

NISSAN 4x4 NEWS

Cape York Trip June - 2023

March 2024



Deni at Christmas



New Year's Eve & Pottering around Wandarrah





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Nissan 4x4 News is the official magazine of The Nissan Four Wheel Drive Club of Victoria Inc. ("the Club") which is a member of Four Wheel Drive Victoria. Articles, trip reports, social and technical reports etc are welcomed for inclusion in **Nissan 4x4 News**.

General Meetings:

Meetings are held on the **first Wednesday of every month** (except January) at the Keysborough Senior Citizens Club, 352 Cheltenham Road, Keysborough. (Melways Map Ref 89 D9). **General and Committee Meetings commence at 7.30 PM Sharp.**

Correspondence:

All correspondence (except articles for Nissan News) should be addressed to:

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PO Box 351
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Advertising Rates

Annual Rates

Full Page:

\$670 (colour) / \$460 (black & white)

Half Page:

\$380 (colour) / \$260 (black & white)

Eighth Page:

\$110 (colour) / \$75 (black & white)

"One off" page advertising (introductions, special promotions etc) per page \$100 (colour) / \$70 (B&W)

For items marked on "For Sale" pages members can list items for sale at no charge for 3 months. Non-members \$10 (conditions apply, contact Editor for details).

CLUB LIFE MEMBERS

Steve Trickey	Clive Garaway
John Barnes	Paul Warner
Peter Simpson	John Tomlinson
Gary Lister	Trevor Heale
*Alan McCabe	John Fowler
Brian Rollins	James Watson
Darren Jones	Steve Nugent

CLUB BANK DETAILS

BSB: 083-237
A/C No: 36-519-5031
A/C Name:
Nissan 4X4 Club of Victoria Inc

Remember to include your name in the reference details.



From the Editor

Hello Members,

Welcome to the March edition of the club magazine.

Thanks to all who have provided trip reports and other material.

Please keep them coming along with any other content for the magazine.

When sending via email or a google link to download, please ensure it is in an editable format so I can manipulate it into the magazine editor design program as easily as possible.

Stay safe everybody,
Michael Dingli
Editor Nissan 4x4 Club of Victoria

Cover: Cape York Trip
Photos by: Hazel & Bron
Cover: Deni at Christmas
Photo by : Kirrily Briet
Cover: NYE & Pottering at Wandarrah
Photos by Heath Glass

Membership

A new member joins the Club as an Associate Member. Once the following attainments are achieved the member can apply for Full Membership:

Full membership form is available in the members pack or request from Membership Secretary or download from web site. Once a Full Member you are eligible for a key to the club property.

- Been an Associate Member for 6 months.
- Completed Driver Training.
- Attended 2 club trips.
- Participated in a Club working bee and/or kitchen roster at a general meeting.
- Attended at least 4 general meetings.

Membership Fee's as at 1st June 2023

Once off joining Fee of \$110 (this includes driver training).

Annual Subscription of \$165.

Therefore a new members cost would be \$275 for the first year. Pro-rata is calculated for the second years membership fee.

If you have any questions about membership please contact the membership secretary or approach any of the Committee members at the next General Meeting.

The Club wish to sincerely thank the NOBLE PARK FOOTBALL CLUB for the use of their club rooms for committee meetings.

**Are you looking for a 4x4 Club?
Do you enjoy 4 wheel driving?
Do you enjoy the outdoors?
Are you looking to join a fun, family friendly club?**



Take a look at the advantages of becoming a member.

About Us:

The Nissan club was formed in 1976 to engage in and promote four wheel driving for recreation. From those beginnings of some friends with G60 Patrols, we have grown into a well organised and inclusive group of over 200 members.

There is a mixture of 4WDs within the club such as: Patrol, Pathfinder, Navara, Landcruiser, Hilux, Prado, Wrangler, Pajero, Ranger, Defender, Discovery, Amarok, BT-50, D-Max.

Club Events:

Club events and trips are run through out the year. They cover the whole of Australia, so wherever you plan to go for your next trip we can certainly help. Club members have a wide range of experiences and are always keen to assist with suggestions, hints and information for your trip planning. The Events Coordinator ensures there is a good variety of events and trips available, from the Victorian High Country to the deserts of Central Australia - we have a lot to offer.



4x4 Trips have varying levels of difficulty from Novice (Easy) through to Expert (Very difficult). Trips range from half a day, one day, mid-week and weekend or several weeks depending on where you want to go.

Examples of trips are:

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------|------|
| Portland Sand Dunes | Victorian High Country | Border Track | Simpson Desert | Snow |
| Victorian Mallee | Wyperfield NP | Cape York | | |

Helping the Community:

We participate in events which help the community. We are associated with a number of organisations and help out with:

- Clean up the bush
- Restoration of historic land marks
- Charity Events
- BlazeAid



Social Events:

The club also has a social committee which organises social events such as dinners, Christmas parties and fun sporting events.

Driver Education:

As part of your membership we have a qualified driver training team that holds driver education programs to assist drivers in 4WD techniques and the safe and responsible use of 4WD equipment.

Club Property:

We are saving the best for last! The club has its own 80 acre property, two hours east of Melbourne, in picturesque East Gippsland. Club members can enjoy the facilities at their leisure, with plenty of sites for tents, camper trailers or caravans, there are also hot showers and flushing toilets. The extensive fire place area for camp cooking or relaxing with other members at happy hour is a popular spot. There are well maintained 4WD tracks on the property, as well as the tracks in the beautiful area of the State Forest which borders the property.



**So what are you waiting for?
Join now and enjoy the experiences of a life time.**

Don't forget to check out the web site for more details.



The members of the Nissan 4x4 Club would like to welcome the following to the club:

Jurgens Zkogstads (Temporary membership)

Wendy Cunnington

Matt Goodman

John Haig

Matt Johnstone

Glenn Maddison

Leslie Palmer

Denis Southern

Andrew Vasilakopoulos

Baram Ziaabadi

Congratulate the following members for attaining Full Membership:

Adrian Lilliott



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Also have a camper trailer to take away for an extra \$1,200.00 neg.

Call Mark Vella long time member on 0425 846 947

2) Brand new Yokohama Geolander 265/70/R16

Retail \$210 will sell for \$100

Contact Mike Hale on 0418 351 758



Trips and Events

Below is a list of trips and events for club members to attend.

