



DRIVE TORQUE eNEWS OCTOBER 2024



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- President:** Stephen Bennett 0413 368 007 president@subaruclub.com.au
- Vice President:** Michael R Hamilton 0407 223 843 vicepresident@subaruclub.com.au
- Secretary:** Michael R Hamilton 0407 223 843 vicepresident@subaruclub.com.au
- Treasurer:** Brett Hampson 0408 409 634 treasurer@subaruclub.com.au
- Membership:** Stephen Bennett 0413 368 007 membership@subaruclub.com.au
- Trip Convener:** Jo Quinn 0409 771 019, Bill Twyman 0418 681 237,
Dave Cook 0417 258 272, Daniel Sorrasson 0433 304 200
trip_convener@subaruclub.com.au
- Driver Awareness:** David Wellham 0407 089 071, Michael R Hamilton 0407 223 843,
Bill Twyman 0418 681 237, Alex Gatward 0402 734 110
4wdtraining@subaruclub.com.au
- NSW 4WD Assn. Delegates:** David Wellham 0407 089 071, Bill Twyman 0418 681 237
delegates@subaruclub.com.au
- Webmaster:** Kevin McCormack 0428 408 568 editor@subaruclub.com.au
- Social & Public Relations Officer:** Jo Quinn 0409 771 019 publicity@subaruclub.com.au
- 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

A Message from the President

Hello to everyone

In this message I will not bore you, with harping on with how the club needs more members to attend meetings and members to put together and run more trips.

What I will do, is say a BIG BIG THANK YOU to Kevin McCormack for putting together and setting up the clubs new Website. Kevin has put a lot of long hours into the task of getting the website established and up and running. He has informed me that there is still some work to be done, but it should not take long.

The November General Meeting was the last to be held at the Ermington Community Hall. The Committee agreed that the cost, in excess of \$100.00, was too much for the hire of the hall for 3hrs, where 10 to 12 members would attend. The Committee decided to trial Mobile Meetings, where the meetings would be held at a club or a pub, closer to where the member groups live. Not all members live in the same area, hence the mobile reference. The meetings would be moved around to different locations to suit different member group areas. That's not to say, that area group only attends the meeting, it would be preferable if everyone attended the meeting, it is to share the travelling.

The meeting day has also been changed to the second Tuesday in the month. It was thought that, on a Friday night it was a big ask to race home from work, have an evening meal, to then make your way to Ermington for a club meeting. The idea was to be able to go to a pub/club, have a meal, find a quiet area to conduct the meeting and when finished, have a drink and a chin wag before going home.

Tuesday night was chosen, because Thursday, Friday & Saturday nights are busy nights for the said establishments and we would not be able to get a quiet area at no cost.

The Committee meetings will be conducted on the first Tuesday of the month.

This trial is expected to commence in February 2025. If any member has a recommendation of where to hold a meeting in their area, please let a committee member know.

A reminder that the November General Meeting/BBQ will be held on the 8th November at George Kendall Reserve (Trumble Avenue, Ermington). Commencing at 6:00/6:30PM. Please register your intention to attend, on the website, for catering purposes.

Kind Regards

Stephen B

SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Date - | Friday, October 11, 2024 |
| Venue - | Ermington Community Centre (for the last time) |
| Meeting Commenced - | 8:00 pm |
| Attendance - | Michael H, Bill T, Stephen B, Dave C, Alex G, Stephen E, Troy & Sandi S, Stephen P, David W, Cath D, Kevin M, Cheryl & Ray B, Kelly & Chris M, Brett H, Iwan S, John H, Paul Seton |
| Apologies - | Tom, Fiona, Craig, Kaitlyn |
| Minutes of Previous Meeting - | September Meeting at Silverwater Hotel - 13/9/2024 Accepted - Dave Seconded - Stephen |
| Business Arising - | Nil |
| New Members - | Welcome to Paul Seton |
| President's Report - | Stephen This is our last meeting at Ermington CC Next year ... First Tuesday of the month - Committee Second Tuesday of the month - General Meetings will be at various venues Limited number of Zooms throughout the year Christmas function at Bendeela Club to provide desserts Patrick and Iwan to become General Committee members |
| Vice President's Report - | Michael Thanks to Bill for taking the minutes at our last Committee meeting Thanks to Stephen for tonight's supper |
| Secretary's Report - | Michael Nil |
| Treasurer's Report - | Brett Available funds as at 30/9/2024 = \$8,965.08 New signatories: Brett (Treasurer), Stephen (President) and Michael (Secretary) |
| Membership Sec. Report - | Stephen Unfinancial - 0 Financial - 70 Enquiries - 2 |
| Driver Awareness Report - | Michael Stockton Beach November 3 Information on next year's program in next newsletter |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|--|
| Trip Conveners' Report - | Bill | Recent trip to the Turon was postponed due to bad weather Reccie to Watagans went very well (thanks to Craig) Looking forward to trip on Sunday October 20, which will be modified based on reccie |
| Association Delegates' Report - | Bill | Central Coast / Port Hunter clubs using land at Dungog, which we may be able to use too Association training using new area |
| Webmaster's Report - | Kevin | Old website no longer working New system will be online soon Everyone will need to re-register on new site Big thanks to Kevin for the time he is putting into the new site |
| Public Relations - | (Jo) | 50th Anniversary plans are progressing well Possibility of exploring Instagram to attract members |
| Equipment / Merchandising - | Alex | Clothing orders on hold till up on new website |
| GENERAL BUSINESS - | David | Encouraged everyone to consider running a trip |
| Next Meeting - | | BBQ at George Kendall Reserve, November 8 |
| Close - | | 8:52 pm |

SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

Treasurers Report

Sep-24

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Cash Book Balance Brought Forward | \$8,847.78 |
| Plus Income | \$500.05 |
| Less Expenditure | \$382.75 |
| Closing Balance | <u><u>\$8,965.08</u></u> |

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|----------|
| <u>Income</u> - | Memberships | \$350.00 |
| | Interest | \$0.05 |
| | Clothes | \$150.00 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| <u>Expenditure</u> - | Paypal Fees | \$6.40 |
| | June meeting catering | \$65.45 |
| | July meeting catering | \$46.81 |
| | August AGM meeting catering | \$204.35 |
| | Postage stamps | \$8.10 |
| | Quarterly meeting fuel cost | \$51.64 |

Bank Reconciliation

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Bank Account Balance as at 30/09/2024 | ANZ | \$5,819.29 |
| <u>Plus</u> | Funds held in Pay Pal as at 30/09/2024 | \$2,851.04 |
| | Cash on Hand | \$294.75 |
| Available Funds as at 30/09/2024 | | <u><u>\$8,965.08</u></u> |



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@subaru4wdclub.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.

NSW National Parks & Wildlife updates

- Great Koala Park project still moving along slowly.
- National Parks are of the opinion that they are letting “almost too many people” into their parks, and that they are opening more parks where in fact the data shows more parks are closing than are opened. Association is holding firm on their representation of this fact to National Parks and doing whatever it can to champion our cause.
- National Parks handover to Aboriginal Elders has gone cold at the present
- National Parks Bookings system: Mixed messages about this – looking at ways to improve system and they say the \$6 it is here to stay and then there is hope that it might be removed until a better solution is found. Trialling some number plate recognition, details have not been worked out yet. Number plate recognition is working in other states. There are discussions about night visits vs camping.

Animal encounters

Snake bites are on the rise in the greater Sydney area - be snake aware - even at home in your own back yard. Always carry a first aid kit and do a course – having first aid skills might save a life. Would members like a guest speaker to attend a meeting and discuss first aid?

Social media, magazines and club promotion

Some members of the public are always looking to complain and attempt to restrict our recreational activities. They will try to use our words and photos against us if it looks like we are doing the wrong thing, or are not where we should be or damaging the environment. We need to think about what we post in open pages on social media and in our newsletter and promotional material. It is good that we usually postpone trips when tracks are wet and that we do not drive ‘off road’ or bush bash and stay on only authorised open tracks and roads.

Camping areas available to Association clubs Near the Watagans

Our club can book a bush camp area on a 60 hectare private property at Mount Vincent – 50 km west of Newcastle and near Watagan State Forest. Composting toilet on site and firewood available. No charge but request a donation to Camp Quality.

The Glen at Abercrombie National Park

A large locked campsite with a national park. A great option due to limited camping options within the national park.

Dingo Dell at Kanangra-Boyd National Park.

