



**DRIVE TORQUE**  
**eNEWS**  
**SEPTEMBER**  
**2024**



# **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

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# Meet Your Committee

**Name:** *Kevin McCormack*

**Current Committee Position/s:** Webmaster

**Previous Committee Position/s:** President; Treasurer; Webmaster; Driver  
Trainer

**Joined the Club: (year)** 1997

**Current Vehicle:** 2003 Forester; 2010 Triton

**Vehicle you joined the club with:** 1997 Outback

**Dream Destination:** Travel the West Aussie Coast

**Favourite Camping Spot:** Cape Leveque, Kimberley

**Dream Vehicle:** Lamborghini LM002

**Best Club Trip:** 2011 Corner Crawl; 2016 Kimberley (best non-club trip)

**Why you joined the Club:** To gain Subie knowledge and go on offroad trips and camping.



**Name:** *Bill Twyman*

**Current Committee Position/s:** Trip Convenor, Sgt at Arms, Association delegate

**Previous Committee Position/s:** Trip convenor, Sgt at Arms, Association  
delegate

**Joined the Club: (year)** Not sure but we think 2020/21 (covid bugged up the  
meetings but my 1st trip was May 2021)

**Current Vehicle:** 2017 Mitsu Pajero

**Vehicle you joined the club with:** 2017 Mits Pajero

**Dream Destination:** Cape York

**Favourite Camping Spot:** Easts Beach Kiama

**Dream Vehicle:** Ineos Grenadier

**Best Club Trip:** Destination NSW

**Why you joined the Club:** To go on 4WD trips with like minded people, Michael Hamilton was my  
influencer.



**Name:** *Stephen Bennett*

**Current Committee Position/s:** President, Member Secretary & Editor.

**Previous Committee Position/s:** Member Secretary & Editor

**Joined the Club: (year)** 2018

**Current Vehicle:** Mazda BT50

**Vehicle you joined the club with:** Mazda BT50

**Dream Destination:** Cape York & West Coast of Aus.

**Favourite Camping Spot:** Anywhere in the bush or outback

**Dream Vehicle:** Mercedes Benz G class

**Best Club Trip:** Simpson Desert

**Why you joined the Club:** To get out and about in the outback and the bush





**Name:** *Jo Quinn*

**Current Committee Position/s:** PR Officer, Trip Convenor

**Previous Committee Position/s:** Social Convenor, Vice President

**Joined the Club:** 2011

**Current Vehicle:** 2010 Ford Ranger

**Vehicle When I joined the Club:** 2008 Nissan x-trail

**Dream Destination/Trip:** The Savannah Way

**Favourite Camping Spot:** Anywhere in the Kimberley

**Dream Vehicle:** I have it

**Best Club Trip:** Cape York, 2013

**Why you joined the Club:** To meet new people with like minded interests



**Name:** *Daniel Sorrasson*

**Current Committee Position/s:** Trip Convenor

**Previous Committee Position/s:** Association Delegate

**Joined the Club:** 2022

**Current Vehicle:** Subaru Outback XT

**Vehicle When I joined the Club:** Subaru Forrester

**Dream Destination/Trip:** Cape York

**Favourite Camping Spot:** Wotton Airstrip

**Dream Vehicle:** Land Rover Defender

**Best Club Trip:** Yango National Park

**Why you joined the Club:** To take my Subaru off road



**Name:** *Dave Cook*

**Current Committee Position/s:** Trip Convenor

**Previous Committee Position/s:** Trip Convenor

**Joined the Club:**

**Current Vehicle:** Triton

**Vehicle When I joined the Club:** Subaru Outback

**Dream Destination/Trip:** Fraser Island

**Favourite Camping Spot:**

**Dream Vehicle:**

**Best Club Trip:** Tasmania

**Why you joined the Club:** To meet camping type people touring around





**Name:** *David Wellham*

**Current Committee Position/s:** Awareness Officer & Delegate

**Previous Committee Position/s:** A few, maybe 4

**Joined the Club:** Many years ago, some might say too long

**Current Vehicle:** Blue Forester

**Vehicle When I joined the Club:** White Forester

**Dream Destination/Trip:** Anywhere with great scenery and away from mobile phone reception

**Favourite Camping Spot:** Anywhere with a warm fire and away from mobile phone reception

**Dream Vehicle:** Any vehicle that can take me to my dream destination and favourite camping spot