Full trip details are available on the club web site. If you wish to attend an event or trip, register via the web site and contact the trip leader if you have any questions.




Notice on attending trips: Please make sure that your vehicle is registered, driver has a current drivers licence and your membership subscription is up to date.

16th March 2024
Limitless: infinity

Trip Leader:
Stephanie Svendsen

Pakenham Show, P.B Ronald Reserve

Calling all volunteers to help run the Nissan 4x4 Club stand at the Pakenham Show on Saturday 16 March 2024 from 9am. Ideally we would like 8 members to help out on the day for a couple of hours each on the stand. It should be pretty easy just chatting to people, promoting the club, answering any questions. We will have photos up and leaflets available. More details on the club website or contact Steph








23rd to 24th March 2024
Limit: infinity

Trip Leader:
Mick Massey

March 2024 Working Bee

Working bees are held quarterly and are a great way to get us together as a club group to make improvements and repairs to the property we all love. Without the working bees, Wandarrah would not be the draw card she is now. It gives full members a chance to catch up with one another, get out into our native bush lands, and slow time down for a weekend. For new or associate members it's a great way to earn points towards your own full membership

29th March - 1st April 2024
Limit: 5

Trip Leader:
Jorgen Skogstad

FALLS CREEK WINTER RECCIE

Will be doing several trips up to Falls Creek during winter season to snowboard and wanting to reccie the areas around Falls Creek, Mount Beauty, Bogong & surrounds for places to stay, winter camp, tour and anything in between.






20th April 2024
Limitless

Trip Leader:
Amy Jones

STAFF NEEDED FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT CAR CLUB RALLY

STAFF NEEDED PLEASE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT CAR CLUB RALLY 20TH APRIL THROUGH FORESTS NEAR ADA RIVER/NOOJEE/NEERIM. You need to make contact with Amy and not just register please. **Amy = 0410 038 587** after 5:30 pm MON - FRI or on weekends or email at **amy.l.j.1997@gmail.com**








25th -29th April 2024
Limit: 7

Trip Leader:
Jorgen Skogstad

ROBE & BEACHPORT

Get a few days doing the Robe & Beachport runs and explore more of the nooks & crannies on & around that track and area.

17th to 19th May
2024

Trip Leader:
Darren Jones

Driver Training

Limit: 11



The next Driver Training will be held at the Club Property, Wandarrah with proposed dates 18-19/05/24 New members, new drivers or existing members with a different 4wd or just wishing to do a refresher should contact Driver Education Coordinator to book in for this event..



23rd May - 24th
Jun 2024

Trip Leader:
Tony Noble

KIMBERLEYS, KATHERINE & KINGS CANYON

Limit: 7



2024 TRIP TO ALL THE MAIN LOCATIONS IN THE KIMBERLEYS AND A DROP INTO THE KATHERINE GORGE AND KINGS CANYON ON THE WAY HOME



17th to 30th April
2025

Trip Leader:
Tony Noble

EYRE PENINSULA AND GOOGS TRACK

Limit: 5



2024 TRIP TO Eyre Peninsula and Googs Track.

Refer to the club website under trips for full details



	EASY	MEDIUM	DIFFICULT	VERY DIFFICULT
Overview Description	All-wheel Drive and High Range 4WD. Novice Drivers.	Mainly High Range 4WD but Low Range required. Some 4WD experience or training required.	Significant Low Range 4WD with standard 4WD ground clearance. Should have 4WD driver training.	Low Range 4WD with high ground clearance. Experienced drivers.
Advisory Sign/Symbol	Green Circle	Blue Square	Black Diamond	Double Black Diamond
Expected terrain & track conditions	Mostly unsealed roads with no obstacles and minor gradients.	Tracks with some steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. May have shallow water crossings.	Tracks with frequent steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy track sections. Possible water crossings.	Tracks with frequent very steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy track sections. May have difficult river crossings.
Vehicle Suitability	All-wheel drive and High range 4WD. Can be low clearance with single range and road tyres.	Suitable for medium clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain or road tyres.	Suitable for medium to high clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain tyres.	Suitable for high clearance vehicles with dual range tyres suitable for the terrain. (Mud terrain tyres)
Recovery Equipment				Winch/Recovery equipment required.
Driver training experience	Suitable for novice drivers.	Recommended that drivers have experience or 4WD training. Recommended to be done in groups of vehicles.	Recommended for drivers with reasonable experience or 4WD training. To be done in groups of vehicles.	Drivers with extensive experience and advanced training should only attempt as there are several technical challenges. Recommended to be done in groups of four or more vehicles.
Weather	May be more difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.



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Driver Training Program



The initial aim of the club is to ensure that all members are proficient 4 wheel drivers. To assist in this end, our club has a driver education program for new members. The training is run by our own qualified training team.

The team members are very experienced members of the club in touring, and offroading in general. They are there to help people become familiar with their vehicle, with safe four wheel driving techniques, with the various equipment that is available, and to promote responsible bush driving and touring.

Our other aim is to enable people to gain the knowledge and confidence in all aspects of four wheel driving to travel safely and be prepared.

This training is included in your membership fees. Private courses similar to the one provided by our fully accredited training team, may cost hundreds of dollars.

The Driver Education Program is held as a weekend course at the Club Property with theory and practical exercises.

These are some of the points that the course includes:

- Ascending and Descending Steep Hills.
- Recovery Procedures.
- Safety aspects of Vehicle Packing.
- General Tips and Techniques.
- Correct Preparation for Water Hazards.
- Correct Use of Communications Equipment.
- Use and Care of Recovery Equipment.



Who should complete Driver Training?

While the primary driver must do Driver Training, we also encourage partners to complete the training. This will give them more confidence in the vehicles capabilities as well as give them the experience needed should they need to take over driving at any time. Please talk to the Driver Training coordinator about these options and any other members of your family that may benefit the training.

How to register for training?

If you are already a registered member have a look at the dates available in magazine or website when Driver Training is being held. Contact the Driver Training coordinator to make a booking and discuss options.



Deni at Christmas 2023



Date: 26/12/2023 to 2/1/2024

Trip Leader: Amy Jones

Attendees:

Alex Glover

Darren and Sharon Jones

Neil and Lisa Brydson

Kirrily and Annabel Briet

This was a lovely, relaxing week by the Edward River.