A private campground with a pit toilet and space for over 30 vehicles. Currently closed due to access issues from recent wet weather.

Association website members access

All members can access the Association website, majority of tabs are public access.

If you want to access to 'Members Only' section or book a Driver Training course, please send email to Delegates for logon and password. Website address – 4wdnow.com

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 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

Batteries Explained

Several recent RV fires have been blamed on lithium ion batteries, but not all are created equal. Dr. Matthew Priestley, Lead Technology Translator at the UNSW, explains.

A lithium-ion battery pack is made up of one or more lithium-ion cells. Not every cell is fabricated from the same chemical components. If you compare two different cells from different manufacturers, then the chemical makeup and hence the performance may be quite different. One important component inside a lithium-ion cell is a thing called a cathode. We categorise the type of lithium ion battery by the chemical properties of the cathode. A LiFePo4 battery is a lithium ion battery where the cathode is constructed from lithium iron phosphate (LiFePo4). Each different cathode chemistry will provide different battery properties. An LFP (LiFePo4) typically has a good thermal stability, which gives better safety performance than some other battery chemistries such as Lithium Nickel Cobalt Aluminium Oxide (NCA). However, as a trade-off, the energy density of LFP is less than NCA. For the battery chemistries with worse thermal stability, the efficacy of the battery management system becomes more critical to ensure an adequate level of safety. LFP batteries do have a higher thermal stability than some other lithium-ion battery chemistries. This means that they have a higher threshold for heat before thermal runaway occurs than some other lithium-ion battery chemistries. Thermal runaway is a dangerous operating state where the cells are heated to a temperature where exothermic reactions occur, and the battery cooling system can no longer handle the rapid heating of the cells. Here, the battery cell temperature will rapidly increase to very high levels, potentially causing a battery fire. Any lithium-ion battery can cause a fire if the thermal runaway threshold temperature is exceeded. Hence, it is vital to handle these products, even LFP batteries, with care. Damaging a lithium-ion battery (e.g., dropping it off a rooftop) can cause faults that may eventually lead to a thermal runaway event. Overcharging a lithium-ion battery is a common cause of thermal runaway. Many devices will have a battery management system (BMS) that cuts off the charging before overcharging can occur. However, a fault to either the charger or BMS may still result in a thermal runaway incident. Hence, it is recommended to avoid leaving lithium-ion batteries to charge overnight or leaving them on charge for long periods of time after they have reached full charge. A BMS is like a vigilant bodyguard for a lithium-ion battery. It may monitor various battery parameters to ascertain potentially unsafe operating conditions and, in such a situation, will aim to move the battery into a safe state. A well-made BMS will monitor parameters such as the cell voltages, currents and temperatures. A high-quality BMS is vital for the safety of lithium-ion batteries. Not all BMS products are created equal, and some may only monitor the voltage or temperature across groups of cells, which is not as accurate as monitoring each cell individually. Lithium-ion batteries have a preferred

temperature range of roughly between 10-50 degrees Celsius. However, this temperature range will vary depending on the exact device. So, check the manual for their operating temperature range. I recommend trying to avoid operating any lithium-ion battery outside of the temperature range stated in the manual.
Credit Grey Nomad Times

Cache me if you can

Veteran travellers love the ultimate hide-and-seek challenges of geocaching. It seems there are an awful lot of grey nomads who are travelling in a parallel universe to each other. While the majority may look out of the window as they travel and see a pretty – but fairly empty – landscape, others see one filled with all manner of treasures and potential treasure-seeking adventures. Keen geocachers are among those who see the potential adventures. And they think that non-geocaching grey nomads – or ‘Muggles’ as they call them – are missing out on some serious fun. They enjoy the search for a concealed cache. For the uninitiated, geocaching involves using a GPS or mobile device to hide and seek containers, called geocaches or caches, at specific locations marked by coordinates. Caches can be found literally anywhere, with the cache sizes and types having an impact on hiding options. Caches are rated in size, difficulty to find, and terrain. The Australian geocaching community is generally very aware of environment impacts and obtains relevant approvals in sensitive areas.” While hiding and hunting caches is fun, so too is the parallel universe aspect of the hobby. “Everything in a cache, other than the logbook, is referred to as ‘swag’. “These are usually trinkets of some sort for swapping and, generally, if you remove an item of swag, you’re expected to replace it with something else.” All physical caches contain a logbook and signing the logbook with your caching name is required for logging a ‘find’.

Geocachers generally like to find, log and replace caches without detection by Muggles. Geocaching is a great hobby, whether you’re a couple or on your own.



DRIVER AWARENESS NEWS

Our next Driver Awareness day will take place at Stockton Beach north of Sydney on November 3, and not surprisingly, our focus will be on sand driving. We will also cover vehicle recovery using the 'Hierarchy of Recovery'. You will need to bring your own recovery gear and a sense of adventure to learn and understand your vehicle. We will also drive along the beach and in the dunes (depending on which areas are open on the day). You will need to purchase a permit before we hit the sand, currently \$33 for 3 days or \$88 for an annual pass.

Our plan is **not** to conduct any kinetic (snatch) recoveries, but you still need to have your strap or rope (together with your other recovery gear) in your vehicle - just in case. There is a chance we may have to conduct a non-kinetic (tow) recovery if digging and traction boards aren't enough.

Note for new members - Don't worry about purchasing any recovery gear. We will have all the equipment necessary, and we will advise you on the day about what to purchase for future trips.

This trip is for members only. If you're interested, register on our new website.

Our Driver Awareness Team recently held a Zoom meeting to plan our activities for 2025. We have several surprises in store for trips throughout the year, with full details yet to be confirmed. I can reveal that the first trip for 2025 will most likely take place on Saturday, March 1 in the Kanangra-Boyd National Park, visiting Dingo Dell. Stay tuned for more information.

On a recent Driver Awareness trip, one of the skills we practised was wheel placement.



Learning where your wheels are in relation to the terrain you are driving over is a fundamental skill that every driver needs to master.

It leads on naturally to the skill of being able to pick the correct line for driving an obstacle. Like everything else, practice makes perfect.



If you have any particular requests for Driver Awareness activities, please let David, Bill, Alex or me know, and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

We are here to help you, so let us know what you want.

Michael Hamilton.
For the Driver Awareness team.

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

TRIP CONVENER REPORT

OCTOBER 2024

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 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 October 2024 Report

A reminder of upcoming trips - further details available on the website.

- Dee's Corner Camp - Myall Rv
Oct 27th - 30th (midweek) **(FULL)**
- November meeting & BBQ
8th Nov George Kendall Reserve
(Trumble Avenue, Ermington)
- Dunns Swamp - (Ganguddy) 2 night camp
Nov 1st
- Stockton Beach - driver training
Nov 3rd
- Parramatta Female Factory
Nov 13th (midweek)
- Club Christmas Function - Bendeela
Nov 30th - Dec 1st
- Christmas picnic - Towradgi Beach
December 4th (midweek)
- Clubs 50th Anniversary 2025
Oct long weekend 2025

NOVEMBER 2024

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------|---------|--|----------|--|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 Dunns Camping | 2 Swamp Weekend |
| Dunns Swamp ³ Stockton Beach Driver Awarenes | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 General Meeting and BBQ Ermington | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Female Factory Tour Parramatta | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Club Christmas Function |

DECEMBER 2024

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|------------------------------------|--------|---------|---|----------|--------|----------|
| 1 Club Christmas Function | 2 | 3 | 4 Weekday Wanderer Christmas Get Together | 5 | 6 | 7 |



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

Sgt At Arms Report

- Nothing to report this month



Five Lighthouses Day Trip

Sunday 6th October

When I first looked at this trip I found 5 lighthouses in Sydney - Cape Baily, Macquarie, Hornby, Grotto Point & Barrenjoey.

After more research, I found a total of 12 - 7 more - so it will take more than one day trip to see them all. There are 6 on south side of harbour and 6 on north side of harbour.

On the day we discovered 2 extra lighthouses in Sydney - so now there are 14.

We visited or saw from a distance 10 of these lighthouses - but only 3 of the original 5.

We had 4 couples on the trip - Dave & Lyn, Mark & Karolyn, Troy & Sandi, Pam & David.