**Best Club Trip:** Too many - cannot decide between any of the 200 trips that I have been on or any of the 150 trips that I have lead, but those with the trifecta always rate very highly - great scenery, a warm fire and away from mobile phone reception

**Why you joined the Club:** To drive my dream vehicle to my dream destinations and favourite camping spots with other people that wanted to do the same



**Name:** *Michael Hamilton*

**Current Committee Position/s:** Vice President, Secretary, Driver Awareness Facilitator

**Previous Committee Position/s:** Vice President, Secretary, Driver Awareness Facilitator

**Joined the Club:** 2004

**Current Vehicle:** 2023 INEOS Grenadier Trialmaster Utility Wagon

**Vehicle you joined the club with:** 2003 Toyota Kluger CVX Wagon

**Dream Destination:** A return trip to Birdsville and the Simpson Desert (but this time without gastro)

**Favourite Camping Spot:** Private Town Campground in Yerranderie National Park

**Dream Vehicle:** 2023 INEOS Grenadier Trialmaster Utility Wagon

**Best Club Trip:** From Camden to Yerranderie (the short way through restricted land) escorted by Water NSW, organised by Mark

**Why you joined the Club:** I originally joined the Club to get out on the tracks in a safe way with experienced people. I'm still here because of the friendships I have made.



## A Message from the President

Greetings to everyone

We are heading into the Spring and Summer periods, which means warmer weather and longer days. With that in mind, I was very pleased to see that the Trip Coordinators Calendar for October has a good number of trip entries. These trips have been put together and run by the old faithful members (for want of a better phrase).

I am sure there are other members with-in the club that would like to run a trip, but may think they lack the experience/knowledge of how to do it.

To try and help in this matter Jo Quinn has put together an advice sheet on how to organise and run a club trip. This document can be found in this months Drive Torque eNews, will also be posted on the club Website and Facbook page. I encourage all members to have a read, think about and/or put together a trip using this guide.

Your Committee and I, would be very pleased to see members become more active in organising and running trips.

Thats it for me this month, I hope to see you all at the General Meeting at the Ermington Community Hall on the 11th October 2024. Remember I am always available for queries, discussion, advice, and criticism. Do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

Stephen B

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

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING**

Date -	Friday, September 13, 2024
Venue -	Silverwater Hotel
Meeting Commenced -	8:10 pm
Attendance -	Michael H, Bill T, Stephen B, Dave C, Alex G, Stephen E, Troy & Sandi S, Stephen P, David W
Apologies -	Jo, Brett, Kevin, Heidi & Brian, Craig, Patrick, Michael & Leanne
Minutes of Previous Meeting -	August Meeting at Western Sydney Parklands - 11/8/2024 Accepted - Bill Seconded - Dave
Business Arising -	Nil
New Members -	Nil attending
President's Report -	Stephen Christmas function will be at Bendeela Campground Stephen and Bill will do a reccie next week Details to come  Sandi provided details of arrangements in place at Bendeela  Discussion of fixed vs changing venues for general meetings  First Tuesday of the month - Committee Second Tuesday of the month - General
Vice President's Report -	Michael Paul Sistrom has been paying for Fair Trading Annual Returns We have arranged a \$200 gift card as a token of our appreciation  Trip gradings - Information in next Drive Torque
Secretary's Report -	Michael Nil
Treasurer's Report -	(Brett) Available funds as at 31/8/2024 = \$8,847.78  Sandi asked about funding approvals, expressing concern that we are having 2 Christmas functions We have always only funded one event
Membership Sec. Report -	Stephen Harley & Lyn Sadler + 3 interested 83 total / 77 financial



