



JUNE 2018

SOUTHERN TRAILS

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Tuesday 10 July
Deakin Football Club
3 Grose Street

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hi Everyone,

The committee is well and truly settling into things now and starting to move forward on a number of fronts. One of the long-standing issues that the committee has struggled with is our email and file storage system. It was an old system that did not provide sufficient storage for our email and documentation. Thankfully this month we were able to move to a new system hosted by Microsoft that will provide us with 200 times more file storage and 250 times more email storage, providing us with the space we need for a long time to come.

At this month's committee meeting, the Track Building group presented the work they'd done to identify several potential new tracks at Talooge. I am pleased to advise that five new tracks were approved by the committee, including one track that will provide access to a lookout with fantastic views over the entire property and another to open up a new camp ground. The working group are currently seeking quotes to have earth moving equipment brought in to create new level campsites at home paddock to provide more suitable grounds for camper trailers and caravans. They will also be seeking a quote to join the lookout track up to Lassiter's, which if achieved will create a single continuous track that effectively allows you to drive around the entire property. For those interested in assisting with the construction of these new tracks, the working group will be seeking volunteers shortly.

The Social Club has also been busy planning events. One of the upcoming events is a trivia night to be held at the Jerrabombera Hotel, with a number of prizes for the event to be up for grabs.

Keep an eye on the Events and Trips register on our website, with a date and time to be announced shortly. They are also planning a get together at Weston Park on the 13th of October, with the club to provide lunch and soft drinks. This event is currently up on the Events and Trips register for you to RSVP.

We all know that vehicle weight is one of the challenges that 4WDers face when setting up their vehicles, caravan and camper trailers for exploring this great country. As an aid to ensuring that your equipment falls within manufacturer specifications, we have purchased a portable vehicle scale, which will be stored at Talooge. This device will allow you to easily determine the weight of your vehicle, including the weight of each axle. You can watch a demonstration of how it works here.

The committee will be meeting next week to review the club's strategic plan in preparation for the mid-year budget review. If you have any suggestions for improvements to club, particularly Talooge, feel free to send them to me or let me know at one of the General Meetings and we will endeavour to incorporate them into the plan.

That's all for now, hope everyone has a great long weekend and I'll see you at the next meeting.

Regards,

Matthew Maddigan

Club President

FIRST AID TRAINING



Check out our new First Aid Training course scheduled for **Saturday 14th July** run by Brindabella First Aid Services.

The cost per member is **\$130.00** each but if we get 20 members participating the cost will be \$110.00 each

If any member is interested in doing this course during the week please contact **Michael Patrick**

More details are on the web site under Events and Trips

MEMBERSHIP MOMENTS

INFORMATION ON CURRENT MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

New members

There have been five new memberships for the month of May. The new memberships were:

- **GERARD O'NEIL**
ISUZU M-UX
- **GREG & BELINDA KENYON-SLADE**
MITSUBISHI PAJERO
- **SEBASTIAN & DEBBIE WAITE**
TOYOTA HILUX
- **STEVEN & KERRIN PULLEN**
MITSUBISHI TRITON
- **TOM ROBERTSON & KATE ADDISON**
TOYOTA LANDCRUISER

Please say hello to our new members and visitors if you are at the Club meeting - if you see a new face, make them welcome and say G'day.

Welcome to the Club all.

New memberships numbers are currently very high with a total of 38 new memberships so far this year compared to 17 new memberships by June last year and a total of 43 for the whole of 2017.

While this is great news overall, it has put a strain on the training team who have managed the situation by taking 16 students on each course. A Great effort on their part.

Demetrio (Dim) Veteri

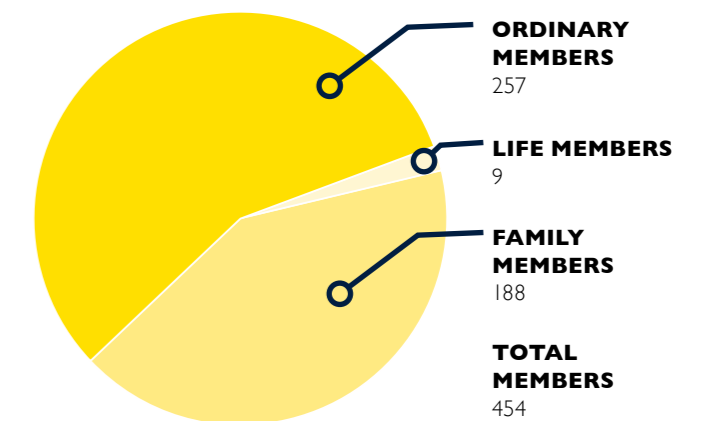
Membership Secretary

Please feel free to contact me regarding any membership matters you may have either by email, phone or grab me at the meeting.