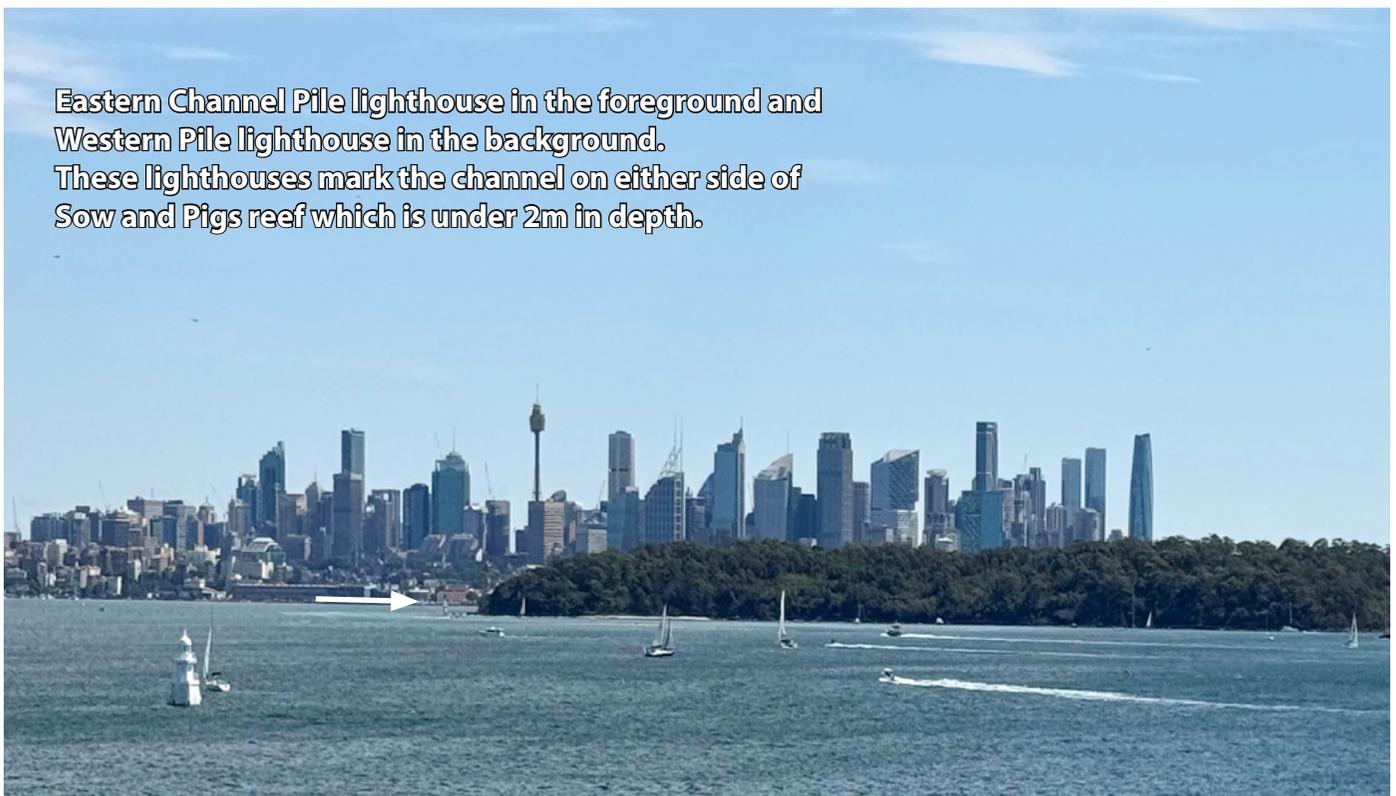
No need to write the cars they were driving as cars were only used from home to/from meeting point.

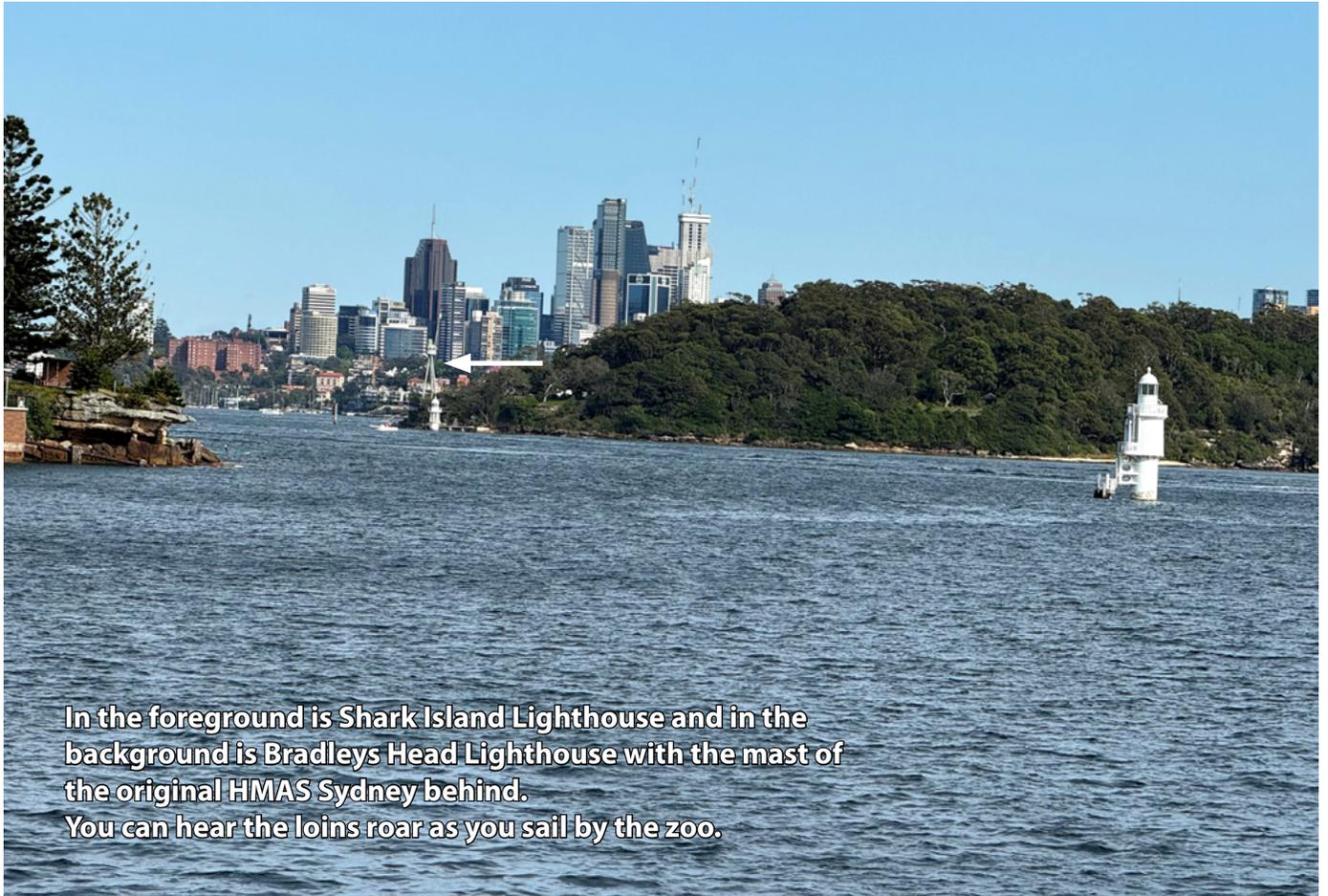
We met at Camp Cove, found an all day parking space and it was early due to the start of day light saving.

Our modes of transport on the day were our own 2 feet and ferries - Emerald class and First Fleet class.

We walked to Watsons Bay to catch our first ferry of the day.

Following are the pictures of what we saw on the day.