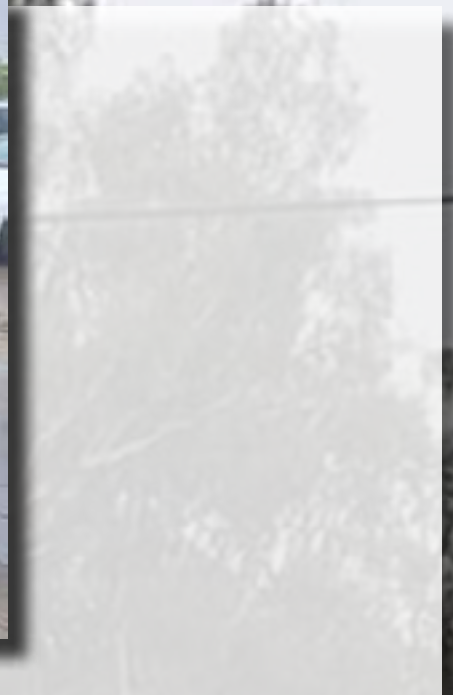
The week started with the rains we had over Christmas. Driving there on Boxing Day consisted of temperature between 27 degrees and 17 degrees, with sun and rain.



By the time we got there, the sun was out and drying up the ground. Amy, Alex, Darren and Sharon were already there, set up and relaxing.

Neil and Lisa arrived the following day and that night we gathered around the fire for some drinks, chatter and banter. The next few days the weather improved and some of us went for a relaxing float down the river.

On Friday the weather turned bad so we took the opportunity to do some site seeing. Gavin and Val Banbury had joined us for a few days and we all took off for a tour of Deni and on to Conargo Pub for lunch. Between the 10 of us, we had 6 dogs and the pub didn't have an undercover beer garden (it was pouring with rain). They had a great undercover area at the front so we asked permission to move tables and chairs out there. It was quite a sight – all walking out of the front door with tables and chairs. Lol. After a great lunch we headed to the site of the Deni Ute Muster, lined up the cars and took the obligatory photo and then on to another pub. The rain had stopped so the dogs were able to have a run out the back of this pub.



The weather improved again with some hot days and more floating. New Years Eve saw us congregated at Neil and Lisa's site where we all pitched in for a slow cooked pulled lamb rolls which Neil had prepared while we were floating (Thanks Neil, it was delish). Finished dinner off with a fruit salad in waffle cones.

The countdown came along and we let off some poppers (great for clearing up the next morning!!) and wished each other a Happy New Year.





Trip Report

Report By: Heath Glass

Wandarrah Pottering Jan - 2024

Name: Wandarrah Pottering

Date: 10-12 Jan 2024

Participants:

Heath Glass

Ash Heap

Matt Goodman

Peter and Kim Ozols

While at Wandarrah over the NYE period you could see that the grass was growing rapidly with all the rain and sun we have been having. There will possibly be a few trips there before the next working bee so it was time to get some pottering done and do some gardening.

On the way to the property I could see that the water under Lanigans bridge was very high so I stopped at the weir lookout and they had 2 spillways open. It was pouring out. I would assume this would have been from Monday's rain storm.

Arriving at Wandarrah you could see the continuous stream of water heading down to the main camp and to Lower Wandarrah, there is a lot of water coming out of the hill. Ash arrived not too long after and got stuck in straight away mowing the camping area he was going to be in and areas around him.

I also noted the rain gauge after signing in and there had been 120mm since it was reset at NYE.



I spent a few hours patching up the donkey boiler as the top was starting to fall again. So some TLC was required so a new top was made as it was rusting away, the flu was cleaned up and bracing was put in to stop it falling in again. Hopefully this keeps it happy for a while.



Matt arrived later that afternoon and the plan was to head to Sandy Point for a swim. Well by the time we got there the temperature had dropped from 31 to 21 degrees so no swimming. Lake Glenmaggie was very high. No sand at Sandy Point today. So we headed back and decided to take Matt to Pearson's Point as this was his first time to Wandarrah. Not much of a sunset as the clouds had blown in with the cold weather, but that's OK as it's a nice view.



We had an early night as there were a few big days coming.

The next day we started the crazy task of mowing and whipper snipping. We were lucky that it was overcast and cooler than the day before.





Trip Report

Report By: Heath Glass



Funny that all our equipment was battery operated, even Ash's mower. That was definitely a first and the way the world is going.

We got a reasonable amount done but plenty more to do tomorrow.

I needed to head up to the top of Ferngully Track to remove a tree that had fallen as you couldn't get past. So I had the bright idea to drive up there. Well I didn't get far off the main track before I was bogged. Yes, Heath stuck again at Wandarra. So I sheepishly walked back to camp and asked Matt if he could recover me. Matt's new to 4x4ing so it was a bit of practice. After a small static line pull I was out. Matt thought he could get through in his GQ 4.2, lockers and 35's". Answer was no. When you are still on 40 PSI mud is always harder. :)



Peter and Kim arrived later in the afternoon ready for a full day's work tomorrow. We had a nice bush TV going, chatted, had some dinner, chatted more and a not so early night before bed.

Friday was a bit of a slow start, in hindsight we should have started a lot earlier as this was going to be a hot day. We all basically got cracking on more grass work. Peter decided the thistles that were about to seed needed to be removed so with a wheelbarrow in tow they started to be removed. There were lots.



The last thing to get done was some weed killer in the non-grass areas that started to be green. Matt and I spent a couple of hours doing this. Matt did most of the weed spraying as he had an electric unit and it made the job so much easier. I think I need to get a Makita one. :)

We didn't get to many campsites in Lower Wandarrah as they are all wet and boggy so hopefully they dry out before the next working bee. At least a majority of the sites are clean and ready for camping.

After an awesome three days of work it was time to pack up and head back to the big smoke.



I would like to thank everyone that attended and put in an amazing amount of work. Much more than I expected as these pottering trips were meant to be relaxing but there was so much to do.

I am sure there will be more of these trips as when the tracks dry out we can start getting stuck into those.

Hope to see you on the next one.

Cheers.
Heath.