Driver Awareness Report -	Michael	Minimum requirements for trips are currently expressed as 2 rated bow shackles and a snatch strap We need to point out that kinetic recoveries are a last resort <u>Snatch straps can be used for tow recoveries</u> Soft shackles are also an option
Trip Conveners' Report -	Bill	See website and Bill's report in Drive Torque  Dave Cook went through 28/29th September 'Touring the Turon' trip
Association Delegates' Report -	Bill	Still having trouble arranging training days Central Coast / Port Hunter clubs using land at Dungog, which we may be able to use too DAF days coming up
Webmaster's Report -	(Kevin)	Update given re improvements
Public Relations -	(Jo)	50th Anniversary plans are progressing well How to Run a Trip - website / Facebook / Drive Torque  David stressed the need for people to run more trips
Equipment / Merchandising -	Alex	Club banners held by Mark and Michael/Leanne  Bill showed new t-shirt and hoodie
GENERAL BUSINESS -	Bill	Bill showed his new recovery hitch and soft shackle, and Michael demonstrated its fitment in different orientations
Next Meeting -	Ermington Community Centre,	October 11
Close -	8:52 pm	

# SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

## Treasurers Report

Aug-24

Cash Book Balance Brought Forward		\$8,194.38
Plus Income		\$950.04
Less Expenditure		\$296.64
Closing Balance		<u><u>\$8,847.78</u></u>

<b><u>Income</u></b> -	Memberships	\$950.00
	Interest	\$0.04

<b><u>Expenditure</u></b> -	Paypal Fees	\$19.20
	Hall Hire - Parramatta Council	\$234.60
	Promotion Brochure materials	\$42.84

### Bank Reconciliation

Bank Account Balance as at 31/08/2024	ANZ	\$5,895.59
<b><u>Plus</u></b>	Funds held in Pay Pal as at 31/08/2024	\$2,657.44
	Cash on Hand	\$294.75
Available Funds as at 31/08/2024		<u><u>\$8,847.78</u></u>



## Association News & Updates: September 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.

### *NSW National Parks & Wildlife updates*

Recent National Parks meeting: NP are short on funds at the present.

Meeting with NP regarding “defunct” booking system and trying to work out what to do to FIX it. Booking system issues have reached main stream media and the minister (Penny Sharp) has made it a PRIORITY to get it fixed (but there is no set timeframe unfortunately).

Recent discussions regarding “Great Koala Park” - not completed at present and minister is at odds with Greens and nothing is resolved at present.

Update on shooting of animals in NP. 73000 ANIMALS since Christmas (of which ~9000 horses in Kosciuszko.

Aboriginal handover from NP has been quiet for 8 months, more information from next NP meeting.

### *ACMC/AAAA/ Transport*

Crash Avoidance Systems – On track with testing etc. Have shown mods are not causing crash avoidance issues. Likely to still need modifications by recognised industry.

### *Camping area near Watagans*

There is an option for our club to book a bush camp area on a 60 hectare private property at Mount Vincent. Composting toilet on site. No charge but request a donation to Camp Quality.

### *Association website members access*

All members can access the Association website, majority of tabs are public access. If you want to access ‘Members Only’ section or book a Driver Training course, please send email to Delegates. Website address [4wdnow.com](http://4wdnow.com)

### *Association Driver Training Unit*

There is a Basic Driver Training Course on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October – bookings on Association website. This is an accredited course, whereas are club trips ‘Driver Awareness’ days which are based on the accredited course.

### *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](http://DASHCAMS AUSTRALIA)



## **The Association Driver Training Unit**

DTU - training dates have now been agreed on, now finalising a venue for basic.

No advanced courses until some issues are resolved. Two DAF (driver awareness facilitator) days will be worked out in the next couple of weeks.

## **Classic Vehicle Registration Scheme (CVS)**

It is vital that membership fees are paid by the due date. Failure to do so will put the registration and insurance of CVS at risk.

