



# **DRIVE TORQUE** **eNEWS** **AUGUST 2024**



# **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

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- Serjeant-at-arms:** Bill Twyman 0418 681 237
- Equipment & Merchandise Officer:** Alex Gatward 0402 734 110

**The Club Committee is always here to help  
you. If you want to email us, please use this  
address ...**

**[secretary@subaruclub.com.au](mailto:secretary@subaruclub.com.au)**

# Your Committee Members



## A Message from the President

Hello to all members

The club has recently had its AGM, and I would like to thank the 27% of members that could attend the meeting and voted for the volunteers to fill committee member rolls. Again, it was the STALWARTS who took on the positions required.

There were six changes from last year's committee. Alex moved from Social/Catering to Driver Awareness. Bill joined the Driver Awareness to help fill the vacancies left by Brian and Mark. Daniel moved from Association Delegate to a Trip Convener position. Jo took on the vacant Social Co-Ordinator position with the Public Relations Officer position. Kevin has taken on the role as Web Master. Troy has taken a step back, but will still be available to help when required. A BIG THANK YOU to Troy for all his efforts in maintaining the web site for a number of years. I accepted the position of President which was vacated by Mark.

Mark Honor was the club President, who guided, encouraged and motivated club members for many years. Mark and Karolyn ran numerous trips to keep members interested in the club and to encourage them to run their own trips. It has only been in the last few years that Mark's work took up a great deal of his time and the club had to take a back seat. I think you would all like to join me in saying a BIG THANK YOU to Mark and Karolyn for the time and effort that they have put into the club.

Following is a report from the Vice President Michael. This report was read at the AGM, in it is a paragraph, encouraging members to take up a committee role. If you would like to get involved, but are hesitant, because you don't think you have what is needed, why not put your hand up as an assistant/helper for the committee role you have an interest in. (these positions are to be discussed at a committee meeting and will be named appropriately.)

For this club to continue to flourish, it needs its members to step up and attend more meetings to put forward ideas for the club's continued growth. To organise and run trips; day, weekend camps or extended trips.

I would like to thank Jo and Chris for their organizing of the Weekday Wanderer. Approximately 17 trips over the 2023/2024 period.

As President I will do as much as I can to help with the club's advancement and smooth running. I am always available for discussion, advice, queries and criticism. Do not hesitate to contact me.

We must not forget the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary coming up in 2025. Keep an eye on the Drive Torque eNews for updates.

Kind Regards

Stephen B

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 2024 AGM

Friends,

Our Club's continued success and growing membership over the past year are a testament to the hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication of our members. As we look back on our achievements, it's clear that every active member has played a crucial role in sustaining and enhancing our Club.

I'd firstly like to take a moment to recognise the significant contributions of our Committee members and trip leaders. Much of the essential work that keeps our Club going happens behind the scenes, and the trips that are organised are essentially why we come together. So to everyone who has served on the Committee or led trips this past year, your efforts have been invaluable. Thank you.

Rather than going through all the Committee roles now (because we'll do that shortly when we sort out next year's Committee) I'd like to give a special vote of thanks to 2 of our members - Stephen Bennett and David Wellham. Stephen has done an amazing job in his role of Membership Secretary, and he has put a huge effort into producing a quality magazine each month. So thank you Stephen.

David Wellham has also devoted a huge amount of time and effort to the Club, organising all of our meetings, representing us at the Association, and keeping Driver Awareness alive. So thank you too, David.

As we look to the future, I encourage you all to consider stepping into Committee roles for the upcoming year. Your unique skills and perspectives are vital for our ongoing growth and innovation. By taking on leadership positions, you'll not only support the Club's success, but also have the opportunity to develop your own abilities and leave a lasting impact.

I also urge you to consider running Club trips. The huge success of our Weekday trips, initially organised by Jo and Chris, and also run by Bill and Stephen, shows what can be achieved with commitment and planning. More work needs to be done in encouraging higher attendances at meetings, and more trips on our calendar, but I'm confident these issues will be addressed over the coming year.

Let's continue the journey together, building on our accomplishments and embracing whatever new challenges the future presents. Next year is a real milestone year for our Club, with our 50th Anniversary. As you know, Jo has already come up with some exciting plans for this, and I'm sure we all appreciate the work she has done so far, and the work she will do in the months ahead. Thanks, Jo.

Thank you all once again for your support. I look forward to seeing the special contributions that you'll all make in the year ahead.

Thank you.