Trip Report

Report By: Heath Glass







New Year's Eve 2023/2024 @ Wandarrah

Report By: Heath Glass

Description: NYE @ Wandarrah

Date: 28th Dec 2023 to 1st Jan 2024

Trip Leader: Heath Glass

Rating: Easy - Medium

Attendees:

Heath Glass and Sarah Bounden (TL)

Tino Micari

Brian and Rosie Smith

Wendy Cunnington

Peter and Kim Ozols

Ash Heap

Tony and Jamie Withers

Paul Verbeek and Sharon Cannon

Shane Bacon and Pauline Robbers

Michael, Liatan, Hilla, Shira and David Kremer

Rob, Kucas and Olivia Welsh

Guests Attendees:

Paul Ozimo

Dawn Lazaro

Yaniv, Mouri, Romy, Ella and Jordan Rodenski

David Armitage (dropped in)



Introduction: As a few of you know, Sarah and I enjoy spending NYE at Wandarrah, away from the crowds in the public camping areas. Wandarrah is a great destination to relax and enjoy bush camping with a few luxuries. We arrived there on Wednesday to make sure the gate was open when others arrived as we had a few associate members and guests attending. We got there to find that Tino had come down a day earlier so everything was open, so that was great.



While it did rain a bit on the way down it stopped at the property and Tino said that it had not rained while he was there. Well we had just enough time to set up camp and down it came. It basically rained the rest of the day. Sarah recorded the





rain gauge setting and noticed that there was 76mm of rain since the 4 Dec (last recorded). She checked the gauge around 8pm later that night and we had 11mm since we had been there.

Tino showed me the hole in the stairs that has eroded and we needed to get it fixed as there will be people camping in Lower Wandarrah and I didn't want any incidents. So a few of us got together with a trailer in tow and grabbed some rocks that the grader had put onto the side of the main track. It took a lot of rocks to fill and after the blue stones were put back on the top you would have never known there was a hole there. Great teamwork. Hopefully that holds for a while.

Over the next 4 days people trickled into the property as not everyone came at the start. David Armitage dropped in for a few hours on NYE to have a chat with everyone which was great.

There were lots of day trips to various local locations. These were either single or multiple car trips so people got out and visited the local area. A few sunset trips to Pearson's point were great and gave the new members a look over the awesome area we have on offer.

Wendy, Shane, Pauline and Ash had a day trip up to Valencia Creek where Wendy showed the others her old stomping grounds for motorbike riding and camping. They also visited blue pools and had lunch at the Briagolong pub.



We had one trip to Huggetts Crossing as we intended to cross the Avon and head up the hill but looking at the Avon we decided the crossing was a bit hazardous and we didn't need that grief. I didn't get any pictures but the Avon had been carved out a bit (now deeper in the middle) and the amount of sand that had moved into the area was amazing. There were no rocks on the shore any more, it was all sand. The big rocks that were put across the river had been moved a few metres, but the biggest thing of all were the rocks up on the bank to stop people driving to the swimming pools that were now covered with sand. Yes Sand was over a metre in depth now.

We finally did a 4x4 trip on the final day (NYE), it was decided to head the the western side of the range which is called Monomak/Gillum area. I have a loop that I do with beginners which puts them out of their comfort zone just a bit and allows them to see the capabilities of their vehicle.





I haven't done this trip in quite some time so I had no idea of its condition or how much the track will be overgrown. The main attraction is 3 very steep hills. I did notice a bit of erosion on the first hill which revealed a lot of rock face so definitely 1st gear for this one. The others were steeper but they had ruts to drive, only issue with this was one of the cars was not

lifted so Michael had an interesting time getting over one of the washouts but with a bit of wheel spinning and eventually traction control he got over.

The tracks were definitely overgrown and pin striping was the in thing. That's four wheel driving for you. Arrived back at camp by 6pm ready for NYE festivities.

Rosie had organised a happy hour which was great, that was in full swing when we arrived back.

A few days earlier people were talking about smores and making them as there were a few that had not eaten them before. I opened my big mouth and said I have the best way to make them. So yes it fell on me to get it happening. This method comes from the Bloxidge Family and I think its the only way to have smores with a large group. (ask if you want to know how). Smores were enjoyed by all.



Brian suggested to me that it would be good if we could view the broadcast countdown and watch the fireworks. After some thought we rigged something up with a large BT speaker (thanks Paul O) and belted out the countdown and watched fireworks.

With the introduction into 2024 it was not long before everyone headed to bed as the last 3 nights were late ones.



Everyone slowly packed up the following morning and I think we were all out by noon.

I would like to thank everyone for attending and making it an enjoyable event. We had lots of laughs and plenty of banter.

Until next time.

Cheers.



Cape York 2023 - part 1

Trip Report By: Hazel Chambers & Bron Christiansen

Trip leader: Tony Noble

Participants:

- GQ Patrol: Tony Noble & Mark Malady
- 79 Series Landcruiser: Jørgen Skogstad & Anne Skogstad
- GU Patrol: Stephen Bloomer and Straun Cameron
- GU Patrol: Hazel Chambers & Bron Christiansen
- Hilux: Stu Brockwell & Brett Moore-Carter
- Hilux: Mark de Santis & Andrew Martin
- GU Patrol: Bill Sullivan
- GU Patrol: Chris, Brooke & Annika Veldwyk

Assemble the Alluring team

To see the names on a group chat is one thing. To meet everyone in person is another. We were an eclectic group with a wide range of experiences and talents! We had submitted our names on a list to drive to Cape York.

The trip was organised (very well organised!) by Tony Noble and although originally limited to 4 cars, found itself being expanded to 8. Everything was planned – did I mention the spreadsheets??!!

With long distances, comes long driving days. The chatter on the radio made the days go fast and the laughter generated from random comments cemented memories for us all. Some mechanical issues meant that the original itinerary was changed and the wet weather in the lead up to our arrival also meant some tracks were closed/un-driveable.

Although unplanned, the routes we did drive were very enjoyable and the routes not driven provide an incentive to re-visit the area again!

Day 1 (3/6/2023) to Cobar: 770km

7.30am scheduled to meet at Kalkallo waiting for trip leader some arriving super early (hey Stu?)

We arrive at the meeting point on a rainy, cold Melbourne morning. Whilst the group arrived on time, we were left waiting for someone to arrive before we could head off.... Yeah, we needed that one!

We were to meet some of our crew in Cairns – a couple of the team had left earlier to holiday with partners ahead of the Cape trip and we were to meet them in sunny Queensland.



The Melbourne crew ready to hit the road – Hungry Jacks, Kalkallo



Trip Report

First stop for lunch at Darling Point, NSW along the banks of the Murrumbidgee River. Among the highlights from today included spotting a huge wedge tailed eagle eating road kill – their wingspan is incredible and to see them take off is spectacular!