If a club is unfinancial with the 4WD NSW and ACT Inc (even for a short time) the registration is deemed to have lapsed.

## **National Parks**

The \$6 booking fee is to stay. Trialing 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.

## **Port Hunter 4WD Club**

Some clubs are posting on social media promoting driving on wet tracks, not a good look for the industry.

## **Association Quarterly Meeting Wangi Wangi RSL 17th August 2024**

- Suggestions for clubs to combine trips with a sister club.
- Comments received that information and links on some 4WD club websites are out of date, don't work - websites are not maintained.
- Do we know why our members joined our club?  
Conduct survey to get a feel why members joined our club. (to go on trips, companionship, education, how to drive offroad etc)
- Port Hunter 4WD Club - trip leader training, how to plan and run a trip, weekend 9th-10th Nov 2024, camping near Freemans Waterhole.
- Port Hunter - Scotch Broom weed control working group @ Black Swamp (Barrington Tops) with camping access to an exclusive area behind locked gates.
- The Newcastle and Districts 4WD Club Bush Camp at Mt Vincent is available for the use of members of clubs affiliated with 4WD NSW & ACT Inc.



Bill.

# DRIVER AWARENESS NEWS

## TRIP GRADINGS

- 1. Social / Scenic** Sealed roads and smooth unsealed surfaces or tracks. Suitable for all types of vehicles. No previous 4WD experience necessary. Road tyres are acceptable. Suitable for all camper trailers and small caravans.
- 2. Easy** Dirt trails with possible loose surfaces, potholes, corrugations, shallow mud or puddles. Moderate inclines and declines. 4WD may be required. Low range not required. Some previous 4WD experience or completion of a driver awareness course preferred but not essential. Road tyres are acceptable. Suitable for camper trailers.
- 3. Medium** Un-maintained trails, moderate to steep terrain, with loose rocky and rutted surfaces. Sand, water crossings or mud may be encountered. Low range may be required with recoveries possible. Previous off-road experience necessary. Completion of driver awareness course expected. A/T tyres preferred. Suitable for high clearance, heavy duty camper trailers with off-road hitches.
- 4. Advanced** Un-maintained trails, steep terrain with loose, rocky and rutted surfaces. Sand, water crossings or mud may be encountered. Low range, high clearance and A/T required, with recoveries probable. Previous off-road experience and completion of a driver awareness course essential. Suitable for purpose built, high clearance, heavy duty camper trailers with brakes and off-road hitches.
- 5. Hard** Expect steep terrain, large ruts, rock steps, deep water crossings and mud for majority of trip. Low-range gearing, high clearance and under body protection required. Completion of a driver awareness course required. Participation at trip leader's discretion. A/T tyres minimum. Rated recovery points front and rear of vehicle essential. A hand or vehicle mounted winch must be available. Expect recoveries and very slow progress. No camper trailers.

**These gradings are to be used as a guide only and may change due to track and weather conditions.**

**All vehicles should be in good mechanical condition and have the following basic equipment on all club trips -**

- Spare wheel - full size if possible
- Jack and wheel brace
- Basic tools
- Shovel
- Tyre pressure gauge
- First aid kit
- A UHF radio - Visitors can arrange with the trip leader to borrow a handheld UHF radio for the day

**Recovery equipment - all items need to be rated to your vehicle -**

### **Basic**

- Tow rope or kinetic (snatch) strap/rope - to be used only for towing
- 2 rated bow shackles - either metal or synthetic rope

### **Additional**

- Recovery boards
- Winch

**Kinetic (snatch) straps/ropes are only to be used for towing, unless the user is RTO trained and the event is managed as per the Hierarchy of Recovery.**

Michael

Shane Tappscott from the Central Coast 4WD club (in conjunction with Port Hunter 4WD club) have secured a property around the Dungog area for their clubs own driver training. They recently hosted the Wagga Wagga 4WD club to a weekend of training there and they have extended the offer to our Subaru & Recreational 4wd club Inc, for us to do the same thing, we would need to give reasonable notice.