Please note that I will be away for 3 months commencing in June and Lynne Donaldson has generously agreed to fill in during that time.

Membership Renewal

Many thanks to all those members who have already paid their membership fees for 2018. **We still have 47 memberships unpaid.**



Stickers and Certificates

I still have a large number of training certificates for people to collect. For new members don't forget to get your club sticker from me.

NEW CLUB BANK DETAILS

The Club's new bank provider is "Bank Australia" and our bank details now are:

Bank: Bank Australia
Account Name: ST4WDC
BSB Number: 313 140
Account Number: 1213 0617

Members should use these account details in all transactions with the club, including for membership fees and clothing purchases when using direct deposit. Members who use Internet Banking and Mobile Banking please update your "PAYEE Listing" for ST4WDC with the new details.



MEMBERSHIP GIFT CERTIFICATES

These certificates are a great way to give the gift of membership to friends and family and are available for both current member's Annual Membership Fee (Cost/Value \$100) or for new members for their Joining fee and Annual Membership Fee (Cost/Value \$330).

If you would like to give a gift of ST4WDC Membership please contact:
Membership Secretary
membership@st4wdc.com.au.



CLUB CLOTHING

Clothing Item	Cost
Polo Shirts	\$35.00
Chambery Shirts	\$45.00
Jackets	\$110.00
Hoodies	\$45.00
Rugby Tops	\$50.00
Caps	\$15.00
Bucket Hats	\$15.00
Beanies	\$20.00
Name Badges	\$10.00



Here are examples of the club clothing options. To order talk to Marie McDonald at the meeting to order for pickup at the following monthly meeting.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FOR BUSH SKILLS WEEKEND

TALOOGUE PARK 29 SEPTEMBER TO 1 OCTOBER 2018

This is a relaxed weekend socialising with members of our club and invited clubs, driving the tracks, happy hour as well as informative bush and 4WD related demonstrations and talks.

To make it a successful event we are looking for volunteers who can deliver or assist with the following demonstrations and activities.

- JACK DEMONSTRATIONS
- TYRE INFLATORS/DEFLATORS
- BEAD BREAKING
- GPS TALK
- BUSH TOILET SETUPS
- CAMP OVEN AND BUSH COOKING
- VEHICLE AND CAMP SETUPS (WALKAROUND)
- COMMUNICATIONS
- CHAINSAW MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY
- RECOVERY GEAR/SOFT SHACKLES/WINCHING DEMONSTRATIONS
- LED DRIVING LIGHTS
- SOLAR POWER /DUAL BATTERY SETUP / FRIDGES
- DRIVING THE TRACKS
- CAMPER TRAILERS - WEIGHTS, PACKING AND TOWING

We are also looking for suggestions for additional demos and activities.

If you can help out or have suggestions please contact:

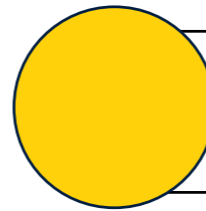
Jim Anderson
 e-mail treasurer@st4wdc.com
 mob. 0408283496