Michael Hamilton  
eNews

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

**MINUTES OF AUGUST GENERAL MEETING**

Date -	Sunday, August 11, 2024	
Venue -	Western Sydney Parklands	
Meeting Commenced -	11:00 am	
Attendance -	Michael Hamilton, Dave Cook, Craig Fitzpatrick, Bill Twyman, Stephen Bennett, Jeff Cairns, Chris Mifsud, Kelly Mifsud, Brett Hampson, Tom De Santis, Cath De Santis, Jo Quinn, Alex Gatward, Kevin McCormack, John Hocking, Jean Hocking, David Wellham, Susan Bennett, Daniel Sorrasson, Patrick Carmody.	
Apologies -	Stephen Eakin, Andrew Rowlatt, David Bennett, Brian and Heidi, Robert and Sandra Moss, Julie Rush, Mark and Karolyn Honor, Troy and Sandi Strickland, Michael and Leanne Minny, Fiona Hampson, Roger and Amanda, Jim and Rowena.	
Minutes of Previous Meeting -	July General Meeting at Ermington - 12/7/2024 Accepted - Stephen Bennett Seconded - Bill Twyman	
Business Arising -	Nil	
New Members -	Nil present	
President's Report -	(Mark)	David relayed an email from Mark
Vice President's Report -	Michael	Report will be presented at start of AGM Thanks to all for attending today Thanks to Alex for catering
Treasurer's Report -	Brett	Available funds as at 31/7/2024 = \$8194.38
Motion to spend funds -	David	"That \$2000 be spent on the 50th Anniversary" Moved - David Seconded - Kevin Approved? - Carried unanimously
Membership Sec. Report -	Stephen	9 Life 74 Memberships 83 Total 56 Financial at present
Proposal for 2025 Meetings -	David	Committee - first Tuesday of the month General - second Tuesday of the month 8 per year at a club, and 4 via Zoom Guest speakers could be invited to join the Zoom meetings
	Feedback	Overall favourable response to the proposal One location or multiple locations? Tuesday nights preferred by the majority

2025 hall bookings to be cancelled

Trip Conveners' Report -	Bill Jo Dave	See attached report
Constitution Subcommittee -	David	David provided an update on progress to date
Association Delegates' Report -	David	See David's report in the magazine
Webmaster's Report -	(Troy)	Password reset now works
Public Relations -	Jo	Jo provided an update on planning to date
Equipment / Merchandising -	Alex	New clothing options were displayed
GENERAL BUSINESS -	Cath	Website error re emergency contacts Where to buy or rent a van with disabled access?
	Bill	Oktoberfest? Not this year
	Jo	More people needed to run (weekend) trips
Next Meeting -	Silverwater Hotel, Friday September 13	
Close -	11.45 am	

## Club trips since our AGM August last year

			midweek	weekend
2023	21-23/08	Sth Coast Escape - Termeil Point	X	
	30-Aug	Sheepskin Hut	X	
	20-Sep	Riverboat	X	
	29-Sep	Olinda Oktoberfest		X
	4-Oct	Floriade	X	
	4-Nov	Tasmania - 3 week ext trip		X
	4&5/11	Driver Training - gates closed Turon		X
	25-Nov	5 Waterfalls Sth Highlands		X
	29-Nov	Barrenjoey Lighthouse	X	
	2-Dec	Club Christmas Camp - Coolendell	X	X
	6-Dec	Shark Island Sydney Harbour	X	
2024	12-Jan	Barefoot Bowls	X	
	26-Jan	Aust Day Picnic	X	
	10-Feb	Sheepskin Hut		X
	14-Feb	Howes Trail Wollombi	X	
	21-Feb	Rainforests & Waterfalls	X	
	16-Mar	Turon Driver Training		X
	20-Mar	Joadja Ginery	X	
	29/3-1/4	Dungog Easter Camp		X
	31-Mar	Megalong Valley / Blackheath		X
	29/4-3/5	Pretty Beach Camp	X	
	4/5-17/5	Destination NSW - 4 week ext trip		X
	1-May	Coledale Beach Camp	X	
	15-Jun	Tracks off Bells Line of Road		X
	19-Jun	Lookouts of Bundanoon & Bungonia	X	
	22-23/6	Stockton Driver Training		X
	22-24/7	Racecourse Beach Camp	X	
	23-24/7	Wombeyan Caves Camp - postponed	X	
	27-28/7	Turon Driver Training		X
			17	13
	1	postponed		
	2	extended trips		
	4	Driver awareness/ training days		
	8	Camping trips		
	15	Day trips		

# SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

## Treasurers Report

Jul-24

Cash Book Balance Brought Forward		\$9,168.77
Plus Income		\$800.06
Less Expenditure		\$1,774.45
Closing Balance		<u><u>\$8,194.38</u></u>

<b><u>Income</u></b> -	Memberships	\$800.00
	Interest	\$0.06

<b><u>Expenditure</u></b> -	Paypal Fees	\$22.40
	Meeting catering	\$58.05
	Association Fees	\$1,694.00

### Bank Reconciliation

Bank Account Balance as at 31/07/2024	ANZ	\$5,822.99
<b><u>Plus</u></b>	Funds held in Pay Pal as at 31/07/2024	\$2,076.64
	Cash on Hand	\$294.75
Available Funds as at 31/07/2024		<u><u>\$8,194.38</u></u>

**SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.**  
**FY'24**  
**ANNUAL STATEMENT 2023-2024**

	2024	2023	2022
<b>INCOME</b>			
Advertising/Sponsorship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank Interest	\$0.27	\$0.00	\$0.00
Club Merchandise	\$608.00	\$0.00	\$195.00
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fundraising/Fines	\$0.00	\$335.75	\$0.00
Membership Fees	\$3,120.00	\$3,550.00	\$3,850.00
Classic Registration fee	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$40.00
Functions	\$1,170.00	\$195.00	\$0.00
Re-imbursments	\$152.34	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$5,090.61</b>	<b>\$4,080.75</b>	<b>\$4,085.00</b>
<b>COST OF GOODS SUPPLIED</b>			
Clothing	\$490.00	\$0.00	\$92.40
Stickers	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other COGS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pay Pal Fees	\$98.56	\$89.60	\$121.55
<b>Total COGS</b>	<b>\$708.56</b>	<b>\$89.60</b>	<b>\$213.95</b>
<b>BALANCE GROSS</b>	<b>\$4,382.05</b>	<b>\$3,991.15</b>	<b>\$3,871.05</b>
<b>DIRECT COSTS</b>			
AGM Venue Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4WD Association Fees/Insurance	\$0.00	\$3,539.70	\$0.00
Delegate Expenses	\$346.77	\$173.79	\$703.64
Driver Training	\$0.00	\$1,135.82	\$0.00
Functions	\$2,476.83	\$473.00	\$452.50
Gifts/Donations	\$176.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hall Hire	\$670.50	\$0.00	\$507.60
Meeting Catering	\$331.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank Charges	\$31.61	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership refund	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Equipment	\$59.78	\$0.00	\$0.00
Postage	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Promotions/Materials	\$466.47	\$0.00	\$0.00
Website	\$229.00	\$229.00	\$229.00
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$4,977.96</b>	<b>\$5,551.31</b>	<b>\$1,942.74</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$5,686.52</b>	<b>\$5,640.91</b>	<b>\$2,156.69</b>
<b>Income or Loss 2019-2020</b>	<b>-\$595.91</b>	<b>-\$1,560.16</b>	<b>\$1,928.31</b>

Accounts 2022/2023  
FY'24

SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC

	AUD												Total FY'24	Last Year FY'23	Variance
	Actual JUL	Actual AUG	Actual SEPT	Actual OCT	Actual NOV	Actual DEC	Actual JAN	Actual FEB	Actual MAR	Actual APR	Actual MAY	Actual JUN			
<b>Cash Book Balance Brought Forward</b>	9,764.68	10,141.64	10,787.64	10,505.59	10,563.92	9,606.32	8,955.31	8,945.31	8,495.93	8,669.62	8,096.26	8,027.52			
<b>Available Funds at 1st of Month</b>	<b>9,764.68</b>	<b>10,141.64</b>	<b>10,787.64</b>	<b>10,505.59</b>	<b>10,563.92</b>	<b>9,606.32</b>	<b>8,955.31</b>	<b>8,945.31</b>	<b>8,495.93</b>	<b>8,669.62</b>	<b>8,096.26</b>	<b>8,027.52</b>	<b>9,764.68</b>	<b>\$11,324.84</b>	<b>-\$1,560.16</b>
<b>INCOME</b>															
Advertising													0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank Interest								0.03	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.27	\$0.00	\$0.27
Club Clothing	40.00	88.00							480.00				608.00	\$0.00	\$608.00
Donations													0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fund Raising / Fines													0.00	\$335.75	-\$335.75
Incidentals													0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance Rebates													0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership Fees	550.00	550.00	500.00	50.00	100.00					150.00	50.00	1,170.00	3,120.00	\$3,550.00	-\$430.00
Classic Registration fee		20.00								20.00			40.00	\$0.00	\$40.00
Olinda Hall			520.00	650.00									1,170.00	\$0.00	\$1,170.00
Functions													0.00	\$195.00	-\$195.00
Re-imbursements		132.30							20.00	0.04			152.34	\$0.00	\$152.34
Training Manuals													0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>590.00</b>	<b>790.30</b>	<b>1,020.00</b>	<b>700.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>500.06</b>	<b>170.11</b>	<b>50.06</b>	<b>1,170.05</b>	<b>5,090.61</b>	<b>\$4,080.75</b>	<b>\$1,009.86</b>
<b>YTD - Actual</b>	<b>590.00</b>	<b>1,380.30</b>	<b>2,400.30</b>	<b>3,100.30</b>	<b>3,200.30</b>	<b>3,200.30</b>	<b>3,200.30</b>	<b>3,200.33</b>	<b>3,700.39</b>	<b>3,870.50</b>	<b>3,920.56</b>	<b>5,090.61</b>			
<b>COST OF GOODS SUPPLIED</b>															
Clothing										490.00			490.00	\$0.00	\$490.00
Stickers										120.00			120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
Other COGS													0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PayPal Fees	19.84	13.30	11.20	5.06	3.20				12.36	4.80		28.80	98.56	\$89.60	\$8.96
<b>Total COGS</b>	<b>19.84</b>	<b>13.30</b>	<b>11.20</b>	<b>5.06</b>	<b>3.20</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>12.36</b>	<b>614.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>28.80</b>	<b>708.56</b>	<b>\$89.60</b>	<b>\$618.96</b>
<b>BALANCE - GROSS</b>	<b>570.16</b>	<b>777.00</b>	<b>1,008.80</b>	<b>694.94</b>	<b>96.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>487.70</b>	<b>-444.69</b>	<b>50.06</b>	<b>1,141.25</b>	<b>4,382.05</b>	<b>3,991.15</b>	
<b>DIRECT COSTS</b>															
4WD Association Fees													0.00	\$3,539.70	-\$3,539.70
Delegate Expenses						76.76			270.01				346.77	\$173.79	\$172.98
Driver Training													0.00	\$1,135.82	-\$1,135.82
Functions			900.00	576.83	1,000.00								2,476.83	\$473.00	\$2,003.83
Gifts	135.00	41.00											176.00	\$0.00	\$176.00
Hall Hire			335.25			335.25							670.50	\$0.00	\$670.50
Meeting Catering	58.20		55.60		54.40				44.00			118.80	331.00	\$0.00	\$331.00
Bank Charges						10.00	10.00	11.61					31.61	\$0.00	\$31.61
NSW Fair Trading													0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment				59.78									59.78	\$0.00	\$59.78
Membership Refund		70.00											70.00	\$0.00	\$70.00
Postage										120.00			120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
Promotion		20.00						437.80		8.67			466.47	\$0.00	\$466.47
Website						229.00							229.00	\$229.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>193.20</b>	<b>131.00</b>	<b>1,290.85</b>	<b>636.61</b>	<b>1,054.40</b>	<b>651.01</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>449.41</b>	<b>314.01</b>	<b>128.67</b>	<b>118.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,977.96</b>	<b>\$5,551.31</b>	<b>-\$573.35</b>
<b>Total COG + Direct Costs</b>	<b>213.04</b>	<b>144.30</b>	<b>1,302.05</b>	<b>641.67</b>	<b>1,057.60</b>	<b>651.01</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>449.41</b>	<b>326.37</b>	<b>743.47</b>	<b>118.80</b>	<b>28.80</b>	<b>5,686.52</b>	<b>5,640.91</b>	<b>\$45.61</b>
<b>Cash Book Balance Carried Forward</b>	<b>10,141.64</b>	<b>10,787.64</b>	<b>10,505.59</b>	<b>10,563.92</b>	<b>9,606.32</b>	<b>8,955.31</b>	<b>8,945.31</b>	<b>8,495.93</b>	<b>8,669.62</b>	<b>8,096.26</b>	<b>8,027.52</b>	<b>9,168.77</b>	<b>9,168.77</b>	<b>\$9,764.68</b>	<b>-\$595.91</b>
<b>YTD Costs - Actual</b>	<b>213.04</b>	<b>357.34</b>	<b>1,659.39</b>	<b>2,301.06</b>	<b>3,358.66</b>	<b>4,009.67</b>	<b>4,019.67</b>	<b>4,469.08</b>	<b>4,795.45</b>	<b>5,538.92</b>	<b>5,657.72</b>	<b>5,686.52</b>			