Bill

## Sgt At Arms Report

- Nothing to report this month





# TRIP CONVENER REPORT

## SEPTEMBER 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	28 Touring The Turon
29 Touring The Turon	30					



### **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)

# OCTOBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Five Lighthouses	7	8	9 Reccie Discover the Watagans NP	10	11 General Meeting Ermington Hall	12 Six Foot Track and Bowtells Swing Bridge
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Discover the Watagans NP	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Weekday	28 Wanderer	29 Dee's Corner	30 Camp	31		

## Trip Convener Report

- Sofala, Hill End, Bridle Track Sept 28th & 29th
- Five Lighthouses Oct 6th
- Reccie - Watagans Oct 9th
- October Meeting Oct 11th Ermington Hall
- Dee's Corner Camp - Myall Rv Oct 27th - 30th (midweek)
- November meeting & BBQ George Kendall Reserve
- Club Christmas Function - location TBC Nov 30th - Dec 1st
- Christmas function - Towradgi Beach December 4th (midweek)
- Clubs 50th Anniversary 2025 Oct long weekend 2025



**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2024

**Trip Leader:** Jo Quinn

**Attendees:** Jo Quinn, Chris & Kelly Mifsud, John & Jean Hocking, Geoff Adcock, Cath & Tom DeSantis

An awesome Winter's Day with a predicted top of 25 degrees for our whale watching adventure. The harbour was spectacular under clear blue skies and with what started out as a light breeze. We all met at Circular Quay for brekkie and a cuppa and some wise individuals also sunk a "magic" seasick pill. Later in the day this turned out to be a wise decision!



We wandered around to the eastern pontoon waiting for our vessel to arrive and watched as it pulled into the wharf, boat with a 40 people maximum to ensure we could all see the whales. The ticket guaranteed whale sightings or a free trip on another day would be issued. We all headed to the front of the boat and put on the thick rain jackets provided. Having seen the state of some of the jackets at the end of our cruise I wouldn't have been so eager to put it on.



We cruised past the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge, we really do have a magical harbour! As we motored out towards the Heads, the swell and wind began to pick up a bit. There were a few other charter boats out as well, all looking for the elusive humpback whales making their yearly migration along the coast. It wasn't very long at all until we came along 2 whales together and the telltale spouts of water gave them away.





The captain turned off the engine so we could watch the giant mammals as they rose out of the water. We didn't actually see them breach fully out of the water, but we did see them rise and fall and also the classic "whale tail" image as they sunk back below the surface.

Turning off the boat engine was ideal so as not to disturb the whales, but it was the beginning of the end for nearly half the passengers on the boat. The white paper bags were proving to be more popular than the whale sightings! While our group had varying degrees of pale faces only 2 required paper bags which they managed to fill one after the other quiet rapidly!



After watching a couple of groups of whales for a while it was time to head back into the Harbour, much to the relief of many passengers. The swell had definitely picked up by this stage and we found out later that it actually got up to about 2metres. After arriving back at Circular Quay we walked over to Wahlburgers for a late lunch. A great day & even better company.

**Jo**

**Recommendations:**

- A bigger boat may have been more stable in the swell
- Take the earliest tour option while the waters are still calm
- Don't consume Macca's prior to your cruise
- Pack wet wipes
- Have a sea sickness pill the morning of your cruise



[More Images can be viewed on the Club Facebook Page.](#)





**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2024

**Trip Leader:** Jo Quinn

**Attendees:** Jo, Chris, Kelly, Michael, John, Jean, Dave, Lyn, Stephen, Sue, Kevin, David, Julie, Cath, Tom

Sydney Zoo is located at Eastern Creek in Western Sydney, houses over 4,000 animals, has a large aquarium and the biggest reptile and nocturnal house in Australia. The zoo opened to the public in 2019 and is set on 41 acres.

