

DRIVE

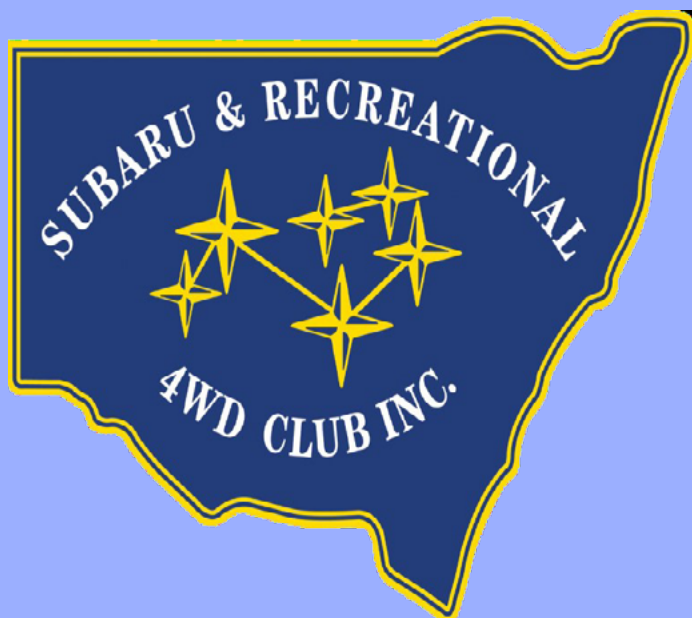
eNEWS



TORQUE

APR
2025





COMING UP IN THIS ISSUE

Cover Image: David (DRW). Photo
Taken on the Driver Awareness Day
at the Kanangra Boyd NP. crossing the
Kowmung Creek.

Presidents Message	Page 3
Minutes of the General Meeting	Page 4
Treasurers Report	Page 7
Association Report	Page 8
Driver Awareness News	Page 13
Web Masters Report	Page 14
Monthly Camp Review	Page 18
Dee's Corner Camp	Page 19
D/A Kanangra Boyd NP	Page 22
Animals & Apples	Page 26
Trip Conveners & Sgt of Arms Report	Page 28
Club Calendar	Page 29
FYI Pages Photos of early club trips	Page 31

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<u>President:</u>	Stephen Bennett 0413 368 007 president@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Vice President:</u>	Michael R Hamilton 0407 223 843 vice_president@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Secretary:</u>	Michael R Hamilton 0407 223 843 secretary@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Brett Hampson 0408 409 634 treasurer@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Membership:</u>	Stephen Bennett 0413 368 007 membership@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Trip Convener:</u>	Jo Quinn 0409 771 019, Bill Twyman 0418 681 237, Dave Cook 0417 258 272, Daniel Sorrasson 0433 304 200 trip_convener@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Driver Awareness:</u>	David Wellham 0407 089 071, Michael R Hamilton 0407 223 843, Bill Twyman 0418 681 237, Alex Gatward driver_awareness@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>NSW 4WD Assn. Delegates:</u>	David Wellham 0407 089 071, Bill Twyman 0418 681 237 delegates@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Webmaster:</u>	Kevin McCormack 0428 408 568 webmaster@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Social & Public Relations Officer:</u>	Jo Quinn 0409 771 019 publicity@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Editor</u>	Stephen Bennett editor@subaru4wdclub.com.au
<u>Serjeant-at-arms:</u>	Bill Twyman 0418 681 237
<u>Equipment & Merchandise Officer:</u>	Alex Gatward merchandise@subaru4wdclub.com.au

Presidents Message

Hello, I hope that everyone is in good health.

There were some good events/trips at the end of March and into April. There was Dee's Camp, Driver Awareness weekend at Kanangra Boyd NP & Marrangaroo NP area, Animals & Apples day out in the Heathcote area and Touring the Turon. After reading the trip reports, I would say that everyone who attended had thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Looking at the May calendar it looks like there will be some more happy members next month. It would be nice to see some extra events/trips posted in the June calendar.

The club membership had a boost this month, with four new members. Welcome to Felix, Forrest, Christopher, Glen. Make them feel welcome when you see them on their first trip or general meeting.

The clubs 50th anniversary celebrations is this year on the October long weekend (more information on the website). Jo has arranged for some anniversary shirts and jersey, that can be purchased. Photos of these are displayed in this copy of eNews. Orders can be made on the website or by sending an email to merchandise@subaru4wdclub.com.au with all information required. Payment method is by PayPal or bank transfer.

Next months General Meeting, 13th May, will be a Zoom meeting conducted by Michael Hamilton. A number of Committee members will be on an extended trip. More information to follow.



SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

MINUTES OF APRIL GENERAL MEETING

Date -	Tuesday, April 8, 2025	
Venue -	Crossroads Hotel	
Meeting Commenced -	7:45 pm	
Attendance -	Michael Hamilton, Bill Twyman, Jo Quinn, Susan & Stephen Bennett, Alex Gatward, Stephen Pinnington, Stephen Eakin, Dave Cook, Kevin McCormack, Cherie, Nathan & Deanne Blamire, Tom & Cath De Santis, Rohan Steele, Chris & Kelly Mifsud, Iwan & Evie Sujono, Andrew Rowlatt, David Fuser	
Apologies -	Brett Hampson, David Wellham, Craig Fitzpatrick, Ray & Cheryl Bonello	
Minutes of Previous Meeting -	February Meeting via Zoom - 11/3/2025 Accepted - Bill Seconded - Jo	
Business Arising -	Nil	
New Members -	Nil attending	
President's Report -	Stephen	Happy to see a number of trips up on the calendar, although more are still needed Next General Meeting May 13 via Zoom (may be the last Zoom if not well attended)
Vice President's Report -	Michael	Great turnout tonight Public relations / Setting a good example - Driver Awareness Team took notice of a Road Closed sign in Marrangaroo National Park (even though we suspected it was a mistake) and we have since had very positive feedback from National Parks
Treasurer's Report -	(Brett)	See attached Available funds as at 31/3/2025 = \$8113.98
Membership Sec. Report -	Stephen	76 + 9 = 85 Chris Brown has attempted to pay by PayPal but has had trouble
Editor's Report -	Stephen	If there is anything you would like to see in the magazine, please let Stephen know
Driver Awareness Report -	Michael	Awesome weekend away Saturday - 13 vehicles with 16 people Sunday - 9 vehicles with 10 people