JUL      AUG      SEPT      OCT      NOV      DEC      JAN      FEB      MAR      APR      MAY      JUN      FY'24      FY'23



## Association News & Updates: August 2024

Hello from Bill Twyman and David Wellham – your friendly Delegates to Four Wheel Drive NSW & ACT (Association). Association documents are located on our website. Please contact via email at - [delegates@subaruclub.com.au](mailto:delegates@subaruclub.com.au) for information about these topics or in relation to the Association. Looking forward to seeing you all on the tracks or at a meeting soon.

### 4WD & Adventure Show 2024

The 2024 Show will be on Friday 6, Saturday 7 & Sunday 8 September at Eastern Creek.

Updates for this year's show – Marquee will be a bit smaller this year (due to exponentially greater cost), Demo Track has a sponsor - more money to spend here which is great, No RC track this year, Get-a-bout Training services will be outside the Main Marquee.

Our club will not have a stand this year. Volunteer for 2 hours with Association and receive free entry and lunch. Volunteer bookings are now open at [4wdnow.com](http://4wdnow.com)

Go to 'Members Only' then 'Adventure Show sign Up' then 'Show – Volunteer Sign Up Form'

This area is open, and you do not need a logon/password to register.

**2024 Volunteers Wanted**

+ Lunch

+ Sticker

+ Thank you dinner Saturday Night

**+ FREE ENTRY ON THE DAY**

Friday 6th – Sunday 8th September

Sign Up now for a 2 hour shift helping at your show

<https://4wdnow.com/pages/4wd-adventure-show-1>

## *New number plates available for classic vehicles*



Car plate dimensions 317mm x 134mm

Australian Confederation of Motor Clubs (ACMC) has been working on these new plates for several years. Thanks to industry feedback, collaboration, consultation and testing, a new number plate for classic vehicles is now available. The plate size and design better fits most classic vehicles and enhances authenticity by differentiating classic vehicles from others on the road. The new number plate replaces the Conditional number plate traditionally issued to vehicles in the scheme. It will be automatically issued to new Classic Vehicle Scheme registrations and available to be purchased for a one-off fee of \$55 for existing vehicles in the scheme at the time of registration renewal. The new plates are a demonstration of the collaborative relationship between industry and Transport for NSW. They represent a customer centric solution to our needs and help to differentiate classic vehicles from other conditionally registered vehicles. The Australian Confederation of Motors Clubs (ACMC) are proud to have been instrumental in this result.

View the [Classic registration number plate fact sheet](#) for more information.

**Did you know:** 4WD NSW and ACT Inc is a founding member of the ACMC and its President Craig Thomas is also the President of the ACMC, representing over 800 000 members and approx 600 motoring clubs in NSW and the ACT.

## *What seatbelt detection cameras mean for your vehicle*



Seatbelts are recommended for all vehicles where installation is possible. If a seatbelt is available, it must be used. Wearing a seatbelt doubles the chance of surviving a crash and reduces the risk of injury. Each year, around 29 people are killed and 76 are seriously injured on NSW roads because they were not wearing an available seatbelt. Passengers who are in a vehicle that does not have seatbelts fitted should sit in the back seat, where possible. Seatbelt detection cameras detect vehicles where a seatbelt is not worn properly by both drivers and passengers. As with police detection, the driver can be fined and have demerits applied if they and/or their passengers are not wearing their seatbelt properly. The age of the vehicle and the requirement of the vehicle to have seatbelts fitted will be considered by trained officers in determining whether to issue a fine. It is important to make sure your vehicle is compliant and has the appropriate registration.