As we were coming through the countryside, we noticed a weird cloud formation. It appeared like a huge “A-bomb” type cloud from a large fire outside of Cobar. It ended up being a large bushfire – one which cut off a few rural roads until it was put out.



Clouds near Cobar



Camping at Cobar Caravan Park

On the roads, there was a lot of Goat and Roo dodging coming into town. Not sure if Bodo's horn made any significant difference – the “unmanly toot-toot” probably meant the animals dispersed out of embarrassment rather than fear....

We arrived in Cobar 6.10pm. Some headed for dinner at the pub, others gathered around the fire. It was mostly early night with everyone heading to bed around 8-10pm.



“The Cunnamulla Fella”- Cunnamulla, QLD

Day 2 (4/6/2023) Cobar to Tambo 781km:

We had all packed up and left Cobar at 8am via a bakery stop (apple cakes for Mark and other goodies for Jorgen). Some “days of thunder quotes” and maybe “talledaga nights” started the morning off with a smile.

Tony “Road warrior” Noble - passing the “unlabelled dangerous liquid” tanker twice – it was a long road train with aluminium tanks. With a short fuel stop, we watched the tanker drive past us which meant we had to pass again up the road!! 11.20am passed into Queensland with little fanfare but it meant we were in the state of the Maroons!

Hazel announced on the radio that she would like to see a thorny devil and Tony then announced she can see one coming out of a green patrol in the morning. “Th” Tony... “Th”!

We stopped at Cunnamulla for lunch, the home of Slim Dusty’s famous tune. Andrew announced he will serenade us tonight with a glass of wine - the lucky convoy were treated to a cameo over the CB. Lucky us!!!

Other highlights of the afternoon:

- Andrew gives Tony a break from driving and takes over driving Bodo with some “light right foot” comments to begin with but he responded well to feedback and eventually got over 90...
- Hazel has her second arvo nap of the trip leaving Bronny co-pilot less.
- Brooke announced she likes the big trucks...
- Brett finally gets to drive Heidi at 4pm
- Weather noticeably warmer with Mark “Jane Bunn” giving a temp update of 27°C.



Amazing sunset coming into Tambo

Dinner at the Carrangarra Hotel in Tambo with most of the crew. Listened to Mike at the pub serenading with a variety of well-known songs.



Day 3 (5/6/2023) Tambo to Tambo, 60km

Rudely woken by the rooster at 4.17am who was then joined in his morning chorus by a mate!

We were already to head off and we left at the caravan park at 7.50am
By 8.15, we were at truck stop with broken Bodo – harmonic Balancer.



Yep, definitely broken!



***Chris, aka “Spanners”
inspecting Bodo***

10.00 back into Tambo – Bodo under tow from the Norweigan king.

We found lovely area along the river in Tambo to free camp.

With Bodo in the mechanics waiting for a new Harmonic balance, Tony borrowed Mark’s swag in order to have somewhere to sleep for the night. After unpacking and setting it up, Tony was not happy with the residual campfire smell still contained within the fabric of the canvas.

Andrew came over to offer his opinion of the odour contained within the swag. “It smells... alluring”. And so “Alluring” became the word of the trip!



Andrew helping Tony investigate the “Alluring” smell from the swag.

With BODO in the shop for the night, it enabled the crew to check out the famous Tambo Chicken races. Having missed them the first night in Tambo, the team were able to arrive early to grab a spot and to bid on a coloured chicken! Among some serious bidding (sometimes against our own partners, hey Hazel??!!) Hazel managed to place a bid and be successful in the “ownership” of the purple chicken Priscilla. With crazy coloured chooks running amok and the “cheerful” chicken boy Toby helping to keep an eye on things, Hazel’s chook Priscilla comes third. Let’s celebrate with another beer!



Ben's Chicken Races – The Royal Carrangarra

Campfire with stories of Armageddon... Or is that "Innamincka"??

Day 4 (6/6/2023) Tambo to Pentland 610kms

Woke up along the River and saw Andrew heading off with shovel in hand – it is important not to make eye contact!!

With the part for BODO due in at 8am and fitting to take until lunchtime, some of the team elected to see the sights of Tambo, including its claim to fame; site of the first Qantas crash. "Qantas never crashed" you say???



Andrew and Mark checking out the site of the first Qantas crash, Tambo QLD



Trip Report

We also got to meet the Hotels resident dogs; Memphis (brown) and Sue (black) (editor's note so he doesn't feel left out, Jørgen (blue) . Both were huge dogs but very gentle and loved a pat!



11.50am ,and we were back on the road. Bodo had a new harmonic balancer and the team were feeling optimistic!



1pm off the road again with broken belts on Bodo (Blackwell).

Quick trip to the local auto parts shop sourced a full set of belts for Bodo. A tight pulley bolt meant the AirCon belt had to wait for another day.

After leaving the mechanic at Tambo, Bodo again needed some time off the road to replace the belts. Spanners to the rescue fixing belts, although no air con for Tony.

Fine: Tony left the back door of Bodo open. We let him off as his was a bit under stress today!

On the “quickest way to Townsville”, a rogue rock bounced up from an oncoming vehicle and led to a significant stone chip windscreen in Betsi (GU Patrol). A quick stop for some glue in the chip and the team were back on the way.

In other significant events of the day:

- Heidi (Hilux) cracks 440,000 kms on the way to Torrens Creek.
- Our resident weather person, Mark “Jane Bunn” announces temperature call 26°C at 6pm!

As we are headed to the next camp site, and dusk approaches, Tony takes out a flock of birds. Then the competition for the lead car came into play with a game of “my lights are better than your candles”. Otherwise known as “daytime, nighttime”!!



Day 5 (7/6/2023) Pentland to Noah's Beach 701kms

In the interest of trying to ensure that Mark M (who was in Cairns) got to sleep in his accommodation for the evening, the team split this morning. A group of 3 cars (Bodo, Betty and Betsi) left for Cairns whilst the remaining crew would catch up with us near Cooktown. It worked out that the 3 which left for Cairns were Nissans, and the 3 catching up later were Toyotas!

5.45am Team Nissan on the road and headed with the "Alluring" swag to Mark M.

It is interesting to see what you see when you are on the road! Driving on the outskirts of Townsville, we noticed some road workers with leaf blowers and brooms sweeping dirt which prompted one of the team to ask over the radio "wonder what they did to deserve that job!"