We met at the front entrance as a group and then wandered around at our own pace before meeting again for lunch. We strolled through the "Australia" section which had a great variety of animals but for the most part we had seen most of them out and about on our travels, so they were not that exciting. Michael had to be content to look and not feed. The dingoes were MIA, but we assumed that was because they knew Stephen was coming! The koalas were all asleep but easily visible to us and one of them had a small joey. The reptile house was certainly



impressive. Reptiles of every shape, size and colour were on display in fantastic enclosures and nearly all of them were out for us to see. Everything from frill

necked lizards, snakes, gecko's, pythons and fancy looking monitors were all basking on show under dim lighting and heat lamps.





The aquarium had the biggest barramundi much to Michael's delight. The huge tank had sharks and fish floating past us. Back outside the meerkats were a crowd favourite along with the monkeys and chimpanzees. Through the "Africa" section we saw the elephants and Jean was lucky enough to see the giraffes getting fed. The boardwalk took us up above the tigers, rhino, giraffes, ostrich as well as a couple of zebras. For me the lions were the best by far. The zoo currently has no female lions, but the 3 male lions were all within easy viewing distance and had just been fed. We watched as one devoured a kangaroo that he had been given and his massive teeth tore through the meat, spitting out the fur as he went. Fascinating.

Unfortunately, the Brewery where we had planned to meet for lunch was closed so we all re-grouped at another eatery – the only one open on the day. After lunch some people called it a day whilst others went back to sections they had missed or wanted another look at.

Not having been to Sydney Zoo before, I was impressed. It was flat and easy to walk around, the enclosures were visually appealing, large enough for the animals, but you could still see them and seemed to closely resemble each species natural habitat. The only disappointing part was there was no choice in eateries as only 1 was open. Well worth a visit.

**Jo**



**More Images can be viewed on the Club Facebook Page.**



# HOW TO RUN A TRIP

*We are all part of the Club to mix with like minded people and enjoy the great outdoors. However for our Club to be successful and for you to get the most out of your membership, we are always on the lookout for people to put their hand up and run a trip or 2. The most common responses to this request is “I wouldn’t know where to start” or “I haven’t run a trip before”.*

*As you have probably realised from attending trips, each person runs a trip in a different way. There is no right or wrong & we lead our own trips in the way we feel most comfortable. We have put this sheet together as a starting point with some helpful hints & ideas. You can adapt your own ideas from the points below.*

**H Help:** There is always help available if you need. We have Trip Convenors ready to point you in the right direction & assist you if needed. Other Club members are also a great help & will support you where needed.

**O Options:** There are so many options for trips that you can organise; 1 day, weekends, camping, social, 4WD, information sessions, extended, mid-week, annual events..... Not every trip has to be of a 4wd-ing nature, choose something you are comfortable doing.

**W Where:** Where to start is the main hurdle, once you get started the rest comes easily. Choose a destination and a date that suits you. You will find it easier to lead a trip if the destination is of interest to you or is somewhere that you have been before. For your first trip it can also be a good idea to team up with someone else & run a trip together.

**T Timing:** Consider the trip you want to run and determine what is the best time of year for that trip. Sometimes it doesn’t matter, but sometimes it does. For example you cannot go up to Northern Australia in Summer as it is the wet season. If you are planning a camp fire cook off, Summer may not be the best option due to fire bans.

**O Organisation:** It is good for you to be personally organised prior to your trip. It helps to ensure you don’t forget anything, makes you feel more comfortable & ensures you also have a good day. This could also include a rough timing for the day, checking road/track closures, weather, accessibility, opening hours of attractions etc prior to the day. Some people do a “reccie” prior to their trip. This means they will do the route prior to the Club trip.





**R Resources:** There is such a wide range of resources available to help choose where you want to go & how to get there. Our members are a great start and beyond that, some other options include books, information centres, Youtube videos, 4wd magazines, maps, Google.

**U Understanding:** Understand your capabilities and limits, this includes both personally & that of your vehicle. If you have never run a trip before, a 2 week Simpson desert trip is probably not a good starting point. Choose somewhere you are familiar with or interested in.