A vehicle that does not have seatbelts installed must be compliant with the relevant legislation and/or Australian Design Rules at the time of manufacture. **Registering a classic or historic vehicle does not mean that you are automatically exempt from seatbelt compliance.** Existing child car seat and seatbelt road rules continue to apply. Seatbelt detection operates in a similar way to mobile phone detection. Cameras will capture images of passing vehicles in all traffic and weather conditions. Artificial intelligence software then automatically reviews images and detects potential offences. The images showing likely offences go through several stages of human review before a fine is issued. NSW Police will also continue to enforce seatbelt and restraint compliance. If you receive a fine but believe you haven't committed an offence, you can request a review by Revenue NSW. More information about requesting a review is available on the [Revenue NSW website](#). For more information on classic or historic vehicle registrations and seatbelt requirements visit [registering and using a classic vehicle](#) and [registering and using a historic vehicle](#). For more information on seatbelts and seatbelt detection cameras, visit [transport.nsw.gov.au/seatbelts](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/seatbelts) and for information on child car seats visit [childcarseats.com.au/legal-requirements](http://childcarseats.com.au/legal-requirements).

### *Association updates*

61 Clubs have renewed with 3045 members, only 4 clubs outstanding.

Association has bank balance \$124,679.

Association would like more feedback from clubs – what is good, what can be improved, what do clubs want from Association apart from Insurance.

Association will draft motions to propose some minor changes to Constitution, details to follow in September.

Potential access to private camping property with composting toilet near Freemans Waterhole. Access would be free with donation to Camp Quality.

### *Club 4X4 Insurance*

Platinum Partner Club 4X4 Insurance offer Association members a 5% discount on 4WD, camper trailer and caravan policies, which can be redeemed with the **discount code FOUWHE01** when quoting online at [club4X4.com.au](http://club4X4.com.au) or by calling 1300 296 296. The Member Benefits portal will be updated with more information. Club 4X4 Insurance also offer a multi-vehicle discount and savings for completing recognised 4X4 or towing training that involves a theoretical or practical element, including Association training.

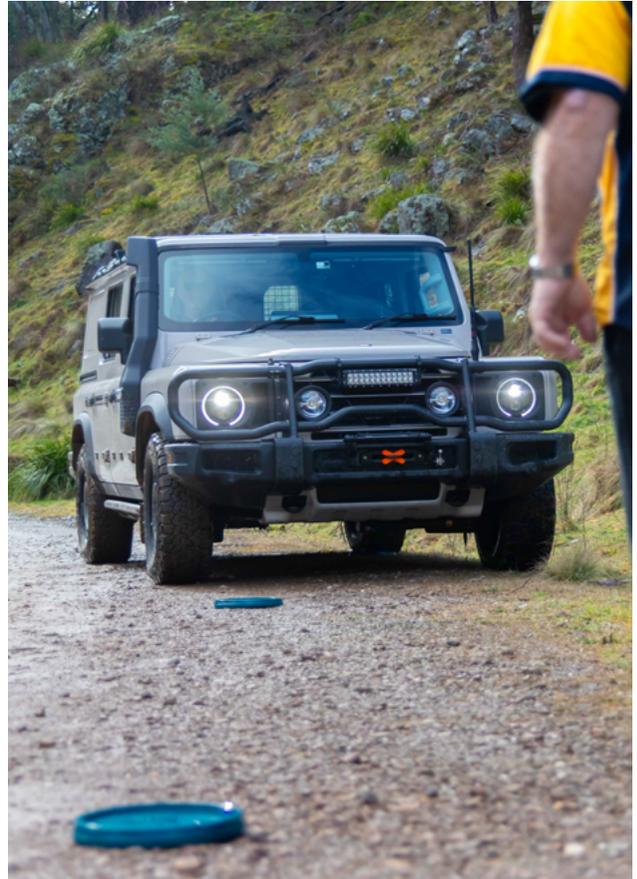
### *Dash Cam Member Discount*

Keep safe on the roads with a Dash Cam. We have a special limited time discount for our members. \$30 off any Dash Cam over \$349 + free express postage with signature. Head over to the website and enter the code DC4WD at checkout. [DASHCAMS AUSTRALIA](#)



# DRIVER AWARENESS NEWS

Our recent trip to the Turon National Park was an action-packed weekend. Saturday was spent braving snowy conditions, water crossings and slippery hills. We demonstrated the difference between a tow recovery and a kinetic recovery, and we practised our wheel placement.



After the trip, Iwan (who took these great photos) commented, *“The exercises and the demonstrations were extremely helpful. Going through each of the vehicles while discussing recovery points and types, approach/breakover/departure angles, lowest point etc helps reinforce the importance of such knowledge. Not only being aware of our own vehicle but getting a little familiar with other vehicles is always valuable just in case.”*

On Sunday we met up at Zig-Zag. We explored the recently upgraded track to The Lost City, as well as the rarely travelled Kangaroos Creek Road, before visiting Maiyingu Marragu Reserve to see the Aboriginal hand prints.



It was great to see several recently-joined members (Joanna, Rohan, Sergio and Anthony) joining us for the weekend, as well longer-term members Stephen, Bill, Dave, Iwan and Johnny.

Big thanks to David Wellham for organising the weekend.

If you have any particular requests for Driver Awareness activities, please let David, Bill, Alex or me know, as we will soon be planning our program for the coming year.

Michael Hamilton.  
For the Driver Awareness team.

“As slow as possible ...  
Only as fast as necessary.”