11.30am lunch at Cardwell – beautiful spot with the town right on the beach and plenty of parking.

Made it to Noah's beach at 4.30pm and Tony was happily reunited with his driving partner. After setting up camp, the team couldn't believe how beautiful this camp stop was. Breathtaking right in the Daintree and walk through to the beach.





Noah's beach camp site – Daintree rainforest, QLD

Team Toyota had 2 RBT stops along the way!

We made it to Cairns for cold showers (refreshing!) and a camp for the night



.....Stay tuned for part 2 in the next magazine issue.....

GVM UPGRADES

for

Y61 Patrol GU and Land Cruiser 200 Series

Engineer Certified

What is GVM ?

GVM (gross vehicle mass) is the factory and legal maximum weight of the vehicle when loaded with people and cargo. Fitting accessories such as bull bars, winches, rear bars, roof racks and storage systems etc, can quickly use up the available payload allowance before the car is filled with passengers, food, camping equipment or tow ball weight.

Why do a GVM upgrade?

A GVM upgrade should be done for safety and legal reasons to protect yourself from traffic infringements, to maintain insurance cover, but most of all to maintain a safe and stable vehicle while touring.



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ATOC has over 30 years experience in the 4WD industry, servicing, repairs, accessories and modifications. As with all our work, we have selected the very best products from industry leading manufacturers to give you the best reliability and long service life, for this reason our GVM upgrade kits use KONI shock absorbers and King Springs. **Do the job once and do it right.** We are continually adding other vehicle models to our GVM upgrade range.

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The 'Aberfeldy Tracks' Project

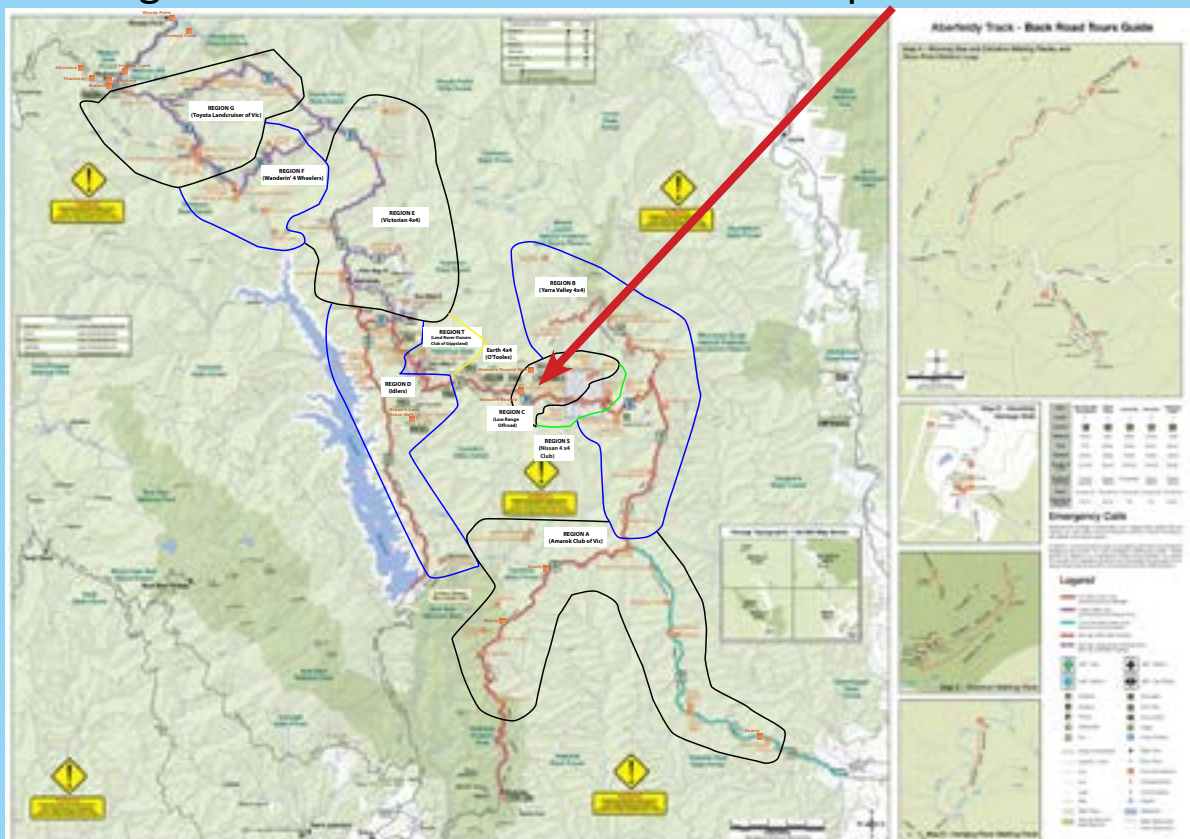
The West Gippsland Relic, Mining and Heritage Protection Inc are maintenance managers of the 'Aberfeldy Tracks' Project.

The Nissan 4x4 Club of Victoria have two regular working bee dates each year for club member volunteers to help maintain the Store Point Discovery Walk and Concord Gully area sign. These areas are a very important part of Victoria's gold mining history.

The trip dates and more details are on the club web site and in the trips and events section of magazine. **Keep an eye out for the next trip as your help is important.**

If you wish to know more about the West Gippsland Relic, Mining and Heritage Protection Inc. then visit their web site: www.westgippslandinc.com.au

Map Showing location of Nissan 4x4 Club clean up area



Some of the clubs that volunteer their time





Information

How to Run a Club Trip

All trips MUST be accepted by the Events Coordinator before being advertised in the Club Magazine or forum. Send an email to the Events Coordinator which details your trip.

Once the Events Coordinator has approved the trip it is posted in the Trips section of the Club Forum. Once posted on the Club Forum, please ensure that you keep the trip entry up to date with attendees and review it regularly for comments or questions from members.

To comply with our insurance requirements it is essential to complete the required paperwork. Members can use the online digital trip participant form to quickly and easily submit the required details. Alternatively a printable version of the form can be downloaded from the club website (<http://www.nissan4x4vic.com.au>) or Four Wheel Drive Vic. website (<http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au>).

All other forms for trip leaders and guests can be downloaded from the club website (<http://www.nissan4x4vic.com.au>) or FWDV website (<http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au>).

If you have any ideas about a trip and/or questions speak with the Events Coordinator (events@nissan4x4vic.com.au) or any of the committee members.