		<p>New members were well looked after and appeared to enjoy the experience</p> <p>Obstacle course near Rydal Showground would make a great location for future events</p> <p>Zig Zag - June 21/22 Abercrombie - July 26/27</p>
Trip Convenors' Report -	Bill	<p>Next week's Blue Mountains Lookouts trip may be postponed till later in the year</p> <p>What's your preferred day for weekend trips - Saturday or Sunday?</p> <p>Dave talked about his upcoming Turon trip Jo reported on the recent trip to Dee's Corner Bill reported on the recent trip to Mt Airly</p>
Delegates' Report -	Bill	<p>Removal of vehicle seats is still an issue Police cracking down on non-compliant vehicles Great Koala Park is 'shrinking' New NPWS booking system for camping still not operating</p>
Webmaster's Report -	Kevin	<p>115 registered users 21 visitor accounts 40 banned members Events Manager upgraded (Attending / Maybe / Just Visiting)</p> <p>Screenleap will be used for training Requested Topics - Registering for trips/events Seeing who is on a trip Information for trip leaders Kevin envisions 20 minute sessions going through how to navigate the website</p> <p>Iwan will be learning how to operate the website</p>
Public Relations -	Jo	<p>Anniversary clothing and merchandise is available on the website A single order will be placed</p> <p>Photos are coming in for the 50th</p> <p>Instagram account has been set up</p>
Equipment / Merchandising -	Alex	<p>Bucket hats will be ordered</p> <p>Cut-off for clothing orders will be the Friday after each General Meeting</p>
Serjeant-at-Arms	Bill	<p>David W (a Driver Awareness Facilitator) turned up to a Driver Awareness weekend without a radio</p> <p>Unfortunately for David, Bill declared that this infraction took place on a weekend of Double Demerits</p>

GENERAL BUSINESS -	Stephen	Christmas Party - Sat 6th / Sun 7th December at Grady's Riverside Retreat
	(Brett)	Preferred method of communication? - Various platforms were discussed, with several members saying that Facebook was their preferred avenue for general communications / Instagram for promotion
	Bill	Reminder that we always welcome suggestions for future trips
	Chris / Kevin	Regarding the Gunning Fireworks trip, there is a campsite about 20 minutes away

Next Meeting - Tuesday, May 13, via Zoom

Close - 9:00 pm



SUBARU & RECREATIONAL 4WD CLUB INC.

Treasurers Report

Mar-25

Cash Book Balance Brought Forward	\$7,788.75
Plus Income	\$336.06
Less Expenditure	\$10.83
Closing Balance	<u><u>\$8,113.98</u></u>

<u>Income</u> -	Memberships	\$100.00
	Bank interest	\$0.06
	Clothing	\$236.00

<u>Expenditure</u> -	Paypal fees	10.83
-----------------------------	-------------	-------

Bank Reconciliation

Bank Account Balance as at 31/3/2025	ANZ	\$7,356.65
<u>Plus</u>	Funds held in Pay Pal as at 31/3/2025	\$462.58
	Cash on Hand	\$294.75
Available Funds as at 31/3/2025		<u><u>\$8,113.98</u></u>



Association News & Updates: April 2025

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

The petition on Recreational user access to National Parks that we supported closed on 21st March with 27,230 signatures. This will be debated in NSW Parliament on 8th May, gallery has capacity of 65 and we are looking to fill this with club members in club uniforms. Are you available for a few hours to fight for your access?

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council, the petitioners of New South Wales state that the NSW Government must identify its position and strategy on the management of NSW National Parks, specifically regarding the provision of ongoing and unrestricted public access to national parks for public recreational use, including but not limited to recreational four-wheel driving, motorcycle riding, mountain biking, camping, hiking, fishing and hunting.

The petitioners request that the House conduct a parliamentary inquiry into all track and area closures in all NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service managed land over the last 10 years, including detailed justification for the restriction of public access in each area, and the ensuing economic impacts on local communities and associated industries.

Improving camping in NSW national parks: public consultation.

A meeting is happening between 4WD NSW and ACT Inc and National Parks to discuss this issue. We will voice our concerns. However, adding your voice via this link will add weight to our point of view. Proposed improvements to camping in New South Wales national parks and reserves are on public exhibition until 25 May 2025.

Proposed changes include:

- the introduction of consistent state-wide camping fees
- simplified bookings to deliver fairer camping experiences for national park visitors
- improved management of persistent campground issues, such as people booking space and not cancelling or turning up.

More than 200,000 campers and national park visitors were consulted on proposed changes.

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/publications/improving-camping-new-south-wales-national-parks>

Have your say – Submissions must be lodged by **11.59 pm on Sunday 25 May 2025**.

For more information about how to make a submission go to the [NSW Government Have Your Say consultation webpage](#).

Contact us – Director of Visitor Engagement, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Email: parks.info@environment.nsw.gov.au

Always worth being involved with National Parks – don't always get everything our way but without involvement we have NO communication. Incorporate other "activities" that we do in NP such as walking, bird watching, fishing, floral appreciation etc which shows our love for bush and being there. Submissions to Land Managers on Plans do assist with decisions – eg, options of usage at Gardens of Stone were modified due to large number of submissions from 4WD users. Consider completing submissions for areas that you visit and are interested in. Submissions will be open in 2025 for Great Koala Park, so please complete the submission so that Government is aware of our community's opinion.

One way to put Parks on notice and maybe get action is to ask questions on their [FaceBook](#) page – why has an area been closed for years and years since the bushfire or weather event that closed it in the first place – why has work NOT been completed to restore access to areas after years of closure. We really want to access these areas for our recreation.

Great Koala Park in Coffs Harbour region – National Parks are committed to go ahead with Great Koala Park. The latest information is that the size of the proposed park has greatly reduced. This is a political driven park not one based on conservation Association is planning to meet with National Parks in February, in May there will be National Parks meeting in Coffs Harbour where scope/borders will be discussed. The August Quarterly meeting will be in Coffs Harbour where an afternoon meeting by invitation will be held, invite local representatives, stake-holders, businesses and politicians. National Parks have said the Association will be included in discussions and planning. Some people in National Parks are keen to retain access for 4WDing. The current opinion from Association is that this park will not solve problems with Koalas as they are doing very well in this area. Association states this park would be bad for environment and local economies. Timber would need to be imported which is worst for the environment and costlier. Local villages and towns would lose industry and as access is reduced, tourism would also affect local economies. We will keep you informed about this park and give both sides so that you have information to make an informed opinion regarding the need for this new park.