UPCOMING TRIPS

DON'T MISS OUT — NOMINATE ONLINE

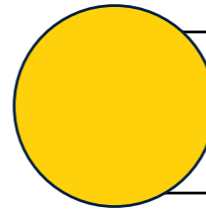
START DATE	END DATE	ACTIVITY	TYPE	LEADER
16/Jun/18	16/Jun/18	Basic Winching and Recovery Course	Training	Joe Briguglio
16/Jun/18	17/Jun/18	Intermediate Winching and Recovery Course	Training	Joe Briguglio
23/Jun/18	24/Jun/18	Chain Saw Awareness Training	Workshop	Neil Ellison
30/Jun/18	30/Jun/18	Will we find snow ?	Grade 3	Lynne Donaldson
14/Jul/18	14/Jul/18	First Aid Training (Expression of Interest)	Training	Michael Patrick
28/Jul/18	29/Jul/18	Bendethra Caves	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
28/Jul/18	29/Jul/18	Bendethra Caves Reverse	Grade 3	Glen Watts
11/Aug/18	18/Aug/18	Flinders Ranges	Grade 3	Dim Veteri
15/Aug/18	15/Aug/18	Basic Training 4WD Vehicle Evaluation	Training	Peter Butterfield
25/Aug/18	26/Aug/18	Talooge Park Muster	Muster	Peter Reynolds
13/Sep/18	16/Sep/18	"Safe One" Basic Driver Training at Talooge Park	Training	Joe Briguglio
23/Sep/18	23/Sep/18	Brindabella Ramble	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
29/Sep/18	1/Oct/18	Bush Skills Weekend	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
17/Oct/18	17/Oct/18	Basic Training 4WD Vehicle Evaluation	Training	Peter Butterfield
20/Oct/18	21/Oct/18	Explore The Tracks of Abercrombie River National Park	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
20/Oct/18	21/Oct/18	Talooge Park Muster	Muster	Peter Reynolds
1/Nov/18	4/Nov/18	"Safe One" Basic Driver Training at Talooge Park	Training	Joe Briguglio
11/Nov/18	11/Nov/18	Brindabella Ramble	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
17/Nov/18	23/Nov/18	Victorian High Country Ramble Vers 3	Grade 3	Michael Patrick
18/Nov/18	24/Nov/18	Fraser Island	Grade 3	Scott Grogan
1/Dec/18	2/Dec/18	Talooge Park Muster	Muster	Peter Reynolds
22/Jun/19	23/Jun/19	OziExplorer Nav X	Grade 3	Michael Patrick

TRIP SPOTLIGHT



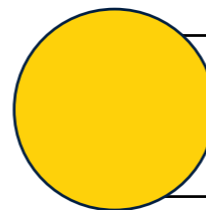
Chain Saw Awareness Training

Please note the revised date for this workshop is now 8-9 September



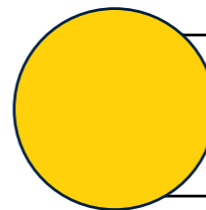
Overnight in a freezer

This trip is a quick weekend overnight trip to see if we can camp in the snow near Thredbo



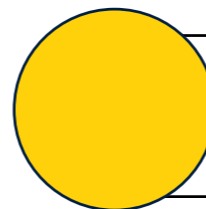
NavKana

A navigation exercise where participants must search for locations spread around Talooge



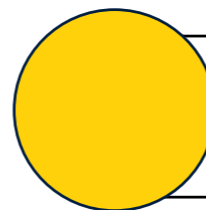
Weston Park get together and lunch

Come along and join us for a BBQ lunch and get together



Bush Walk

Settlers Track Walk



End of Year Celebration

Come and join us to Celebrate the year we have just had

TRIP REPORTS



DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

Please email items for the ST4WD Club monthly newsletter or hand it to the 2018 Publications person at the monthly meeting.

Cut off for Items for the Newsletter is now the last Friday in each month. Anything received after that date will be placed in the following months newsletter.

Michael Jackson-Rand
2018 Publications Coordinator
publications@st4wdc.com.au

Please make sure you supply your images separately to the word document and then reference them in text. Word destroys image quality and I want your adventures to look the way you saw them when you were there.

BIG RED BOUND
Glynis Whitefield



BIG RED BOUND

DIAMANTINA

Glynis Whitefield

In the end, there were only 2 cars from the ST4WDC to venture off towards the outback on 28th April. Illness of various family members and club members meant that it was only our fearless leader, Alex Szabo with wife, Andrea, and myself who headed off on the trek.

After overnighting in Lake Cargelligo, it wasn't long before we found the reddish dirt of the NSW Outback. There is plenty of bull dust to be found on the road from Ivanhoe to Menindee where we met up with the other 2 members of our convoy. Dave and Daphne are both friends of Alex's and they had come from Adelaide and Ballarat respectively to join us.



We spent a couple of nights camped on the banks of the Darling River in Kinchega National Park, exploring the park and nearby Menindee and Lake Pamamaroo the only one of the Menindee Lakes still kept full of water. Lots of beautiful free camps on the edge of the Lake and we all decided our



next trip through that area we would be staying here. Of course you have to develop a love of woolsheds when you start visiting places like Kinchega.

Next stop was Broken Hill for a guided walk around the town lead by one of the volunteers from the Visitor's Centre. There are some lovely old buildings in Broken Hill and it's no wonder it is the first Heritage Listed City in Australia. Of course, the best place for lunch in the area is Silverton Pub, so off we went for a good meal and a wander around that interesting town. Broken Hill wasn't our main interest on this trip, though, so the next morning, after visiting the Line of Lode miners' memorial, we set off north.

You may not realize it yet, but the road between Broken Hill and Tibooburra is now mostly tarred. Only a few places of gravel left, but they were certainly very gravelly! We dropped into Milparinka, but our objective on this day was Tib.