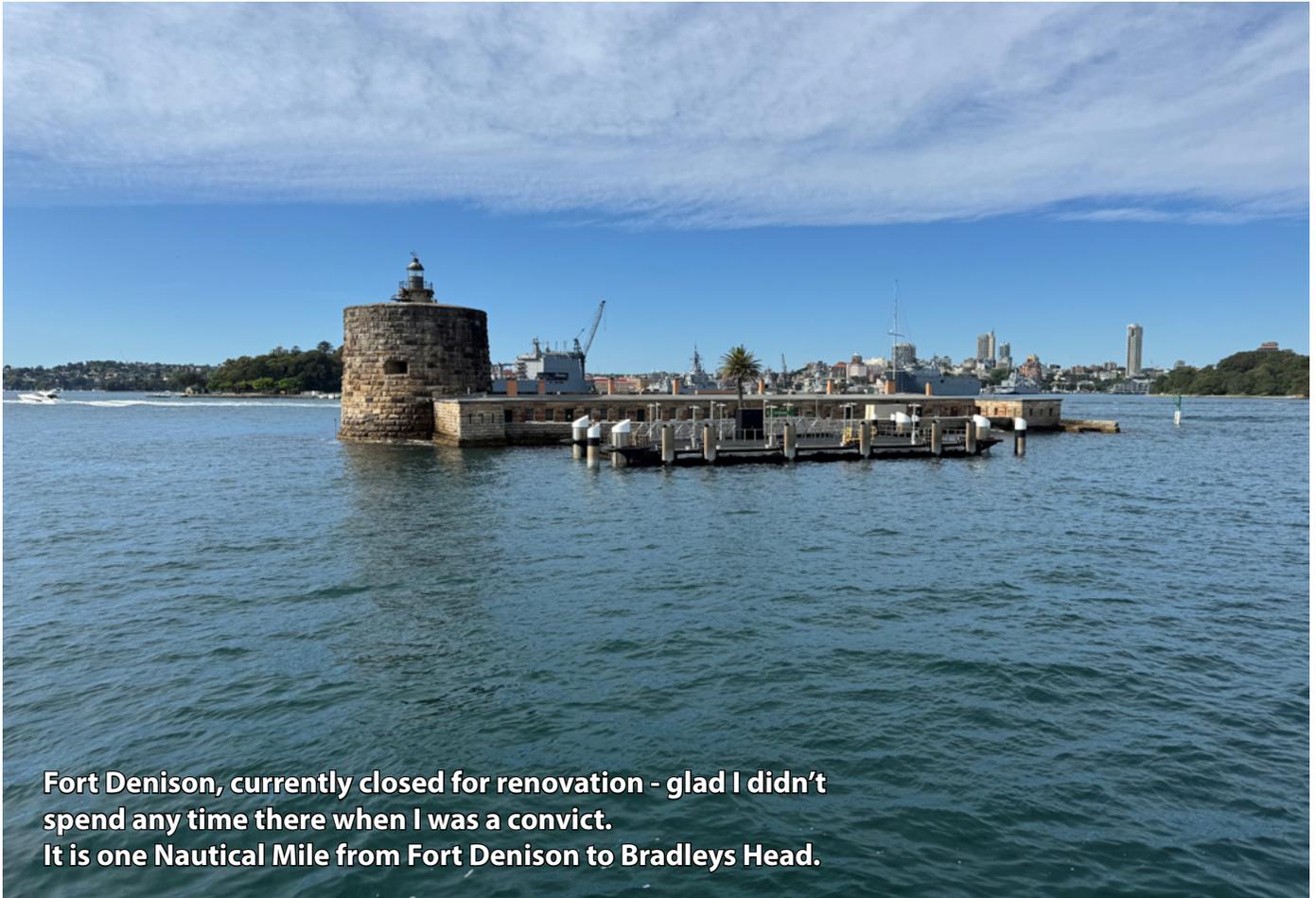




In the foreground is Shark Island Lighthouse and in the background is Bradley's Head Lighthouse with the mast of the original HMAS Sydney behind. You can hear the loins roar as you sail by the zoo.



Robertson's Point Lighthouse at Cremorne. Wish I owned one of those yachts and was sailing it to a South Pacific Island.



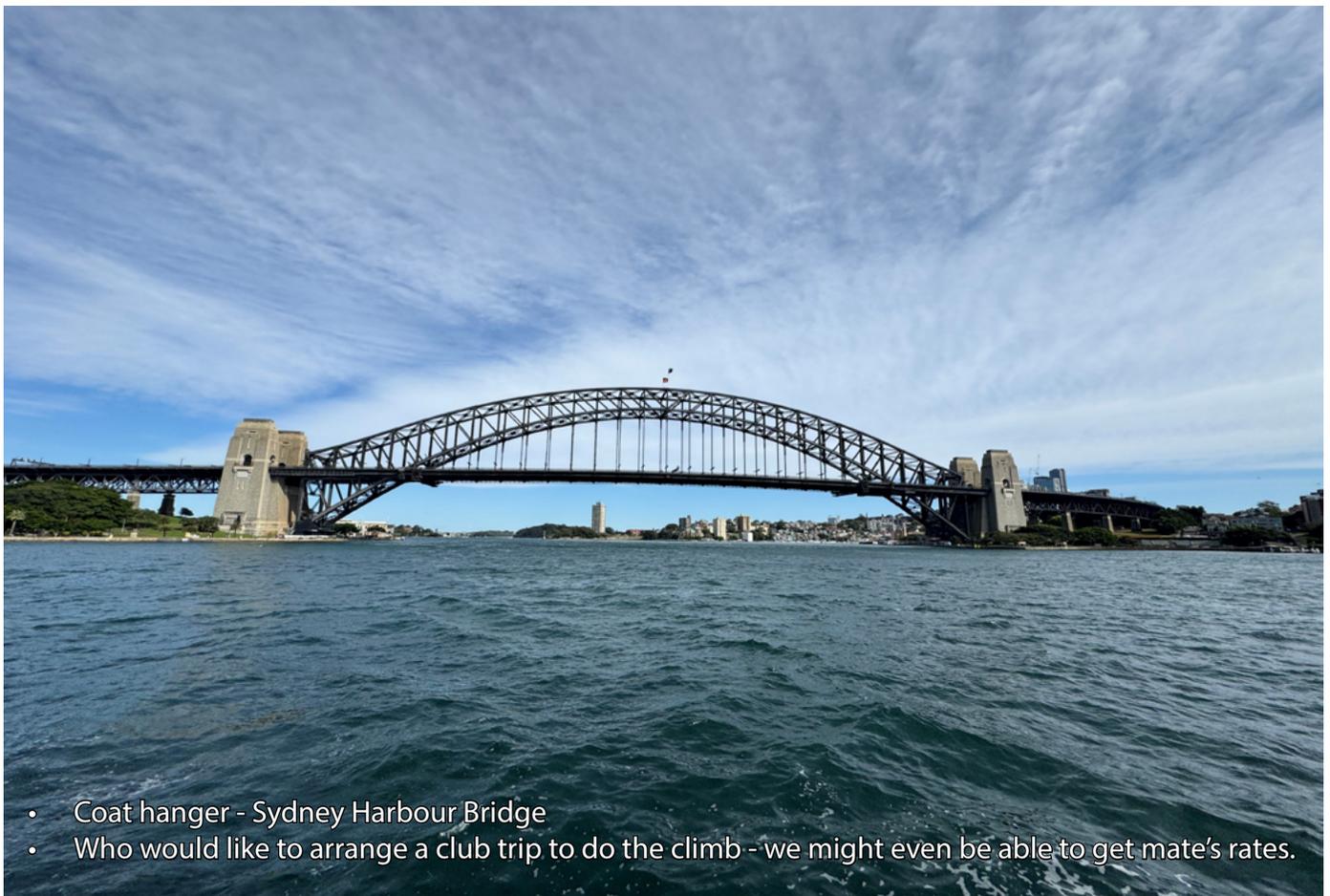
Fort Denison, currently closed for renovation - glad I didn't spend any time there when I was a convict. It is one Nautical Mile from Fort Denison to Bradleys Head.



City skyline - what a beautiful day on the harbour.



Circular Quay, Opera House and a big cruise ship.
I want to go on a cruise for the food.
We took another ferry from there to Pyrmont Bay wharf.