The ***Yiraaldiya National Park Draft Plan of Management*** is on public exhibition. You are invited to provide feedback on the draft plan by making a submission.

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/have-your-say.

Yiraaldiya National Park is located in western Sydney in the suburb of Shanes Park on the traditional Country of the Dharug people.

You are also invited to provide feedback on the format of this draft plan which reflects a revised format proposed in response to recent changes to the park planning provisions of the ***National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974***.

Submissions must be lodged before 5pm on **3 June 2025**. Submissions must be in written form and lodged via: the online form at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/have-your-say email to npws.parkplanning@environment.nsw.gov.au

mail to Manager, NPWS Planning and Assessment, Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124.

ACMC/AAAA/ Transport

Government are proposing to rewrite all ADRs (Australian Design Rules for vehicles - more information to follow when available.

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?

Camp Oven Cook Off – 17 & 18 May 2025

Do you have some cooking skills or just want to have some fun? COOK OFF is not compulsory, just come for a weekend of camping, exploring and fun. It's a relaxing weekend to set up camp, spend your days touring in this beautiful part of NSW, and your nights around a fire or having fun at trivia. Exclusive lush grass camping area, Hot showers, Powered and unpowered sites. You could also stay in town in a bit more comfort if that's your thing.

Welcome pack with event sticker, Touring Trips of the local area, Self drive trips, Winery Tour (extra cost), Local markets, Observation Rally with prizes, Treasure Hunt with prizes, Lets Talk First Aid session about snake bites, 5pm nibbles, Trivia Night on Saturday with great prizes, Cook Off with medals, trophies and

prizes. Sunday morning breakfast and lunch, Quarterly Meeting with door prize. Camping available from Friday (16th) night to Monday (19th) morning. Non camping tickets also available. Tickets available via Benefits website <https://benefits.4wdnow.com/>, tickets cover 3 nights from Friday to Sunday - watch the newsletters for more details. See you at **COCO 2025**. If you intend to attend, please register on our website and we will ensure that you are sent all of the event information.

Driver Training Unit

Dates for Basic Driver Training courses have been released – please see details following. Should you wish to attend please email Delegates for website logo and password. The training is usually only for vehicles with low range, therefore our Subarus and similar vehicles are unlikely to be enrolled on these courses. The content of our Driver Awareness trips are based on these courses but we do not conduct the assessment.

Basic Driver Training Course

This training is available to financial members of clubs affiliated with 4WD NSW & ACT ONLY

Please find the course and the link to book on the Events Calendar

FWPCOT3325 Operate four wheel drive vehicle on unsealed roads course.

Saturday 5th July 2025 - At Wallaroo S.F.

Saturday 27th September 2025 - At Wallaroo S.F.

These courses are mixed delivery including Pre-learning (e-learning including online assessment (where applicable) and face-to-face training and assessment day.

Pre-course learning and assessment must be attempted before your face-to-face course day. It is estimated to take 4-7 hours, depending on your knowledge and experience.

Currently there are no Advanced Training courses.

Exact Meeting Time & Place: Confirmed on Enrolment

Duration: The training typically runs from 8.15am through to approximately 4.00pm

Lunch & Morning Tea: Members should bring their own lunch, drinks and snacks.

What to Bring: Bring your Driver's License, Chair, your 4wd vehicle, pen, clipboard, UHF radio, recovery kit and anything else you would normally take on a 4WD trip. Also bring any special tools/keys required to remove the spare tyre and tow bar goose neck. Participants will be required to use their own snatch strap for the practical exercise.

License - This is needed for certification to be issued.

What to Wear: Suitable hard-top footwear & weather appropriate clothing.

Registration: You are required to register via the link for the course. Once registered & paid, you will be mailed the 4WD Guidebook and emailed a link to the e-learning platform 3- 4 weeks out from your training day.

Payment: Cost is \$90.00 – Payment will be made directly to Getabout Training services.

Preparation: Participants are expected to have read their copy of the course materials, and completed all the questions and documentation. You will be required to supply a USI number, if you don't have a USI number can you please go to the link and complete the enrolment so you can obtain one, this will save a lot of time on the day. www.usi.gov.au

More information about the course can be found on the training providers website –

[Getabout Training Services](#) Remember to book via Association website for the dates above and the discounted price. Association has requested only members that are able to complete pre course work and will complete the assessments on the day book on these courses.

2025 Sydney 4WD and Adventure Show – Eastern Creek – 6,7,8 September 2025

The club is not planning to have a stand – maybe in 2026. As a club member you can gain free entry for the day, all you need to do is volunteer to work at the show for 2 hours. Tasks include - car parking, front gate scanning tickets, assisting at test track. Did you know the show is wholly owned by the members of 4WD NSW & ACT? Showcasing our clubs and promoting 4WD driving as a legitimate recreation. Supporting the 4wd industry, worth in excess of \$2 Billion to the NSW economy. All the latest products for 4wd driving, caravanning and camping, boating, fishing and more – all in the one place. Plus HEAPS to see and do! Engel Bush Camp stage, Content creator's area, special guests, Travel stage, 4WD recovery demos, fishing stage, rock crawling action on Tough Dog mountain, and more. Register to volunteer at <https://4wdnow.com/pages/4wd-adventure-show-1>













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, 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.

Local emergency info at your fingertips

This summer, be ready to deal with the unexpected by downloading the **Hazards Near Me NSW app** – your official source of emergency information on bushfires, floods and other severe weather events. Use the app to **set a local Watch Zone** so you receive notifications about emergency situations happening near your premises, staff and clients. Watch out for track closures – one site is NPWS site. Remember to make sure any fires that you have are completely extinguished.

Apps to download

	Hazards Near Me NSW Set up a watch zone to receive notifications on changing conditions.	iOS  Android 
	Emergency Plus The 'what 3 words' feature shares your precise location with Emergency Services.	iOS  Android 
	BOM Weather Check for weather forecasts and warnings.	iOS  Android 
	Live Traffic NSW Plan ahead and see what hazards are impacting your route on NSW roads.	iOS  Android 

Download Hazards Near Me app

Camping areas available to Association clubs

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 Watagans State Forest. Composting toilet on site and firewood available. No charge but request a donation to Camp Quality. I have booked this site for June long weekend – June 7 to 9, 2025.

