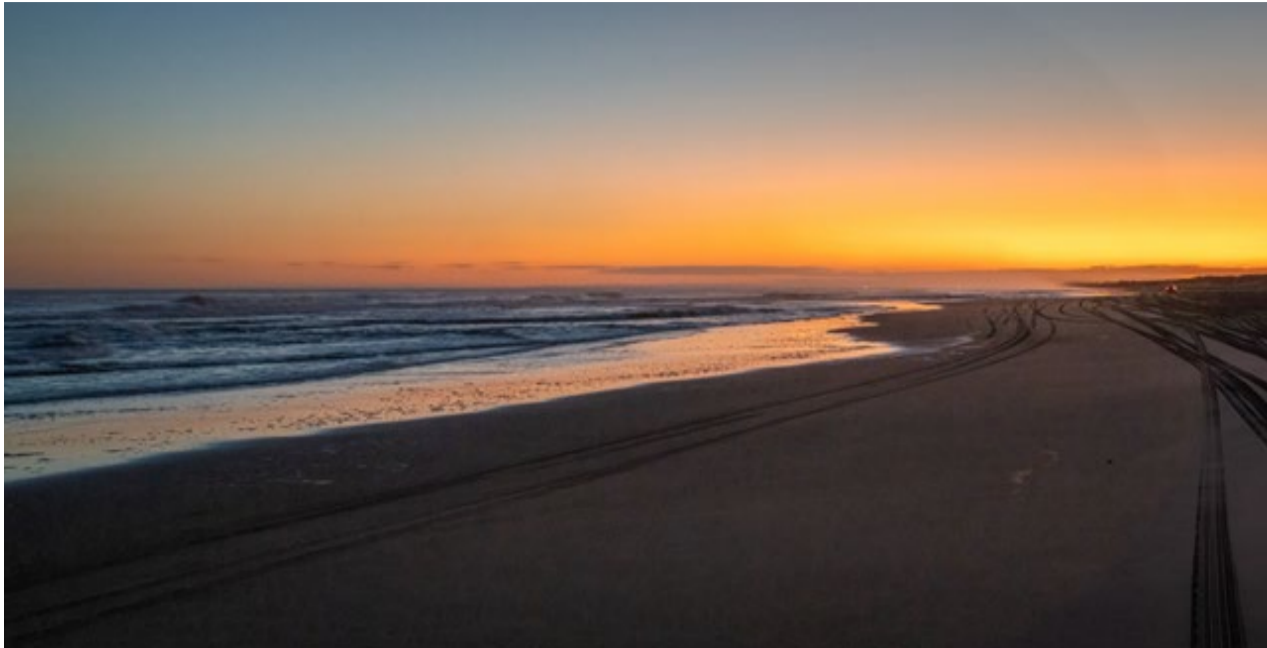
After lunch, some of us had to head home, including Brian (and his nephew Parker) whose Jeep had a radiator issue, while others continued with Leanne and Michael M. north towards Tin City and eventually Anna Bay.



Here are some thoughts on the day, kindly provided by Albert ...

Well the drive at Stockton was much better than I expected. I have down-graded (or maybe upgraded) from a 2002 Prado to an MY21 Forester and was really surprised what this car can do. Once you turn off some of the safety features and dropped the tyre pressure down to 15 psi, you are ready to rock and roll on the sand. I didn't get stuck or even get close to being stuck. I was feeling very confident after all the expert training, I decided to go back and watch the sun setting and the milky way making an arch over the sand dunes. We also were watching a sea eagle scouring the sand dunes for some tucker. It did catch something but it was too far away to see what it was. A big THANK YOU to Leanne and Brian for all the expert instructions and hope to be on another trip soon. Brian, I went to Subaru to find out why the traction control was still active, even though I turned it off, they didn't have an answer. Anyway the car still performed very well.





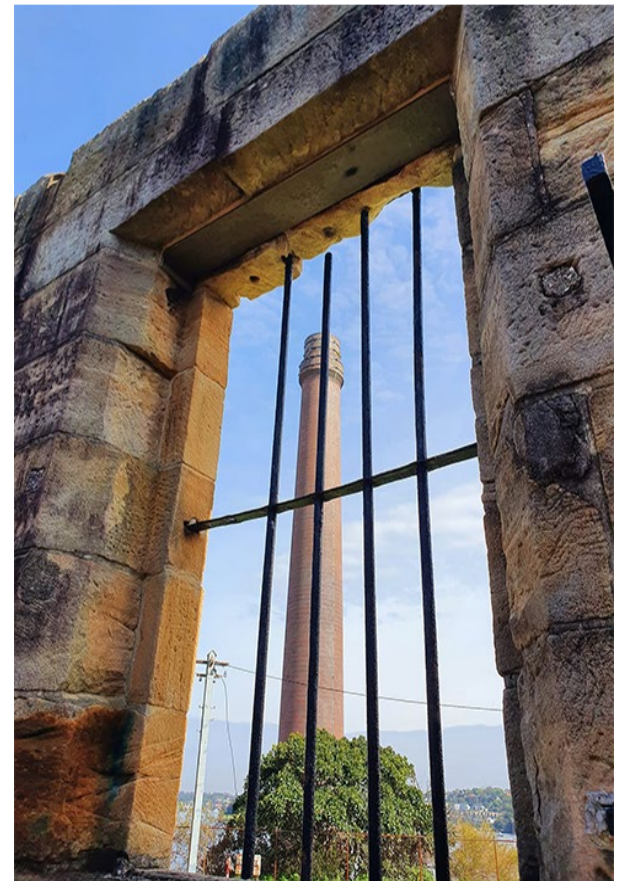
So we are left with 2 questions for the Subaru experts ...