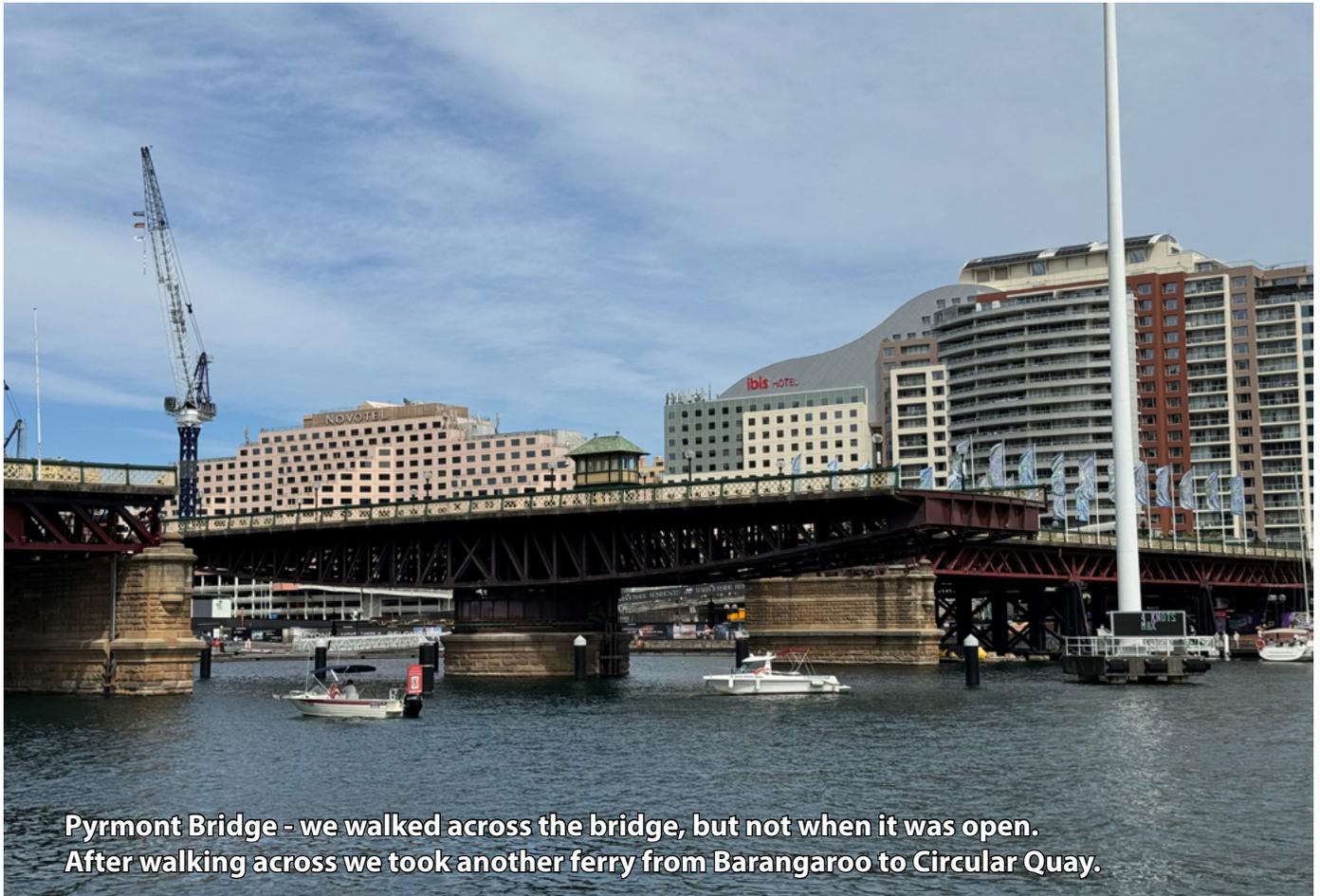
- Coat hanger - Sydney Harbour Bridge
- Who would like to arrange a club trip to do the climb - we might even be able to get mate's rates.



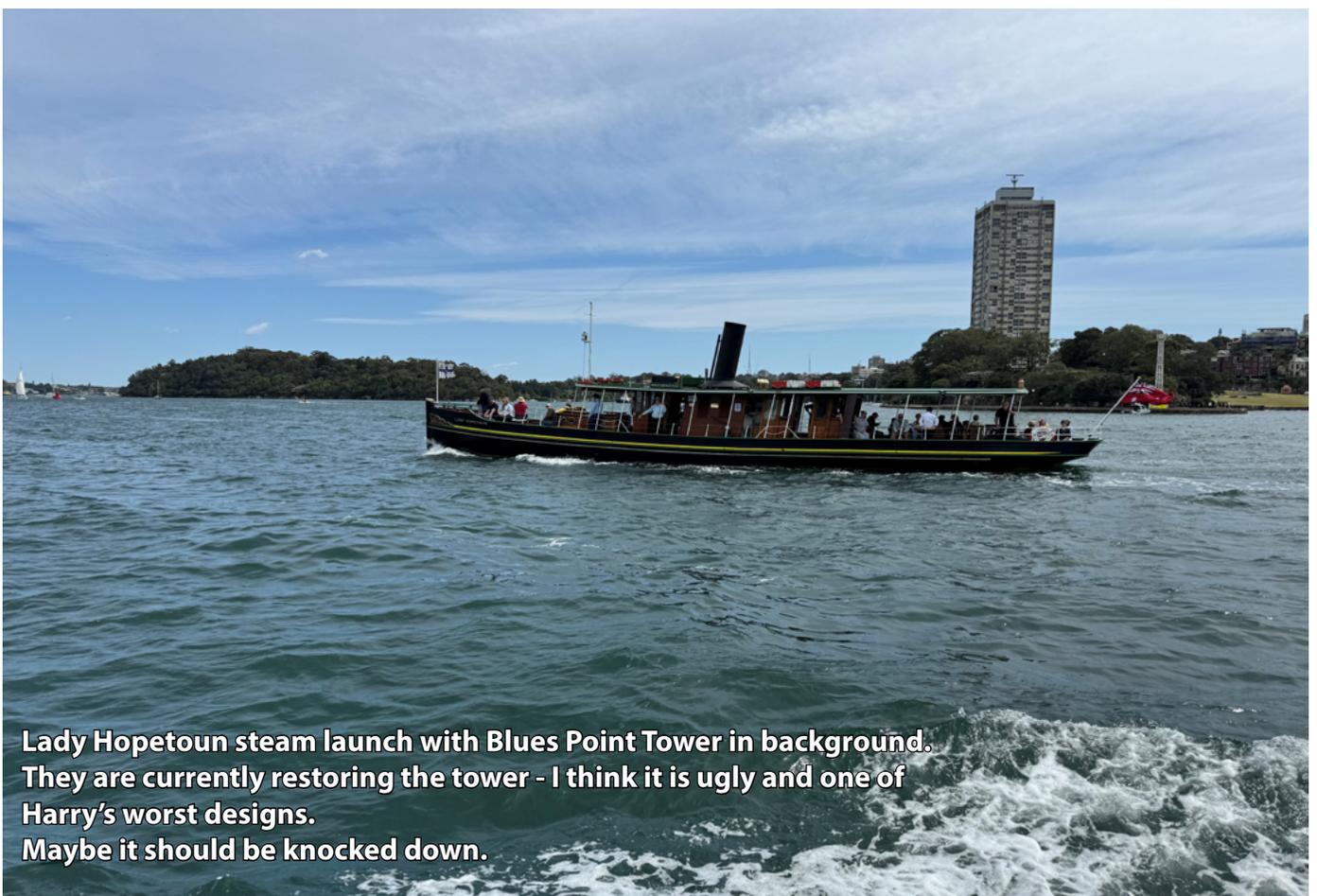
We found the Lightship Carpentaria on the day at the Maritime Museum - that is lighthouse 14 in Sydney. The tall ship James Craig is also at the dock.