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. A request has been sent to book this site on July 25 to 28, 2025.

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

Forestry Corporation - FREE permits for State Forests

We collected the yearly membership stickers at the Association November meeting. They will be available at future meetings and on some trips.



Does your club ever organise trips into State Forests?

Did you know that if you do this then you must apply for a permit?

Any organised group entering a State Forest is required to apply for a permit and pay the required fee before entry. This helps them manage the area and to make sure it does not clash with other groups.

In 2012, Association worked with the Forestry Corporation to find a solution to this problem and now the Association pays an annual fee that covers all its members. This was the reason Association started with the vehicle stickers and why it is important to keep them up to date on members cars. Association recommends that you contact the office for the Forest that you plan to use and establish and maintain a relationship with the Ranger for that area. This is a great opportunity to get to know them, and Association have found this to be very beneficial for everybody. If you make a connection with the local Forest office and Ranger, you will be able to send them a quick email to let them know that your club is planning a trip, and this will avoid the need to fill in all of the usual forms required for the general public

Send a quick email and mention

Forest name, Date, Trip duration, Purpose of the trip (camping, training etc)

Number of vehicles, Number of people, Club name, Membership of 4WD NSW and ACT Inc

Some Forests are busier than others and a permit form will still need to be done, but if this is the case the Forest office will notify your club. The fee is still waived as a member of 4WD NSW and ACT Inc.

Remember to go to Association website and fill in a trip report after your event, this helps Forestry to know numbers and identify any issues, usually before it becomes a problem.

The form can be found at <https://4wdnow.com/pages/lodge-a-trip-reports-state-forests>

Swap Meets

Macarthur District 4WD Club – 10 May, 9am – 32 Bellfield Ave, Rossmore

Karen Willams – hooray1962@outlook.com or 0412 706 252 if you have any questions.

Toyota Landcruiser Club – 3 May, 8am – Cabramatta High School

Elke Cooper – bushman14@bigpond.com or 0438 068 788 if you have any questions.

DRIVER AWARENESS NEWS

Our first Driver Awareness Weekend for 2025 was a great success. We had 13 vehicle with 16 people all together, including some new members. See the report elsewhere in this magazine.

We have already planned our next 2 weekends ...

Driver Awareness Day & Weekend Trip - Gardens of Stone SCA - June 21 and 22
Rated Easy (with optional Medium elements) - See website for details

Driver Awareness Day & Weekend Trip - Abercrombie River NP - July 26 and 27
Rated Medium (but may be Hard for AWDs) - See website for details

Here's a few questions to test your 4WD knowledge. Answers next month.

The weight of 4WD vehicle accessories such as winches and bull bars:

- a) Affects the maximum payload that a vehicle can carry
- b) Does not affect the maximum payload that a vehicle can carry
- c) Only affects the maximum payload if upgraded springs or suspension are not fitted

Steep hills are best descended by:

- a) Placing the transmission in neutral and using the brakes to control descent speed
- b) Using the hand brake to control descent speed
- c) Placing the transmission into the lowest gear possible (automatics and manuals) and allowing the vehicle to 'walk' its way down the slope at the slowest possible speed
- d) Placing the transmission into the lowest possible gear, depressing the clutch and slowly descending the slope using the brakes

If your vehicle begins to slide when negotiating a side slope, the best course of action is to:

- a) Exit immediately using the doors on the upslope side of the vehicle
- b) Turn up the slope and accelerate
- c) Turn down the slope and brake gently
- d) Turn down the slope and give a gentle 'blip' on the accelerator

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.”

Webmaster Report for Drive Torque April 2025

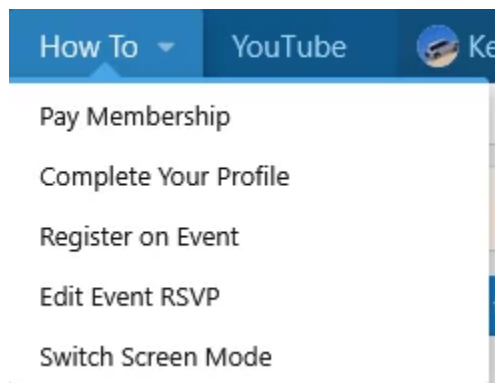
There's been a few changes made to the website over the last month:

“How To”

A “How To” section has been added: <https://subaru4wdclub.com.au/forums/how-to.49/>

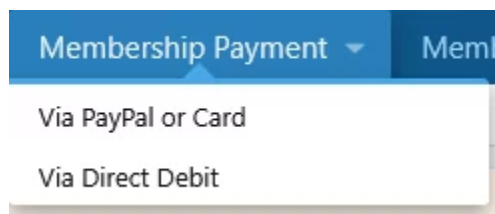
This will grow as further “How To” items are added.

“How To” has also been added to the Navigation Bar for ease of access:



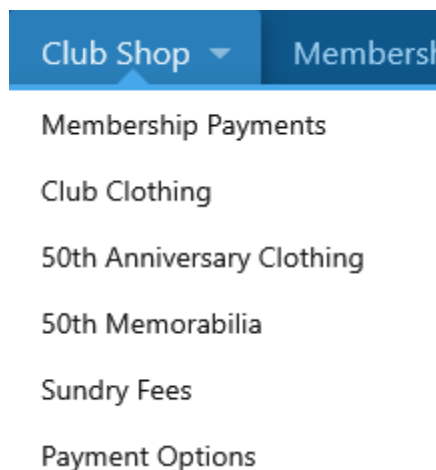
Membership Payments

In preparation for the new financial year a new Membership Payment function has been set up and accessible via the Navigation Bar:



Once a member has paid Via PayPal the system will not allow an accidental second payment by the same member. We have no control over Direct Debit accidental multi-payment of course.

Club Shop



Club shop items on the Navigation bar have been reordered and a change has been made to reduce the number of clicks required to purchase Anniversary Clothing. Similar changes will be made to Club Clothing soon.

Event Manager

Updates have been applied to the Event Manager including one where the RSVP list now remains fixed as “Attending / Maybe / Just Visiting”. Those who have responded with “Attending” or “Maybe” will receive messages about the Event sent via “Notify Attendees”. Use “Just Visiting” if you wish to see the RSVP lists.

“Home”

The “Home” button has been removed from the Navigation Bar as it simply went to the Events page and space was needed for new items on the bar.

iCloud Email

It’s been discovered that iCloud does not cooperate with email sent via the club website so it will bounce. This is unfortunate as it affects two members and they have been made aware of the problem. This issue affects many websites worldwide and attempts to find a workaround so far have failed.