# TRIP CONVENER REPORT

## AUGUST 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 <b>AUGUST AGM</b>	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 <b>General Meeting Silverwater Hotel</b>	14
15	16	17	18 <b>Western Sydney Zoo Social Outing</b>	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
19	30					

# OCTOBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Five Lighthouses	7	8	9	10	11 General Meeting Ermington Hall	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Weekday	28 Wanderer.	29 Dee's Corner	30 Camp.	31		

## Trip Convener August 2024 Report

### A reminder of upcoming trips on the Calendar

- September Meeting Sept 13th - Silverwater Hotel
- Western Sydney Zoo Sept 18th (midweek)
- Five Lighthouses Oct 6th
- October Meeting Oct 11th
- Dee's Corner Camp Oct 27th to 30th.
- November meeting & BBQ George Kendall Reverse,

*(Trumble Avenue, Ermington)*

- Club Christmas Function - location TBC      Nov 30th - Dec 1st
- Christmas function - Towradgi Beach      December 4th (midweek)
- Clubs 50th Anniversary 2025      Oct long weekend 2025

### **Since last meeting**

- Winter Camp - Wombeyan Caves      Postponed
- Camping at Bawley Point Holiday Park      July 24th
- Driver awareness - Turon NP + Zig Zag      July 27th & 28th

## **Sgt At Arms Report - Bill Twyman**

- Several members were guilty of feeding the local wildlife at Racecourse Beach camp, namely - Jo, Cath, Tom, Michael, there may have been others who went undetected. One occasion a kangaroo with joey in the pouch returned to be fed again where the joey could be seen turning its head looking for a particular person.
- David & Stephen Bennett for driving in a National Park against the painted arrows on the roadway. It seems to be something in the family gene pool.
- Julie Bennett who managed to leave her mobile phone in the rest room at Bawley Point shopping centre.
- Michael Hamilton for loosing his car keys, an extensive major search was conducted.

# Racecourse Beach Camp 22 July to 24 July 2024

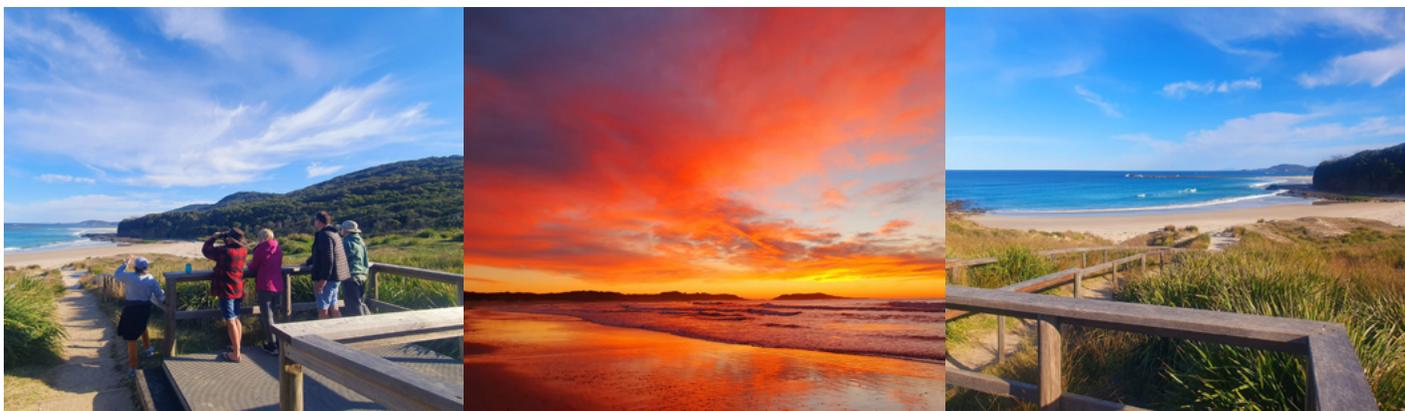
**Trip Leader:** Jo Quinn

**Attendees:** Jo Quinn, Kelly & Chris Mifsud, Julie & David Bennett, Cath & Tom DeSantis, Kevin McCormack Susan & Stephen Bennett, Bill Twyman, Daniel Sorrasson, Michael Hamilton.

Due to the closure of Wombeyan Caves - yet again, I had to find an alternate option for a couple of days. I thought we had simple requirements; fire, cabin option & camping, however it didn't turn out to be as simple as I thought it would be. Surprisingly Racecourse Beach Caravan park at Bawley Point met our needs.