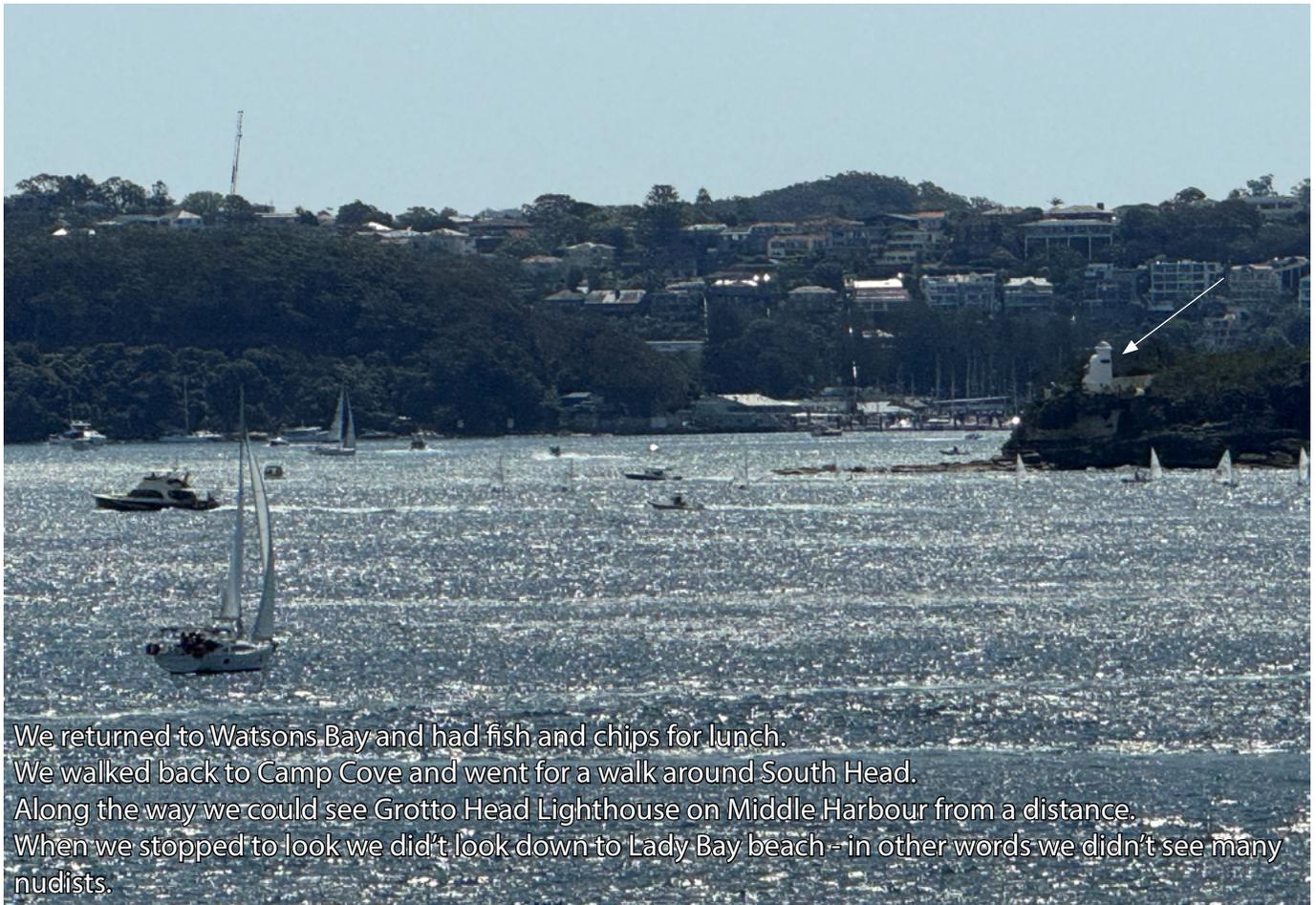
Cape Bowling Green Lighthouse at Maritime Museum with a warship in front. This lighthouse was built near Ayr in Queensland and moved to Sydney when it was replaced. One of the keepers was eaten by a crocodile - that is before it was moved to Sydney.



**Pyrmont Bridge - we walked across the bridge, but not when it was open.
After walking across we took another ferry from Barangaroo to Circular Quay.**



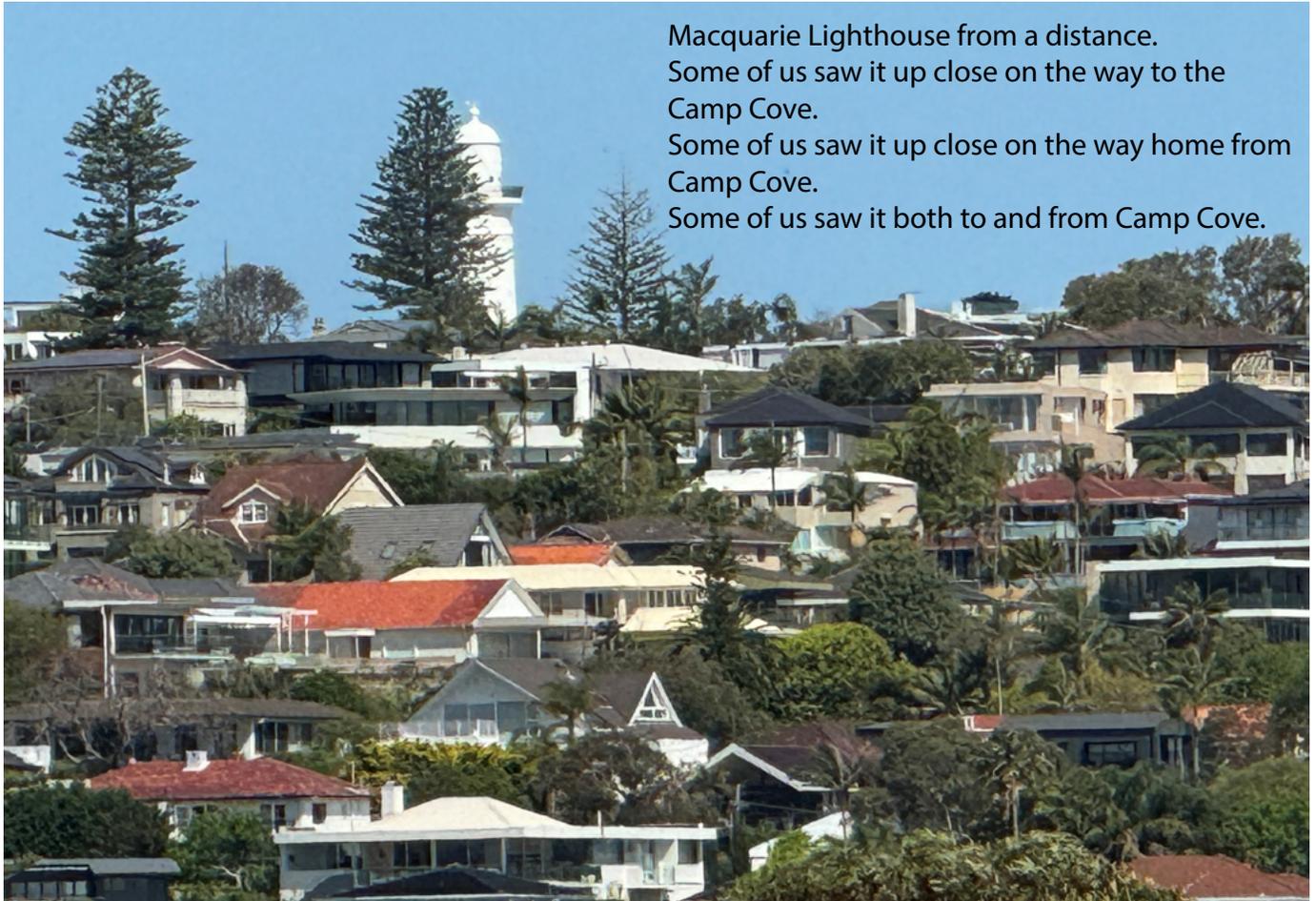
**Lady Hopetoun steam launch with Blues Point Tower in background.
They are currently restoring the tower - I think it is ugly and one of
Harry's worst designs.
Maybe it should be knocked down.**



We returned to Watsons Bay and had fish and chips for lunch.
We walked back to Camp Cove and went for a walk around South Head.
Along the way we could see Grotto Head Lighthouse on Middle Harbour from a distance.
When we stopped to look we didn't look down to Lady Bay beach - in other words we didn't see many nudists.



Hornby Lighthouse on South Head.
It has recently been restored and painted in the original colours.
We saw a whale and calf very close to shore from the cliffs above the lighthouse - they were heading back south for the summer.



Macquarie Lighthouse from a distance.
Some of us saw it up close on the way to the Camp Cove.
Some of us saw it up close on the way home from Camp Cove.
Some of us saw it both to and from Camp Cove.

So there you are, 10 lighthouses in a day.

I could give you a lot of facts and figures about the lighthouses but that is for another day.

This was a very nice day out on a warm and sunny Sydney spring day.

David Wellham

Trip Leader David with Pam
Dave and Lyn, Mark and Karolyn, Sandi and Troy

We had a wonderful day out on the harbour on Sunday of the long weekend. Our day started at Watson's Bay with a coffee on the beach while we waited for the rest of the crew. We thought we would be walking to Hornby Lighthouse first but David had a little surprise for us and we caught the ferry back to Circular Quay and then Darling Harbour where we saw Bradley's Head Lighthouse (from the ferry), Daw's Point Lighthouse and quite a few others that were surprisingly dotted around the Harbour. Who knew there were so many small light houses around our beautiful Harbour. After a stroll around Darling Harbour and the ferry back, we enjoyed a delicious lunch back at Watson's Bay, then a walk to our final Lighthouse Hornby's – which happens to be out past one of the oldest nudist beaches in Sydney; Lady Bay Beach.