Submitting a Trip Report

I have recently had members ask me how to write a trip report. As trip reports are a fundamental part of the magazine, it's great when members want to share their interesting experiences with the club community.

The general rule of thumb when submitting a report is to provide as much relevant information as possible. For example:

- Specify whether it's Club or Personal Trip.
- Trip name and date.
- Participants on Trip.
- Photos.
- Trip report text.
- Selfie or avatar if you prefer.

When I receive your details I will create a proof of your report and send it to you for changes or approval.

When you write your report, do it from your perspective, how you experienced the trip from start to finish. I find it helpful to look at the map or GPS file as well as photos to jog those memories.

When I receive your draft I will create a proof and send it to back to you to make changes if necessary.

Hope this helps to get those reports in.

Cheers. Heath.

Short Notice Trips

In the past members who wished to run trips were asked to provide sufficient notice for their trips to appear in the Magazine and Club website. FWDV have informed us that provided the following information is supplied, short notice club trips will be covered by FWDV insurance.

The short notice trips will typically be trips one week or less from the intended trip start date. It's to have been sanctioned by the Club Events Coordinator prior to commencement and a completed trips participants form is also to be passed on to the Events Coordinator once the trip has been run.

All we ask is that you provide the Events Coordinator with a brief outline of the trip, how many vehicles including you own will be participating, and the trip rating.

With this information at hand we will endeavour to post your trip on the website for members to see.



General Meeting Minutes



February 2024 – General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 7th February 7:30pm

Meeting held at Keysborough Senior Citizens Club at 352 Cheltenham Road, Keysborough 3172

Apologies: Jorgen Skogstad , Rod Barnard

Guests#

Approval of Previous Minutes# Kirrily Briet, Gary Moloney

Business Arising from previous Meeting#

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President David Van Leeuwen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome back hope all had a terrific xmas break. Ideas box use – Will be handled by Li-ane (secretary) and reported to other committee members as required. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominations for outstanding members Ideas for changes to Wandarrah Ideas for club clothing you would like to see Ideas you would like to present to committee. Any other ideas that come to mind
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice President Matt Rollins 	Nothing to report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary Li-ane Pollard 	Nothing to report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treasurer Evan Wellard 	<p>In the clubs bank account, we currently have \$48115 and another \$1,700 in our Airwallex virtual credit card account and postage float.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenue for December and January is \$3,881, of which include of \$2365 is members subscriptions and joining fees, \$920 from the raffles and \$200 in club sales Expenses for December to date are \$2500, of which include of \$322 Catering costs, \$277 for software costs, \$393 Hall Hire and bond, \$ 1,125 Repairs, and maintenance of Wandarrah and \$55 in PayPal/bank Fees <p>I have put together a 6 monthly financial report for our membership as a few members at the last GM was asking how the club was financially. As I am absent tonight this will be send to your emails for your review, if you have any questions. Please don't hesitate to contact me.</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memberships Steve Moon 	<p>Associate Members – 52 Full membership – 129 Life member – 14 New awaiting approval – 2 Total Members – 195 Full membership – 143 Members needed for quorum – 29</p> <p>Badge Presentations Matt Johnstone and Claire Dunn – Absent Matt and Karen Goodman – Absent Wendy Cunnington – Absent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further stats have been added to the website. Now have a great range of data to look at. It's important to note though that the data is only as accurate as our website. If all members could keep their data up to date it would be really helpful. This is extremely helpful for trip leaders as well so they know what vehicles to expect.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driver Training Darren Jones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Driver Training – 18TH-19TH May - Full
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editor Michael Dingli 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working to release January magazine Mid to late next week with trip reports or anything for sale please send as soon as possible.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Coordinator Mick Massey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree clearing over xmas didn't happen due to rain – will keep members updated on the progress. • Next Working bee is scheduled for March 23rd/24th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sgt at Arms Mark DeSantis 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host Lenny Tucker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New members attended the new years eve at Wandarrah and all had a great time at the property.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Co-Ordinator Deb Nugent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As Deb our social coordinator will be absent for most of this year Steve Moon has put his hand up to organize the Christmas in July function along with any other functions that may come up. .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing Steph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merchandise – working on new stock and ideas anyone might have. • Looking into doing the August 4x4 show which is held 23rd-25th August.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ordinary Member 1 Gary Moloney 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone who hasn't got there new key please see Gary.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ordinary Member 2 Rob Barnard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trips & Events Coordinator • Tony Noble 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Saturday 10th February – Gumbaya Park – so far 31 people are registered. Should be good day. • 12TH – 16th February there is a 5 day trip through the high country and there are still spots available • Reminder of our working bee march 23rd & 24th so please sign up as we all know many hands make light work • 29th March – 1st April – falls creek reccy spots may open so put yourself on the waitlist. • A reminder that the waitlist is exactly that -it doesn't guarantee You will get to go on the trip but if people drop out then the trip leader knows who to contact. • Driver training on 17th-19th May which is at capacity but do add Your name or contact our illustrious driver trainer co-ordinator To discuss if more people can fit in,
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webmaster Jorgen Skogstad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent
	<p>General Business :</p> <p>Presenter# President</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned burn around Wyndarra property from Millers road and surrounds date TBA,, • Reminder Theres a car rally on 20th April out of Noogee, If you would like to take part or volunteer please contact Darren Jones for more details. <p>Meeting Closed. 8.30</p>



Committee Meeting Minutes

Nissan 4x4 Club of Victoria Inc.

Committee Meeting

Wednesday 21st February via Google Meet

Meeting opened at 7:30

Attendees: David Van Leeuwen, Matt Rollins, Li-ane Pollard, Steve Moon, Mick Massey , Darren Jones, Michael Dingli, Mark De Santos, , Gary Moloney, Rod Barnard, Tony Noble Stephanie Swendsen

Apologies: Jorgen Skogstad, Deb Nugent,

Guests:

Acceptance of Previous Minutes: Gary Moloney and Matt Rollins

President – David Van Leewan

- Welcome

Vice President (Matt Rollins)

- Consumer Affairs –document now updated with secretary information.

Secretary (Li-ane Pollard)

- No report

Treasurer (Evan Wellard)

In the club's bank account, we currently have \$48692 and another \$1,500 in our Airwallex virtual credit card account. The postage float of \$200 has been returned and is now included in the bank account balance.