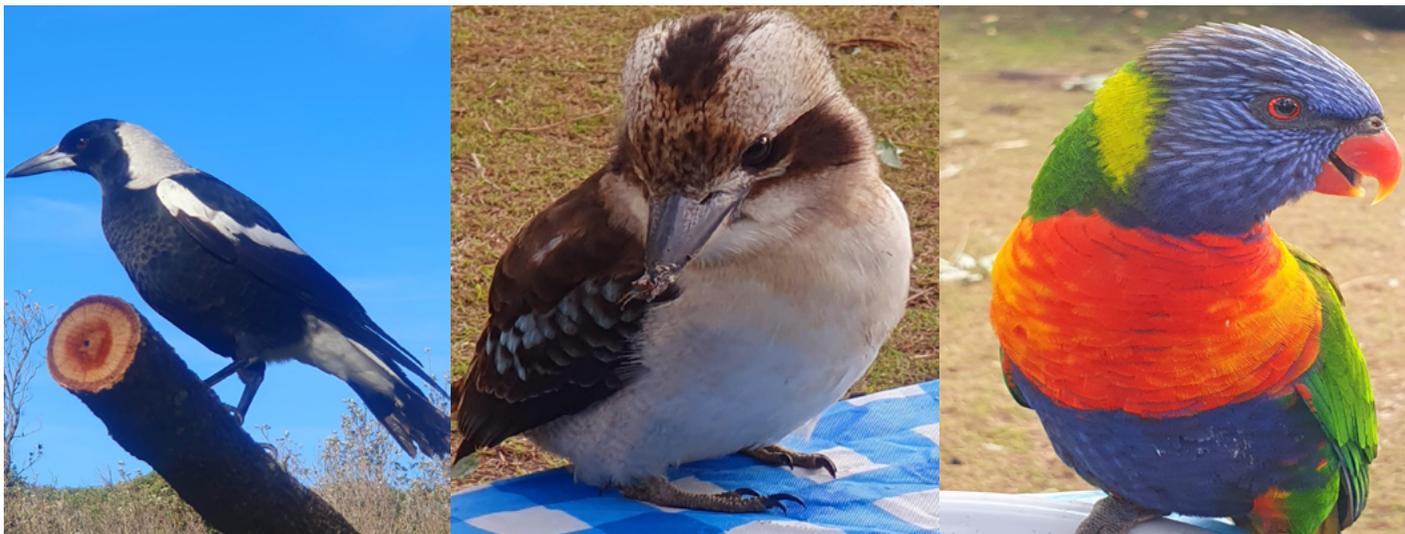
For a Big 4 caravan park we were treated with a bush camp setting that was abundant in native wildlife, the cleanest amenities I have ever seen in any caravan park anywhere, a seemingly endless private beach, spotless cabins in the same vicinity and the option to have our own campfire. The sites were powered and were cheaper than non powered sites in the National Park down the road.



We spent the couple of days relaxing, sitting around the campfire, some went fishing, some went 4wd-ing, some went walking and others did very little at all. We had fivies on Monday afternoon around at Pretty Beach and kept a lookout for whales but unfortunately didn't see any. A few of us however did see some off Racecourse Beach at sunrise one morning but they were a bit far away for it to be an overly spectacular sighting. Racecourse Beach offered beautiful sunrises and amongst the yoga poses we got some great photos. At the other end of the day, the full moon rising over the ocean also provided some great photo opportunities.



Chris, Kelly & I walked a couple of km's around the headland on the beach and up to the Murramarang Aboriginal Area Lookout that overlooked Brush Island. We walked around to Kookabrau Beach and Bull Pup Beach and onto Cat & Kitten Beach before retracing our steps. For a winter's day it was extremely warm and was a perfect sunny day.



The local birdlife were very tame with a mixture of lorikeets, kookaburras and magpies not shy on coming up for a feed. Once it grew dark the possums made their way under camp chairs around the fire looking for food and Michael was delighted with the friendliness of the local kangaroo population.

With plenty to see and do in the area I would definitely stay again. Thank you to everyone that came, a great, fun, entertaining group. Jo Quinn

Another great **“Week Day Wanderer”** escape to Racecourse Beach Bawley Point (Thank you Jo)

An afternoon beach fishing exercise was contested between Daniel, Chris and myself.

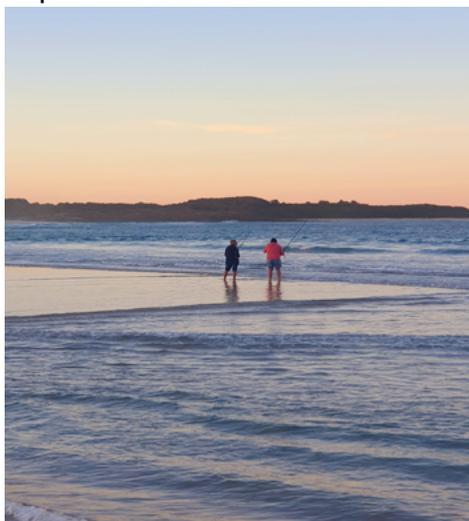
Armed with local knowledge (supplied by Daniel) and some worms supplied by a local along with some prawns we ventured on to the beach ready to catch some BIG ONES!

Casting into the south end gutter, we, at first had no luck! Bugger.

After swapping baits (prawn to worm) I was lucky to get a few bites.

Then I caught the first fish (all being a small toady). Again I caught yet another Toady (2 fish)

Great fun, but, I am the fishing champ! David Bennett



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## PAGE



*Cheers  
to  
50  
Years*

### **SAVE THE DATE: We're turning 50!**

Celebrations to be held at Olinda Community Hall on the October long weekend, 2025.

Celebratory lunch at 1pm on Sunday 5th October.

Camping available.

More details to come. Please forward this to as many ex-members that you can think of.

Enquiries or old photos can be sent to [publicity@subaruclub.com.au](mailto:publicity@subaruclub.com.au)



# **DON'T FEED THE ANIMALS**

There are few things that match the thrill of encountering a wild animal in its natural habitat. It's a rare and unique glimpse into wildlife playing out right in front of you! When you encounter an inquisitive native buddy, your first thought might be to offer them a bit of your organic muesli bar. It seems like a great idea at the time, right?

Unfortunately all of those "Don't feed the animals" signs are there for a reason, and while it might feel good at the time, feeding wildlife can have real and harmful knock-on effects.