**N Notes:** Jot down notes as you start your planning. Ideas on destinations, dates, locations, points of interest etc. These notes are not definitive & can be added to along the way . They are a good reference point for yourself before, during, after & for your future trips.

**A Attendees:** When looking at running a trip, don't concern yourself with possible attendees or who you think may or may not go on your trip. People will always go on trips no matter the destination or type of trip.

**T Talk:** Have a chat to other members around you or our Trip Convenors about your trip ideas. It may have been done before and others' experiences can help you in your planning.

**R Register:** Once you decide where and when you want to run your trip, put it up on our website. This can be done by logging in & choosing *Submit an Event or Trip* from the menu on the right hand side of the screen. A Trip Convenor will approve your trip & it will appear on our website. Don't forget to register on your own trip. A Facebook post about your trip will also help to promote it to our members.

**I Interest:** Your enthusiasm is contagious, choose a destination that interests you, something or somewhere you are familiar with or somewhere you have been before. It is YOUR trip - focus on yourself and others will follow. The more comfortable you are, the more successful your trip is likely to be. If you are planning a day out, why not put it up as a trip in our calendar?

**P Places:** There are numerous places that you can go to and they don't necessarily need a 4wd to access them. The internet is a great resource and past Club trips are also worthwhile looking through. You can always run a trip that has been done in the past. Your trip may also be part of an annual event, we have been to festivals, concerts, Easter & Anzac day activities. The possibilities are endless.





# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## PAGE

The Club Christmas Function will be held at the Bendeela Camp Ground at Kangaroo Valley from the 30th November until 1st December 2024. We have been unable to reserve an area for the club, they work on the principle, first in best dressed. Bill and I are planning on arriving on Friday 29th to see if we can secure an area big enough in camping area 2 **marked in red**, for the function, anyone who would like, can come and join us in securing a large area. There are toilets, drinking water and a portable toilet dump point. There are NO shower facilities. There is a No Pets policy for the camp ground. Fires are not allowed.

To camp, a booking must be made at <https://www.waternsw.com.au/nsw-dams/greater-sydney-dams/bendeela-recreation-area>, there is a cost of \$6:00 for the booking (whether it is for 1 night or more).

Those who do not wish to camp, there are a number of places with cabins in the Kangaroo Valley area, a short distance from Bendeela Camp Ground.

It will be a BYO food & beverage function. Updates will be posted on the Web site (Upcoming trips) and in the October Drive Torque eNews.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To the members who celebrated their Birthdays in September.

Julie Bennett, Darren Powell, Johnny Lauder



# WHERE WAS I

Last months co-ordinates were 34°01'24.8"S 140°50'16.0"E has my location at Chowilla Game Reserve and Chowilla Regional Reserve which form part of the BookmarkBiosphere Reserve.

This vast area of woodlands and flood plain is used for tourism, grazing and recreational activities , while sheep grazing is still predominate on much of the higher ground.

There is camping at Chowilla Creekside campsites, Chowilla Game Reserve. Chowilla floodplain provides the perfect opportunity to camp in seclusion, relax and disconnect from the outside world. Try a spot of fishing or bring a canoe and quietly paddle the creeks and waterways watching nature at play. You will need to be self-sufficient (food and water) as there are no facilities in this Park.

Things to see and do: Heading Cliffs Lookout, Renmark Rotary Township Lookout, Murray River Trails, Riverland South Dangali Conservation Park, visit Wentworth and Renmark to name a few.





## WHERE AM I THIS TIME

36°16'0"S 149°39'0"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.



Last month's cover image was taken on a club trip, on the Bridal Track, approximately 1 kilometre south of the Turon River Crossing and approximately 4 kilometres north of Root Hog Crossing. You were close Michael.

This month's front cover image. Can anyone tell me where that image was taken.  
Respond to [editor@subaruclub.com.au](mailto:editor@subaruclub.com.au)

Until Next Time  
**STAY SAFE**