50th ANNIVERSARY MERCHANDISE



Jersey
\$75



Short Sleeve Polo
\$45





Long Sleeve Polo

\$50

Please refer to the sizing chart before placing your order:

(The measurements are what the item would measure across if it was laid flat on a table.)

<https://www.jbswear.com.au/general/sizing-specifications>

ADULTS	2XS	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL	6/7XL
CHEST	52.5	55	57.5	60	62.5	65	67.5	70	72.5	75	80
SP LENGTH	68	70	72	74	76	78	80	82	83	84	85.5

Orders can be placed on the Web Site or by emailing the Merchandise Officer merchandise@subaru4wdclub.com.au, be sure to know what you want and what size is required before ordering. There will be ONE order only placed on the 31st May.

Monthly Camp Site Review #6

Name: Termeil Point Campground

Location: Meroo National Park

Distance From Sydney: 3.5hrs

Date Stayed: August 2023

Cost: \$6 booking fee

No. Sites: 12

Access: NSWNP website states 4wd access only, however when we went it was nothing more than a dirt road and access was suitable for all vehicles.

Caravan/Trailer Friendly: Yes

Amenities: Pit toilets, picnic tables

To Bring: Power source – all sites unpowered, water, firewood & take all rubbish out

Phone Service: Limited

Closest Town: Closest major town is Ulladulla

General Overview: A great little campground with Termeil lake on one side and Termeil Beach on the other. All sites are divided by logs and are of varying sizes but are quiet generous. Each site also has its own firepit.

There was plenty of wildlife including many different bird species, kangaroos, wallabies and some very active possums.

It's only a short walk to the lake or the beach, both great for fishing, swimming and kayaking. The beach however is unpatrolled. The endless stretches of beach are great for a walk and there is many rock platforms to explore. Meroo & neighbouring Murramarang National Parks also offer an abundance of scenic drives and walks. The whole campground only has 12 sites and as it is only a booking fee of \$6, it is currently quite hard to book into – but well worth it if you can secure a spot.

A top little, bush setting, secluded camp ground. Warning: The ticks were prolific last time we were there, so some tick spray is a good investment!

Nearby: Ulladulla is the closest major town and is only 15km away. It is a large coastal hub with nearly all services and facilities. Fishing charters and other day trips also depart from Ulladulla port. The co-op is also good for some freshly caught fish.

Murramarang National Park offers some great activities including walks, scenic drives, plenty of other camping options, bird watching, deserted beaches, fishing, multi-day hikes, lookouts and whale watching vantage points. Lake Tabourie

and Pigeon House Mountain are also not far away.



Weekday Wanderer: Dee's Again

Date: 24-28th March, 2025

Trip Leader: Jo Quinn

Attendees: Jo, Chris, Kelly, Stephen, Sue, Nathan, Cherie, Geoff, Harley, Lyn, Kevin, Micheal, Jean, Robert, Sandra

Having been last year for a couple of days, I decided to run another trip up to Dee's Corner Campground at Mungo Brush. It is a great little campground right on the lake with the beach across the road, good, clean pit toilets and decent size sites with fire pits. We had 9 of the 12 available sites booked, so we had a good turnout.



There was plenty of wildlife in and around the camp. We saw a very tame tawny frogmouth owl one night who was quite happy to just sit in the tree while we took photos. He was searching for small frogs (of which there was plenty) on the ground for dinner. There was a very healthy looking dingo in the camp on the first night, actually the only one in camp all week. It was howling to it's mates, a very haunting sound. We saw the Ranger the next morning who told us that they tended to steer clear of the campground when there were too many people around. The dingoes are all tagged and they track them. He told us that there is one dingo in particular, socks, they call it, that travels from Hawkes Nest to Seal Rocks and back every day!! Quiet fascinating as that is a massive distance on a daily basis!

There was also a water dragon that took a liking to us and came out to camp late each afternoon. Usually quiet timid creatures, this one was extremely tame and wandered right up to our camp chairs. The "crying baby" bird was present again early in the morning, but not as loud or constant as last time we were there.