All in all it was a great day out and a big thanks to David for an enlightening trip!



SIX FOOT TRACK & BOWTELLS **SWINGING BRIDGE**

Date: 12th October 2024

Attendees:

Troy and Sandi (Subaru Outback)
David and Aaron (Holden Colorado)
Sergio and Damien (Prado)
Paul and Suzanne (Subaru Forester)
John and Michelle (Landcruiser)
Michael H. (Pajero)

Our day started a little later than expected due to the fact that I had accidentally set my alarm for 6PM rather than 6AM but we were only 15 mins late to the meeting point, hence why we got to do our own trip report!! We met at Historic Hartley and back tracked a little in order to see The Tiny Chapel which was out along Cox's River Road. It is a cute little chapel which was built in 2016 by a small group of locals. It was just as the name suggests... tiny. We took a few photos and moved on, heading back to the main road that would lead us to the Six Foot Track. It was well graded and very easy driving to the campsite where we parked and walked the 1.5km to the new bridge.

We all made it to and across the bridge and took more photos (see attached). After that we enjoyed a picnic lunch back at the campsite.

After lunch the road became a little more interesting with a few creek crossings and off camber entrances and exits with a few rock thrown in. Just enough to make it a little interesting and test out the new Outback for us and Prado for Sergio. Take a look at some of our action shots!

Our day ended back at the Hampton Halfway Hotel where we shared a few laughs and had a refreshment before heading home.

All in all it was a fun day out. Thanks to our lovely attendees for joining us.

Sandi.





Discovery Trip Watagans National Park

20th October 2024

Trip Leader: Craig Fitzpatrick

| | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Attendees: | Craig Fitzpatrick | Bill Twyman | Chris & Kelly Mifsud |
| | Roger & Amanda Vella | David Fuser | Damien & Sergio Fuser |
| | Ray & Cheryl Bonello | David Cook | Susan & Stephen Bennett |
| | Paul Seton | Johnny Lauder | |
| | Troy & Sandi Strickland | David & Damien Lauric | |

Trip Report: Bill Twyman

We all met up at the Freemans Waterhole Roadhouse, some were there early for breakfast & a coffee. After our pretrip talk we headed for the Mt Faulk Rd & up into the Watagan State Forest. Rain was not forecast but we got some anyway, it didn't affect the tracks.

1st stop was Gap Creek Lookout where we dropped our tyre pressures & had a chin wag, next stop just around the corner to Monkey Face Lookout. Next stop was at the scenic Heaton Lookout where the rain got heavier & some were suggesting I could be in line to take over the "rainmaker title" from Jo Quinn. Then it was off to the Watagan HQ Camping Area and the Hunter lookout and MacLeans Lookout where we had our morning tea break, thank heavens the sun appeared & stayed out for the rest of the day. Susan had made a lovely slice to share with the group, Stephen was handing them out - 1 for you-1 for me.

Then it was off to The Boarding House Dam where Craig gave an informative talk on the history of that area from back in the early days. Then it was a picturesque drive along the Watagan Forest Rd passing by the Pines, Casurina & Olney HQ campsites. Then we drove along the Watagans Creek Rd which has only recently reopened due to a bridge which had been washed away years ago. We drove off the long hill down into the valley & onto the lovely (flat & smooth) farm land road. Then it was onto the (very busy) Wollombi Hotel for lunch not before airing our tyres back up again. After a longish lunch we headed for the Murrays Run Rd & onto the Mangrove Creek Dam which is was a real "gem" to find in the bush, most of us were busy avoiding an overfriendly Goanna who knew the ropes of getting a feed. From there we said our goodbyes & headed off for home.

Thank you again Craig for leading this trip, your knowledge of the area is second to none.







FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The November meeting & BBQ will be held on the 8th November at George Kendall Reserve (Trumble Avenue, Ermington). Commencing between 6:00 & 6:30PM.

Everyone wishing to attend, could you please register on the Website for catering purposes. B.Y.O what you would like to drink.

A Generalised Meeting will be conducted during and after the BBQ.

As stated earlier in eNews, the new website is up and running, **BUT we need those members who have not logged on and registered, to do so A.S.A.P.** To help you to navigate the new web site, there is some Xenforo Help pages following to assist. **If you are having problems, dont hesitate in reaching out to a Committee Member, who will assist if they can or put you in touch with someone who can.** Thank you.

In the lower photo on page 17, there is something in the photo that is not clearly visible.

Can you find it and identify it??

XENFORO HELP

Our new website uses a platform called “Xenforo” which in its basic form is forum management software but is very versatile and used in all sorts of social clubs, businesses and industries.

It is a very popular platform with thousands of sites and our host company is one I have used for 20 years:

<https://www.homepageuniverse.com/corporate>

While we believe that XenForo is an intuitive platform there are differences in terminology when compared to the old website. Here is a user guide I have strung together to get you started now that we’re live.

You can also find lots of info about Xenforo by searching the web e.g. “Xenforo User Guide”

Keep in mind that we are still working on the site so you will see changes and things moving around, logos added, banners & headers added etc.

The new site is here: subaru4wdclub.com.au

XenForo and the add-ons features (not all features are necessarily turned on ATM):

- Event Management
- Media Gallery / albums
- Drag and drop images, videos, sound files
- Provide a great mobile experience
- Have all textual content supporting emoji
- Give Likes
- Add bookmarks
- Use Watch lists
- Have a private round-table Direct Messaging “Conversation” (DM) with invited participants
- Allow logon with user name or email address
- Edit messages entirely in-place

Some guidance (you’ll often find there is more than one place to select a function which makes it all very easy to navigate):

There is a help link at the bottom of the page: <https://subaru4wdclub.com.au/help/>

Homepage

After logging on you would have found that the home page goes directly to the “Events” page.

Then at the top of that page you will see this banner:



“Home” will return you to the Events page

“Forums” will take you to the Forum List

“What’s New” will display the latest activity

“Media” will take you to the Media Gallery where you can browse or load pics and create Albums

“Members” gives an overview of member activity

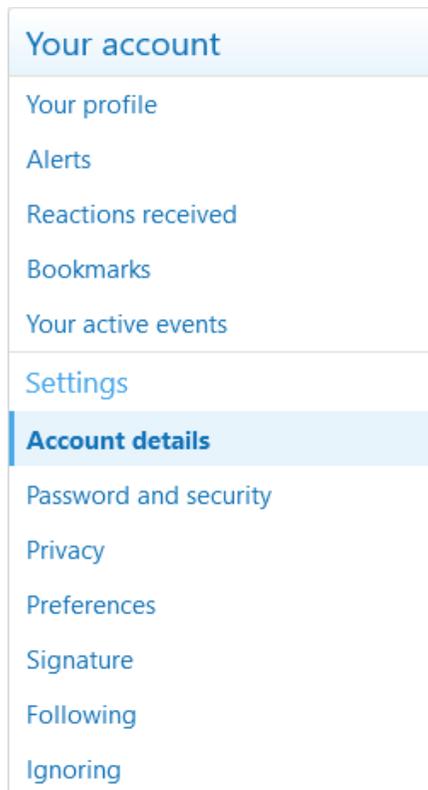
Then over on the right-hand side you will see:



Account management

Click your member name and everything you need to manage your account is available here. At the bottom of the displayed panel is the “log out” button.

Once you have access to your “Account details” it would be appreciated if you could complete the details such as vehicle details, address, phone number and emergency contact info; thanks



“Direct Messaging” (DM) is represented by the Envelope to the right of your member name and allows private messaging between members.

Select the envelope icon and you’ll able to manage your messages. Click “Send Direct Message” to create a message.

“Alerts”

The bell icon will indicate if you have any Alerts e.g. mentions, tags, messages etc.

“Search”

Provides access to simple and advanced search.

Once you select “Forums” as well as the Forum List you will see:

A horizontal navigation bar for forums. It contains five links: "New posts", "Find threads" (with a dropdown arrow), "Watched" (with a dropdown arrow), "Search forums", and "Mark forums read".