1. How can we help Dave with his Outback's CVT overheating issue ?
2. How can we help Albert with his Forester's traction control issue ?

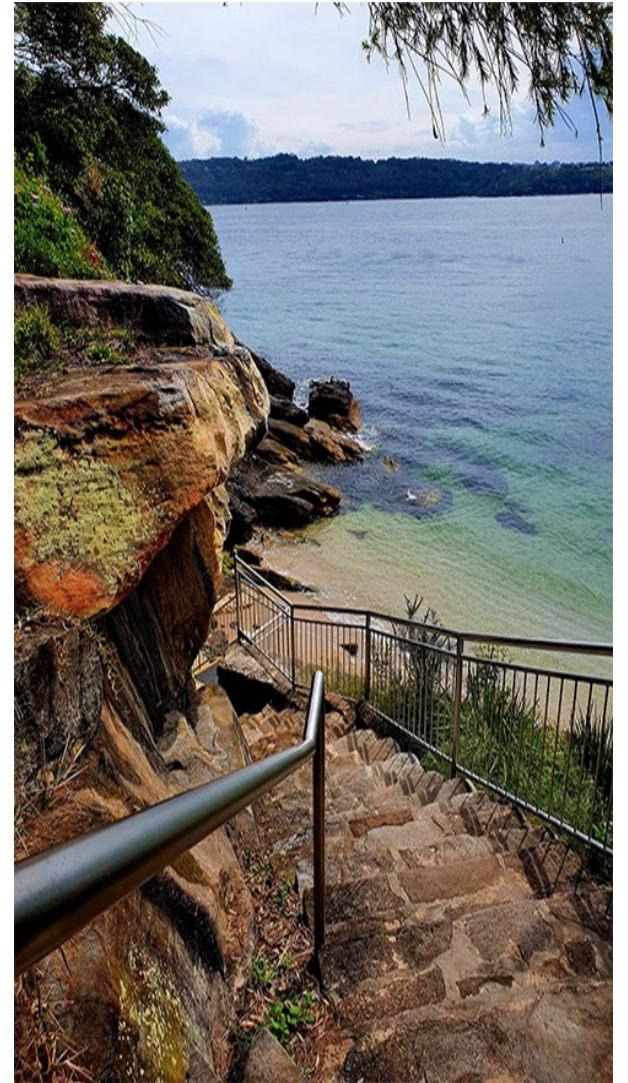
Thanks go to Brian and Leanne for organising such an entertaining and instructive day, and to Albert for sharing his magnificent photographs.

WEEKDAY WANDERS #5**Historical Sydney
Trip Leader Jo Quinn**

There is no trip report for this outing. As previously stated, **A PICTURE TELLS A THOUSAND WORDS**, and the following pictures say that everyone enjoyed the day. That they visited some amazing places that they enjoyed.







Cooee!

GDay, I'm Paul, Paul Rhogan - not to be confused with that other famous bloke. So we'll go PR for short.

You'll see my mug around as I hit the frog & toad & have a geeza at some watering holes from woop woop to the big smoke & some spots to throw out ya swag. I'll show ya some tucker recipes & not just snags & shrimps on the barbie. I'll even give the odd joke a bash. Don't forget to have a captain cook & remember - she'll be right mate!

PR



Subaru Club Trips 2021-22

Date	Trip details
13/11/21	New Members trip - Lithgow area
19/11/21	Yerranderie
03/12/21	Hawkes Nest Xmas
18/12/21	Settlers Arms Craig
26/12/21	Oxley Wild River
14/01/22	Barefoot Bowls
19/03/22	Badgerys Lookout
23/04/22	Haunted Sydney
30/04/22	Five Punts, a Pub, a Winery& a Church
07/05/22	Dam Walls
20/05/22	Camp at Kyllies Beach
19/06/22	Zig Zag day trip
15/07/22	Burruga Dam
20/08/22	Play in the Sand

The trips/outings that I believe went ahead, with no trip reports or photos supplied for the Newsletter.

UPCOMING TRIPS TO SEE THE YEAR OUT.

18/11/22	Yerranderie Mark Honor
22/11/22	Weekend Wanderer #6 Hello Stewart Jo Quinn
23/11/22	Hello Stewart - extended trip Craig
27/12/22	Summer in the Snowies Heidi

UNTIL THE NEXT ONE

STAY SAFE