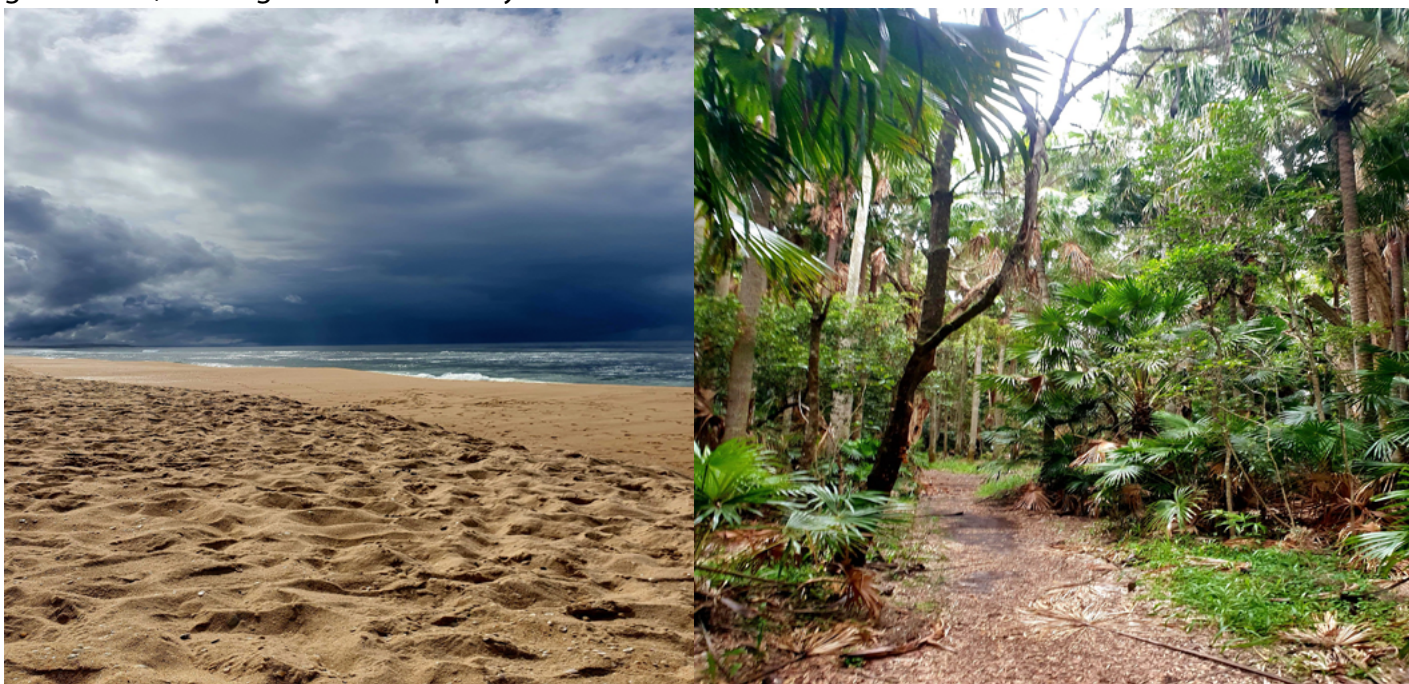


It was basically a relaxing week with everyone doing what suited them during the days with a big communal fire each night.

On the Wednesday we did do a trip out to Seal Rocks. We caught the Bombah Point Ferry, stopped for a coffee on the other side and then took the scenic drive round to Sugarloaf Lighthouse, If anyone is interested, hit me up one day and I will tell you about how the lighthouse got its name (!??) We walked up to the top of the lighthouse, albeit a steep climb, the views were stunning right up and down the coast. After leaving the lighthouse is was on to Bulahdelah for a pub lunch.



The kayaks and SUP paddle boards came out a couple of times with great access to the lake. Some took a couple of walks over to the beach. We saw a massive storm brewing out to sea, with deep, dark clouds making for awesome photos. A few short rainforests walks just out of camp kept a few of us occupied as well. Jimmy's Beach was also a popular swimming spot for some and a walk on Bennett's Beach saw some great views, although there was plenty of blue bottles on the sand.



The girls also discovered a great craft shop in town that seemed to stock everything! A few bargains were found with return trips on more than one occasion! The co-op also got a few visits with great fresh prawns & oysters.



The weather was a bit of everything; sun, hot, cold, rain. However, the rain was mostly at night and didn't hamper us much at all – until the Friday when it came time to go home and we got a short, sharp downpour just as we started to pack up! I thoroughly enjoyed the trip, getting some much need downtime. Great company and as usual, lots of laughs. Thank you to everyone who came.

Jo



This report is for Friday & Saturday as I didn't attend the Sunday drive.
16 members in 13 vehicles, with only 12 cars on the tracks.

The theme and aim of these trips are for members to –

Increase Your Knowledge, Improve Your Skill, Gain Experience

The Trip rating was rated -

4WD Easy for vehicles with high clearance and low range

4WD Medium for AWD vehicles

We covered theory and the practical tasks were designed around the type of vehicles and experience of attendees. Any and all Vehicle recovery would have been done as per the 'Hierarchy Of Recovery' – but we didn't need to do any. We did have a lot of discussion about recoveries.

Recovery gear was brought by attendees and we had the club gear which was used in the show and tell – we are all willing to share if you don't have your own gear yet.

Members attended the trip with a sense of adventure to learn and understand their vehicle.

So, who were the lucky attendees on Saturday – most were in white cars –

Two new members attended –

Teagan & Matika in their Suzuki Jimny – the first new style Jimny (or is it a baby INEOS?) in the club

Bert in the blue Subaru XV (what a great little performer on the tracks)

Our old time members, and what a wealth of knowledge they all have

Dave in the Triton (it goes further than an Outback)

Stephen in his BT50 (not an older Ranger, it's a mighty Mazda)

Mike in the Pajero (an oldie but a goodie)

John in his new (well new to him) latest model Forester (now how does that X Mode work?)

Johnny in his older model Outback (green wheels make it go just about anywhere)

Sergio and David in a Prado (oh that Toyota feeling)

Iwan and Evie in their MUX (a true high level performer and very well setup)

The Driver Awareness Team –

Alex, left her Prado in town so that she could sit in with new members and assist them as they were learning on the tracks

Bill in the well set up Pajero, but what colour is it?

Michael in the old Defender styled new INEOS Grenadier, the mushrooms I saw in the bush were red with white dots, not the colour of this car

David in the old almost worn out blue Forester

What were the highlights and what did I learn on the trip –

I was able to start work early, leave work early and arrive in Oberon before dark on Friday

It was a wonderful drive out of Sydney and over the mountains on Friday afternoon

I really should not stop at Lolly Bug every time I drive past

We all need to make sure our details are up to date on club website

Oberon is such a lovely town in Autumn and some gardens have impressive roses

The Chinese meal on Friday night was great with fellow members

Maybe we are all getting soft in our old age – most of us slept in a room with solid walls and roof, a proper bed, power, hot and cold running water and a flushing dunny

Most of us do not camp much now

Our start times are getting later, as we get older

I wish I could retire but not old enough yet

The rain on Saturday didn't stop us from doing anything as we found shelter when needed

Introductions and recovery 'show & tell' to start the day was interesting

I loved the drive out of town on Saturday morning – at the speed limit with some cars keeping up

We had two nice new members – XV & Jimny – on the trip and they were very keen to learn about their vehicles, our trips and where they can go, and cannot go

No point going for a walk to the lookout when there is so many low clouds around

I played the Driver Training presentation from Getabout for our new members

It is always best to look at the vehicles and discuss capabilities of people and machines

The track down to Morong Creek is a very pretty drive in both directions

We always need to assess where we are going and ensure we can turn around and backtrack if required, no point going down a hill if we find a blockage and cannot get back up the hill and out

I always need to remember the Two Rules of Four Wheel Driving – what I call the Dirty Harry rules

Rule One – A man's got to know his limitations (this rule was written in early 70s, so now please take the word 'man' to include everyone)

Rule Two – Read Rule One

I really wanted to cross Morong Creek, but used the Two Rules and decided not to even try

The steepness of the descent down to Kowmung River always impresses

The smile on the face of our new members at the bottom of the hill before crossing Kowmung was amazing and even wider after crossing the river

It was interesting that on another trip we crossed Morong but not Kowmung as it was too deep and fast and, on this trip, it was the other way around – just depends on which side of the mountain the rain falls, where it flows and when the watercourses rise and fall