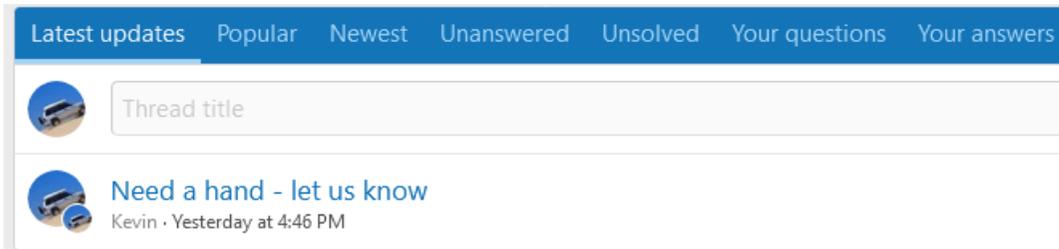
“Create / Post a Thread”

To post a new thread go to Forum List:

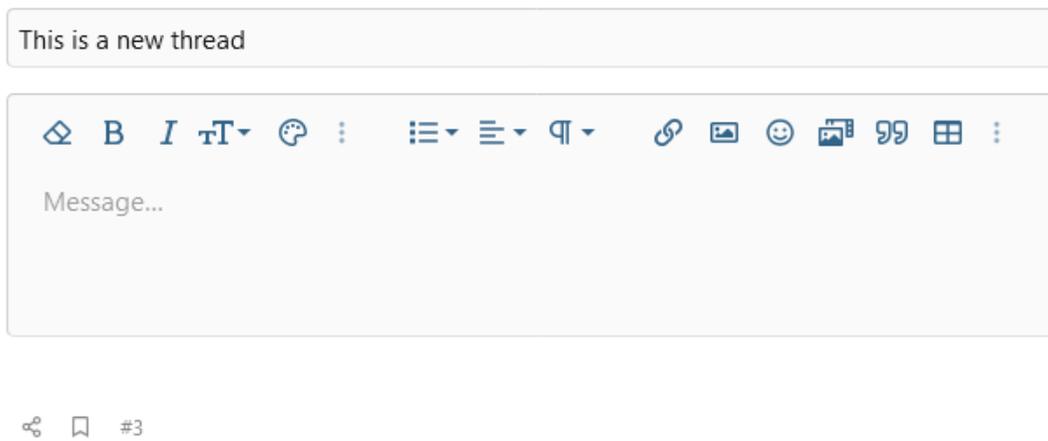
Use the short cut RHS towards the top  you’ll be asked to select which area to post the new thread and then a page will open for you to complete.

OR

Select which area in which you want to create a thread and where you see the words “Thread Title” greyed out enter the title of your new thread.



Once the title is done a message box will open and you can then enter your message. To see what each of the tools will do just hover over the icons.



Bookmarks & Sharing

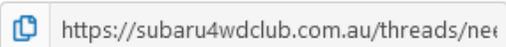
You can bookmark discussions as a handy way to remember and easily find content or stuff you want to read later.

By clicking the share icon you can share with social media and/or have a link copied to your clipboard:

[Share this post](#)



Copy link:



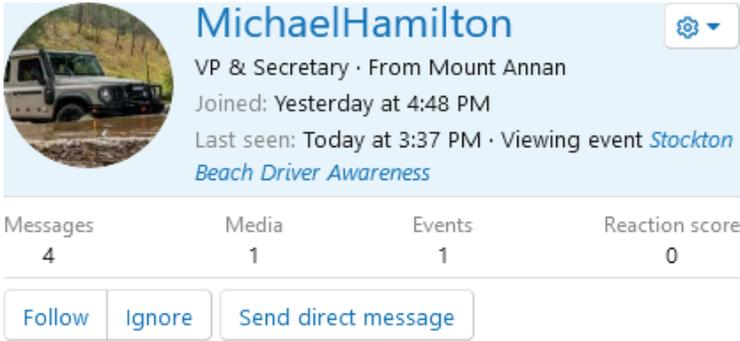
Watch / Unwatch

[Watch](#)

Thread subscriptions are “Watched”. Watching a thread is a way to stay up to date on the topic and receive alerts or emails when there are new replies.

Member Avatar Functions

By clicking on another member’s avatar leads you to several functions:



MichaelHamilton
 VP & Secretary · From Mount Annan
 Joined: Yesterday at 4:48 PM
 Last seen: Today at 3:37 PM · Viewing event [Stockton Beach Driver Awareness](#)

| Messages | Media | Events | Reaction score |
|----------|-------|--------|----------------|
| 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

[Follow](#) [Ignore](#) [Send direct message](#)

Reply

If you click "Reply" on a post within a thread then that post will be Quoted, even the last post. If you simply make use of the "Write your reply" box at the end of the thread then no posts are quoted. (This is the preferred method for contiguous responses).

Pics

Just Drag & Drop or also easy to post by selecting the little square box with the mountain image  (11th across from the left) on the tool bar and then drag and drop an image. If you then click on the image you can resize it in place. You can also select to insert the thumbnail and/or full image.

For those who are familiar with the use of URLs / weblinks you could use something like this:
 [IMG]<https://import.offroadsubarus.com/styles/default/xenforo/2614244590101960247S500x500Q85.jpg>[/IMG]

The surrounding codes are "BB codes" and their descriptions are here in the Help link bottom RH corner of the screen: [Help](#)
 You can also insert a link without having to worry about BB Codes by using the "Insert Link" (Ctrl+K) "chain links" icon

9th across on the toolbar 

But the easiest method by far is to left click and hold on an image and drag it into the post.
 Code is generated automatically and looks like this:

[IMG]<https://www.subaruforester.org/d1/avatars/m/249/249802.jpg?1564948894>[/IMG]

"**Attach Files**" can also be used to post a pic and you can select to add as a small Thumbnail or a larger Full Image.

Note that there will be limits placed on Gallery image space, file size (1 meg) and type that can be stored these limits may need adjusting.

AVATARS

Members can add an "avatar". The recommended minimum to load is 400x400. Mine has been added e.g.



The little green & white icon within the avatar indicates that a member is online.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To the members who celebrated their Birthdays in October.

Damien Fuser, Mark Honor, Daniel Sorrasson, Bernadette Tiller
A Happy 60th to Ray Bonello



WHERE WAS I

Last months co-ordinates were 36°16'0"S 149°39'0"E has my location at Lake Creek Camping area in the Wadbilliga National Park, which is inland from Narooma on the NSW south coast. It encompasses the coastal escarpment and plateau areas surrounding the Tuross, Wadbilliga and Brogo Rivers and contained within the park boundary is the Brogo Wilderness Area. This is an ideal location to spend a couple of days and swimming holes are easy to find in the summer.

There are sign posted short walks to the Cascades and Tuross Falls from the Cascades Camping area. The walks are not difficult and are worthwhile, just allow plenty of time.

There are a few 4WD tracks within the park boundary and the main through route, the Wadbilliga Road, crosses from east to west and recommended for 4WD only. Beyond Wadbilliga Crossing the track climbs steeply, but should not present any problems to a 4WD. The Tuross River is normally 200mm to 300mm deep, but after rainy periods could be non passable, with no alternative route, forcing a turn around and retracing the track.



The Yuin people consider Wadbilliga National Park a sacred place and many sites in the park are strongly associated with Dreamtime stories. The dissected, rugged escarpment contains a network of bridle tracks that follow both high country and river courses, which Aboriginal people originally used. The bridle tracks are also the most tangible historical link with the first Europeans in the area and were used for transporting produce and moving stock from one location to another. The park is abundant in traditional foods and medicines.



Due to the rugged and isolated nature of the park, animal populations here have remained relatively undisturbed. Many of the park's animals are large marsupials such as swamp wallabies, eastern grey kangaroos and wombats. There are also possums, platypuses and echidnas and one of the biggest greater glider populations in all of Australia. The birdlife is varied too, with over 120 native species. Lyrebirds are common as are many colourful and tuneful bush birds.



The surrounding area has a variety of artefacts, structures and features that hark back to gold and silver mining eras, as well as the early forestry history of the local area. Today, visitors can still view various mining remains that are evidence of once arduous searches for gold and other precious materials.



Wadbilliga has many impressive examples of open forest, woodland, heath, swamp, bogs and numerous pockets of rainforest. There are some rare species of eucalypt and acacia that do not occur anywhere else. In the Wadbilliga Valley, yellow box and forest red gum can be seen, while on the ridge tops tower large stands of silvertop ash with snow gums at high altitudes. The Wadbilliga Plateau also has dwarf she-oaks and rare stunted mallee eucalypts.

WHERE AM I THIS TIME

37°05'0"S 148°25'0"E

Can you find me?

When you think you have found the secret destination, email me at 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.



Last months cover image was taken on a club trip. It was in the ravine just prior to the car park at Black Fellows Hand near Lidsdale.

Until Next Time
STAY SAFE