But why, what's the big deal ??

## **Human food is not for native animals**

Let's be honest, that chocolate-coated muesli bar in your pack may be OK for you, but it's not good for a wild animal that's not used to processed human food. Losing the balance of their natural diet can make wildlife very sick, as can many of the ingredients in your lunchbox. Animals can quickly become addicted to the convenience of human food and focus on seeking it out instead of eating a balanced diet.

## **They lose their ability to forage and exercise less**

Many native animals are adapted to spending hours foraging for healthy food in native bushland. Throw human food into the mix and they can become lazy, hanging around people all day, forgetting to exercise when they would normally be foraging around.

Animals can become so used to receiving food that they become reliant on handouts instead of foraging for their natural food. This can result in some animals starving despite being surrounded by edible bushland during low season when humans aren't around.

## **They'll ruin your stuff to get it**

Food's my biggest motivator and I'm a well-adjusted, civilised human. Now imagine what a possum will do for a tasty piece of white bread! Feeding the animals gives them a taste of the contents of your camp pantry, making it incredibly difficult to keep your food safe from them.

Determined animals with a taste for human food (and no fear of humans because they've been hand-fed) will often damage tents and cooking equipment to find a morsel.

## **Hand-fed animals can become aggressive**

You're never the only person to offer food to the kangaroo hopping around camp. Wild animals can come to rely on humans for food and can become aggressive when they're not fed; very dangerous and unpleasant. Make sure you're not ruining it for future visitors just so that you can get a little closer to the wildlife.

Looks can be deceiving. Kangaroos can look extremely nice and cuddly, but if you get too close or try to feed them they can become dangerously aggressive very quickly and viciously attack, particularly the large males during mating season or females protecting their joeys.

## **It disrupts the natural order**

Wild animals have a single-minded focus on the next chow-down, so if a popular walk or campsite becomes a reliable food source, animals tend not to leave. This can lead to increased population densities of some species forcing other vulnerable species out and increasing the spread of disease. It can also impact natural breeding cycles and cause birds to stop their natural migration patterns.

## **Their aim isn't perfect: you could lose a finger!**

Hand-feeding goannas might seem like a good way to get close to these magnificent lizards but do you really want your fingers getting that close to the sharp teeth of this poorly sighted, powerful animal? With those razor-sharp claws, you also really don't want these climbing experts to get a fright and mistake you for a tree! Possums may look all cute and innocent too, especially the ones with joeys on their backs, but many people have been bitten by a possum who has mistaken a finger for a piece of fruit.

If you want to see wildlife, it's best to visit them in their habitat, rather than encouraging them into ours. So avoid throwing uneaten food into the bushes and giving the animals rotting leftovers from the barbie.

It might sound like a guilt trip but the fact is, feeding native animals is the worst thing you can do for them, despite how cute they are or how much they appear to be enjoying it. National parks are about experiencing the pristine environment in its natural state. So get out there and spot some native animals. And keep your snacks to yourself.

Adapted from  
NSW NPWS  
blog post  
**Keep Wildlife Wild**

Endorsed by  
Michael Hamilton  
SR4WD Club  
Vice President



**DO AS THEY SAY (NPWS)**  
**“Not As We Do”**



A Belated

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

To the members whose Birthday fell in July  
David Bennett, Susan Bennett, Mike Bloomfield, Phil Hamilton, Joanna Hill, Jan Twyman.

## **A BIG HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

To the members who celebrated their Birthdays in August.  
Brett Atkins, John Coombs, Troy Strickland.



## WHERE WAS I

Last months co-ordinates were 29°21'19.0"S 153°21'04.8"E has my location at Woody Head Camp Ground in the Bundjalung National Park a little North of Iluka.

The park is a wilderness area of coastal heath plains, lagoons and a coastal river system with a magnificent stretch of sandy beach. Bird life is prolific with some 205 species having been identified. Other attractions include the Iluka Nature Reserve preserving a small area of littoral rainforest.

The regions temperate climate makes Bundjalung a popular weekend destination catering for both day visitors and those staying longer. Beach driving is permitted along a 12km section of the beach within the park.

Camping: There are commercial camping areas in Evans Head and Iluka which are suitable for campers, caravans etc. Bush camping is not allowed in the Bundjalung National Park, however there is a selection of camping areas within the park.

Woody Head Camping area. 150 sites. Toilets and showers, disabled facilities, table ,water and fireplaces. Bookings for camping can be made up to 6 months in advance.

Black Rock rest area, has toilets, fireplaces but no water.

Yabbra rest area, has toilets, fireplaces and tables but no water.

Booroora rest area. has toilets, fireplaces and tables but no water.

What to see and do: Activities include fishing, walking trails, canoeing, bird watching, soaking up the sun on the beach and 4WD driving along the beach.



## WHERE AM I THIS TIME

34°01'24.8"S 140°50'16.0"E

Can you find me.

When you think you have found the secret destination, email me at [s\\_bennett51@outlook.com](mailto:s_bennett51@outlook.com) with your location. If you have visited this location, send a photo and/or write a few paragraphs of your visit there, or a funny experience you may have had there and what you liked/disliked about the place. There is no prize.

Do you have a special talent?

Me:



*The front cover image. Can anyone tell me where that image was taken.  
Respond to [s\\_bennett51@outlook.com](mailto:s_bennett51@outlook.com)*

Until Next Time  
**STAY SAFE**