It was fantastic to see my old mate John testing out his new Forester on the tracks
 I must go back to camp at Dingo Dell soon – not too old to camp yet
 The drive out of Dingo Dell is always fun, gets faster and faster once up the on top of the ridge and when back on the hard stuff it seems like a short drive back to Oberon
 Thank you to everything that gave me applause for the little bit that I did for the trip – it was my absolute pleasure to organise, manage and run the trip with the assistance of my fellow Driver Awareness team members – Alex, Bill & Michael
 The fuel in Oberon is good price and as cheap as anything in Western Sydney
 The meal at the club was tasty on Saturday night
 It was great to be staying in motel room on Saturday night – but I'm not yet too old to camp
 I took a different road out of town on Sunday and it was very interesting
 I look forward to future Driver Awareness trips – reminds me to add them to website sooner rather than later

Cheers
 David

Saturday started out well with a welcome introduction for some newbies and the educational part of the day delivered after finding shelter from the light rain . We hit the road in a 12 car convoy to the Kanangra walls lookout and some more education was delivered in the clouds while the ancients went for a walk to see more clouds haha it was one of those days. Lunch was had in the shelter then the driving began. It was a good afternoon for a cruise through the bush with the occasional challenge, wipers were on low speed but the creeks were easily crossed and at the end of the day at air up we were all smiling, then off to town for a dinner at the Rassel and a chat about the next morning .



There you go that's a little day diary for you
 Cheers Johnny

My thoughts of the weekend

After the theory talk at the caravan park due to rain, it was good to hit the tracks, particularly after and in the rain. I thought it was a good introduction to the new members and a refresher for the older members of driving wet and slippery tracks. What a good experience going down the Morong Creek Fire Trail to find the creek flowing quite fast and deeper than normal. Watching M J Hamilton walk the crossing and determine that it was too fast and deep to do a safe crossing, so turning around and driving back out up the steep, slippery hill. The new members were still in luck to do a water crossing. David led us down to the Kowmung Creek where we all crossed over under the watchful eyes of the driver awareness team



Sunday was just as good, with a trip to the Oberon Dam and over to the camp area at Reef Reserve. We then headed out to Rydal via Tarana ending up at the Rydal showground, where we got some good experience trying out a marked test track. Under the guidance of M J Hamilton we then headed off and conquered very steep tracks down to the beginning of Firetruck Hill. We all agreed that it was going to be too hard to do, so headed back up using a different steep track, which was quite difficult for some to conquer.

Stephen B

MJ Hamilton was our trip leader for today, and as we were all in search of some challenging tracks, we ended up in the Lidsdale State Forest. We arrived at Rydal Showground & MJ found this old test track/circuit in the scrub, everybody put their vehicles through the tricky course, wheel placement was vital so we all had a go at spotting for each other & I think we all got something out of the whole exercise (not sure what the "Penalty Loop" was all about). After our lunch back at the Rydal Showground we headed off toward the Cox's River Trail.

It wasn't long before we found ourselves at the base of Fire Truck Hill where the group decided it was a bit too extreme for us get up. However, the other track we chose to get up the hill was extremely gnarly & difficult to get traction, some had serious traction issues & others had no trouble at all. Heading for Cox's River, under the powerlines we encountered a temporary "No Entry" sign - National Parks had closed the track for some planned back burning. MJ rang the NP (no answer) and checked their website - there were no closed tracks in Marrangaroo National Park, however we decided to obey the sign and not proceed any further. Back tracking to the Rydal Showground we dropped off those people who had left their vehicle there and others were heading back off to home, as for the rest of us we headed back into the Lidsdale Forest for the mud & bog holes.

It was another great trip with club members, I had a good weekend with a great bunch of people.

Bill



Weekday Wanderer: Animals & Apples

Date: 09/04/2025

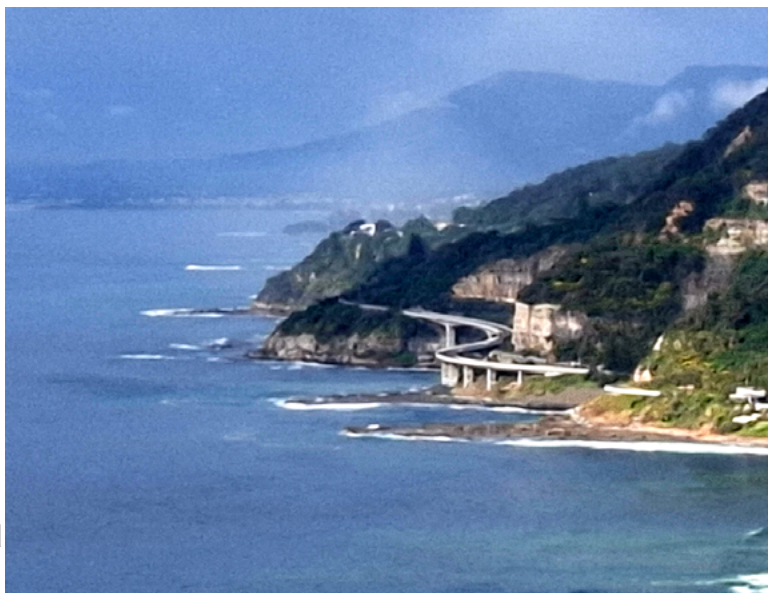
Trip Leader: Jo Quinn

Attendees: Jo, Chris, Kelly, Geoff, Bill, Jan, Stephen, Sue, Nathan, Cherie

We met at Bald Hill with the hope of a morning coffee with a view. We got the view but no coffee as we were too early for the kiosk. As usual the view from Bald Hill down over Stanwell Park and the Seacliff Bridge was beautiful. The hint of rain clouds on the horizon was a bit "how you going" but not a lot we could do about it.

First stop was Kelly's Falls at Garawarra State Conservation Area, only a couple of k's down the road from the lookout. A very short walk from the car park took us to the top of the falls, however viewing was a bit limited from that spot. Some of us crossed over the top of the falls and walked a bit further around, but a lot of the lookout points were obscured by overgrown trees. The track was also quiet muddy so we turned back. It would be a great spot to head back too as I believe there is a network of walking trails & lookouts.