The Granites camping ground is a lovely place to stay and just a short walk to all the conveniences Tibooburra has to offer – the 2 pubs and the general store. School was out, we had no need of the Police Station and the drive-in was devoid of movies when we were there. Perhaps next time.

The Mt Wood outdoor museum was very interesting, along with the amazing vistas of rocks to be found in the Sturt National Park. Well, it is part of the Sturt Stoney Desert with good reason.

We circled the wagons at the jump up lookout the next morning before leaving NSW through the dog fence and travelling in South Australia for about 200 metres before staying the night in Queensland.

Of course Cameron Corner was the must do over-night stop and after the obligatory photos of the corner post, we headed west along the Merty Merty Road. We then turned right onto the Old Strezlecki Track just near the sculpture and headed for Innamincka.

What a great little place this is. Pub? Yes. General Store? Yes. Great camping? Yes. Hot showers? Yes, and for \$4 you even have time to wash your hair. After the rains in northern Queensland about 2 months earlier, there was plenty of water over the causeway, and the Cullyamurra Waterhole was less a waterhole and more a strongly flowing river.

We camped 4 nights beside Cooper Creek

and apart from being besieged by ants in the toilet every night, it was a truly lovely camping spot. It's a place to return to one day. We spent the days just lazing around, or sightseeing, like Burke's Memorial, Coongie Lakes and the Dig Tree. There are more sites of importance for those of you interested in the Burke and Wills history, which sort of started in Menindee and of course, culminated with the death of Robert O'Hara Bourke and William John Wills beside Cooper Creek in 1861.

We took the road less travelled via Arrebury to the Birdsville Development Road. Turned out to be a good choice as they were just grading large sections of it and the road was in great shape. It's a longer journey between Birdsville and Innamincka than via Cordillo Downs Road, so carry some fuel as it's towing as its 487 km of sandy dirt with a bit of gravel thrown in.

With a population of 115 +/- 7,000, Birdsville is a truly iconic town located on another river which had seen the flood water come and gone before we got there. With a bakery which serves Curried Camel and Kangaroo and Claret pies, lunch was high on the order of things to do in town. And, of course, about 35kms out of town there is Big Red – the object of this trip.

Did we all make it to the top? Yes. Did any of us get bogged? Yes. Me, on top of Little Red and Daphne on top of Big Red (which was my fault for stopping in the middle of the track, but don't tell anyone). It only required a few psi less in the tyres for me to drive out of my bogging, but Daphne's was a snatch recovery. Good thing we have all been trained well, as we knew what we were doing.

It was all downhill from here. South via the Birdsville Track, and the trip officially finished in Quorn with us each making our own way home from there, although Daphne had decided to return via Thargomindah and so left us in Birdsville.

After all the dust and flies, would I do it all again? Absolutely! And add in some other points of interest along the way



ARB TAILGATE ASSIST



Trying to juggle whatever you're carrying is a feat in itself, let alone managing the weight of the tailgate. Wouldn't it be useful if you had a little helping hand? ARB's new Tailgate Assist is here to be that hand.

Using two different struts, the Tailgate Assist reduces the effort required to operate the tailgate. The passenger side strut helps to slowly lower the tailgate and the driver side facilitates raising it. The struts have been co-developed with Stabilus, the world-renowned strut manufacturer and ARB has designed a unique mounting system to ensure longevity.

"Tailgates vibrate a lot and tubs move when you're driving in rough conditions, so we've put these struts through rigorous tests. We're confident in the product and know all the components are going to last," says ARB Product Manager, Rhys Brown.

The ARB Tailgate Assist is now available for Ford Ranger, Mazda BT-50, Holden Colorado, Isuzu D-MAX, Nissan Navara and Mitsubishi Triton with more models under development. Contact your local ARB store or stockist for pricing and availability.

More information available here:

<https://www.arb.com.au/struggle-no-more-thanks-to-tailgate-assist/>



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WHATEVER YOUR ADVENTURE



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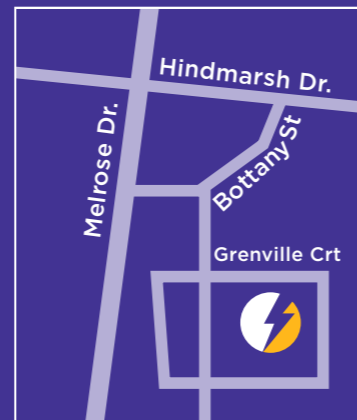
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