We left the falls and drove a little further on to Helensburgh with the aim of exploring some of the old railway tunnels and to see the glow worms. After a bit of messing around we found one of the disused tunnels and we all went for a walk through. The tunnel was short with cascading ferns falling around the entrance and the arch at the other end of the tunnel lit up before us. It was a shame that the inside of the tunnel was littered with graffiti, but it was good to visit nonetheless. As it turned out, the glow worm railway tunnel was just across the road. It was currently closed and manned by a security guard. He told us that they were doing some "research on the glow worms" and it was closed until the end of April. He did let us get a group photo under the old Helensburgh railway station sign but that was as far as we could go. A bit disappointing, but I will do it as another trip in the night time later in the year.





Next stop was Symbio Wildlife Park, also at Helensburgh. Symbio is home to over 500 animals from across the globe and spans 20 acres of meticulously landscaped gardens and animal habitats. Coffee was first port of call and we then wandered around the zoo. It would have to be one of the cleanest, well laid out zoos I have ever been too. We hand fed some of the animals with food that we purchased when we walked in. There was a good selection of animals, reptiles and birds and it took us about 2hrs to walk around. We had lunch at the zoo café with some over zealous cockatoos that sat right on the tables next to us.

Glenburnie Orchard at Darkes Forest was our last stop for the day. Home to Darkes Cider, we stocked up on fresh apples and a selection of ciders. The orchard sales shed has undergone a bit of facelift and now has cider on tap and space to sit out near the orchard to enjoy an ale or 2. A nice day out with good company. Thank you to all who came along.

Jo

More images can be viewed on the Facebook Page.



Trip Conveners Report April 2025

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

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| • Jurassic Park/ Mt Airly (Sunday) | April 27th |
| • Pubs & Pies (extended trip) | May 5th - 23rd |
| • Let's Explore K'gari (Fraser Island) | May 12th - 19th |
| • COCO 2025 - Association weekend event (Mudgee Showground) | May 17th - 18th |
| • Jurassic Park/ Mt Airly (Wednesday) | May 28th (mid week) |
| • Mt Vincent Bush Camp near Watagans | June 7th |
| • Blue Mountains Lookouts | June 18th |
| • 4WD Adventure Show | Sept 12,13,14th |
| • Gunning Fireworks display | September 13th |
| • Clubs 50th Anniversary | Oct long weekend 2025 |
| • Christmas Function (Grady's River Retreat) | December 6th & 7th |

Sgt At Arms Report

- Although we discourage issuing fines on training trips - turning up without a UHF radio "again" - David Wellham, double demerits.
- *John has moved his Blue Mnts trip due to a lack of interest (school hols) to June 18th*
- *Upcoming day trips to Sheepskin Hut & Howes Trail - June?*
- *Weekend trips - Saturday's OR Sunday's? what is preferred? jump on the website Poll & register your thoughts.*

APRIL 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 Genowlan Plateau, Jurassic Park, Mt Airly	28	29	30			

MAY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	6 Committee Meeting Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	7 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	8 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	9 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	10 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW
11 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	12 Let's Explore K'gari (Fraser Island) Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	13 Let's Explore K'gari (Fraser Island) Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW General Meeting	14 Let's Explore K'gari (Fraser Island) Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	15 Let's Explore K'gari (Fraser Island) Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	16 Let's Explore K'gari (Fraser Island) Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	17 Let's Explore K'gari (Fraser Island) Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW
18 Let's Explore K'gari (Fraser Island) Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	19 Let's Explore K'gari (Fraser Island) Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	20 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	21 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	22 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	23 Pubs & Pies Rd Trip 1 NW NSW	24
25	26	27	28 Genowlan Plateau, Jurassic Park, Mt Airly	29	30	31

JUNE 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Committee Meeting Venue TBA	4	5	6	7 Mt Vincent Bush Camp Watagans Day/Weekend
8	9	10 General Meeting Venue TBA	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Blue Mountains Day Out	19	20	21 Driver Awareness Day/Weekend Trip Gardens of Stone
22 Driver Awareness Day/Weekend Trip Gardens of Stone	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

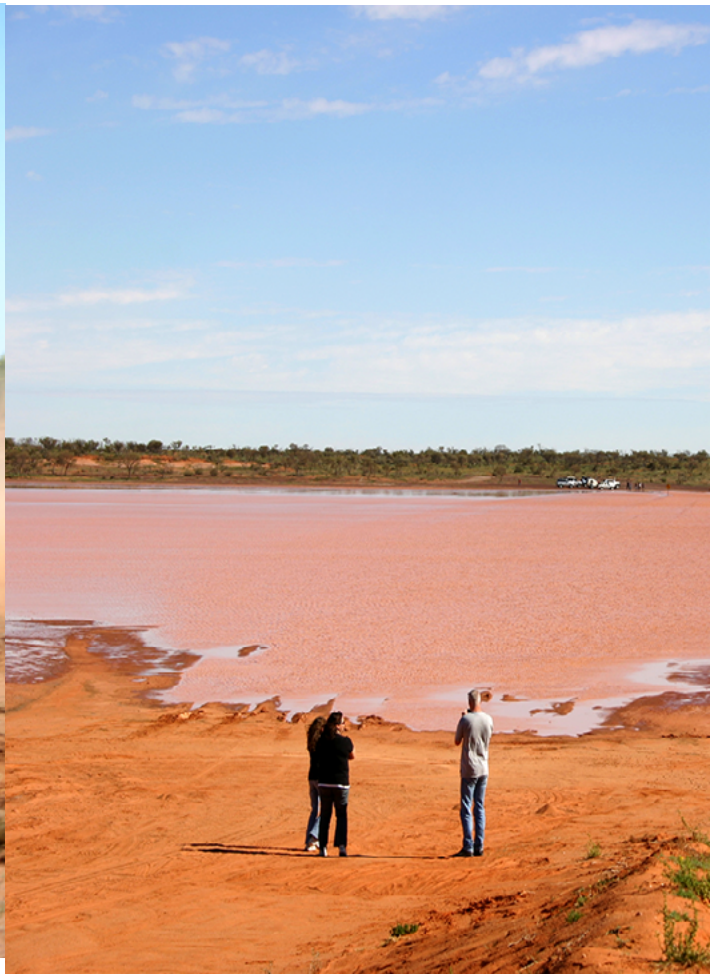
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

PAGES

Some more old trip photo's courtesy of Michael Minny.

Coongia Crawl July 2007









HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To the members whos Birthdays are in April

Deanna Blamire

Suzanne Burns

Hiedi Ploeg

Michael R Hamilton

Michael Minny

Iwan Sujono

Roger Vella

The Unknowns



Until Next Time
STAY SAFE