- Revenue for February to date is \$552.45, of which include of \$552.45 is members subscriptions and joining fees

- Expenses for December to date are \$177, of which include of \$10 Catering costs, \$277 for software costs, \$115 for new member badges, \$36 for software fees for website and \$15 in PayPal/bank Fees

I have been Busy Updating and forecasting the year-to-date income and expenses sheets to give us a more accurate calculation and forecast for March CM for the Membership fee review. That way we will almost have 9 months of data to make the best decision for the club and its members.

I now have my deposit card setup which will make banking easier for me.

Membership (Steve Moon)

Current Members:

Associate – 52

Full – 129

Life – 14

Total - 195

Expect another 11 this year based on current run rate so should finish member year on 206 (192 financial)

New Members:

Leslie Palmer

Glenn Maddison

John Haig

Baram Ziaabadi - \$5 short. Recommend putting forward and I'll chase for money.

All approved for membership.

Full member applications:

Zero this month

Member Request

- Darren Jones son – 24 – not been member in his own right, just under family membership.
- Request not pay joining fee and recognize previously completed driver training. Ideally full member if acceptable. Discussed at committee and it has been approved to accept as associate member without joining fee and without having to do driving training. Other associate restrictions remain in place. As rules state all members must come through Associate member path the committee did not see how this could be bypassed.

Land (Mick Massey)

- Decision to not go with quoted work at Wandarrah but to get a requote for just the worst section of chicken track to make it more caravan friendly and create a swift exit for all vehicles should it be needed
- Decision not to register newly acquired trailer but to just use it around the property
- Next working bee scheduled for 23rd March.

Driver Training (Darren Jones)

- Driver training proposed date 17th May

Editor (Michael Dingli)

- February issue of the magazine – should be out before next AGM. .

Marketing – (Stephanie Swendsen)

Pakenham Show is on 16th March – \$100 for a trade space has been Approved. Steph will put it up as an event and hopefully some members will offer their help on the day.

Storage for Merchandise – suggestion to keep it in cupboard in meeting hall.

Trips (Tony Noble)

- Currently few trips already posted.

Webmaster (Jørgen Skogstad)

- ABSENT.

Host (Len Tucker)

- No report

Community Co Ordinator (Deb Nugent)

- Deb is currently booked for holidays this year and will not be available to organize Xmas in July – Steve Moon has put his hand up to take over this function.
- Maffra Spit Roast has been booked early – last 2 weeks in November were totally booked out – so next best date we could get was November 16th.

Sergeant at Arms (Mark DeSantos)

- Review of position description for Sergeant of Arms – points 3.7.& 10 has now been updated and is now uploaded on website.

Ordinary Committee Members (Gary Molony & Rob Barnard)

- Garry – Locks have been removed from Wyndarra now – so keys need to be collected or swapped from Gary at general Meetings.
- Rod – No report

General Business

Temp Member Update

It has been approved to make temp membership an online only form. This will enable easier tracking of funds as well as tracking of who has been on what trips like we do with current members. Paper application will no longer be accepted. Amendment of the bylaws removing need to be invited by members has also been approved to be deleted.

Nissan Australia

John Gill -Product planning Manager from Nissan Australia has reached out and would like to meet with couple of representatives from our Club – (Tony Noble & Evan Wellard) will confirm make contact and set up meeting next week.





Meeting closed: 9.48pm











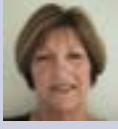

Committee

Committee for the year 2023-2024

Executive Committee

	President Vacancy president@nissan4x4vic.com.au		Vice President Matt Rollins vice_president@nissan4x4vic.com.au
	Secretary Li-ane Pollard 0417 882 767 secretary@nissan4x4vic.com.au		Treasurer Evan Wellard 0422 263 011 treasurer@nissan4x4vic.com.au





General Committee

	Membership Secretary Steve Moon 0411 150 429 membership@nissan4x4vic.com.au		Driver Education Darren Jones driver_education@nissan4x4vic.com.au
	Editor Michael Dingli 0419 327 063 editor@nissan4x4vic.com.au		Land Coordinator Michael Massey wandarra@nissan4x4vic.com.au
	Marketing Steph Svendsen marketing@nissan4x4vic.com.au		Sergeant at Arms Mark De Santis sergeant@nissan4x4vic.com.au
	Trips & Events Coordinator Tony Nobel 0407 347 003 events@nissan4x4vic.com.au		Webmaster Jørgen Skogstad 0426 242 661 webmaster@nissan4x4vic.com.au
	Community Coordinator Debbie Nugent community@nissan4x4vic.com.au		Host Len Tucker 0409 128 137 host@nissan4x4vic.com.au

Ordinary Committee

	Ordinary #1 (Key Master) Gary Moloney ord1@nissan4x4vic.com.au		Ordinary #2 Rod Barnard ord2@nissan4x4vic.com.au
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Non-Elected Positions

	Post Master Wanda McLauchlan		FWDV Delegate Gary Lyons 0411 077 255
	FWDV Delegate Neil Brydson		FWDV Delegate Tony Noble 0407 347 003

Committee meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month (except December) as shown in the calendar of events.

The committee welcomes members to attend committee meetings as well as table items for the agenda. To advise of attendance or items for the agenda, please contact the secretary two weeks before the meeting to ensure appropriate time can be provided.



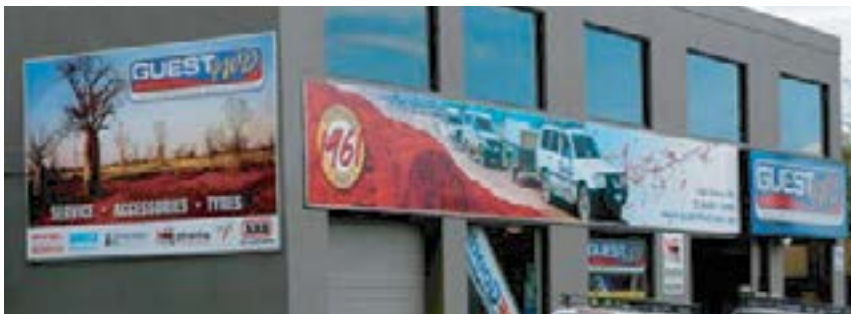
Guest 4WD service centre has been established since 1961 with extensive experience gained from operating 4WD tours to some of Australia's roughest and remotest areas. As well as general servicing and vehicle accessories, we pride ourselves on pre-trip preparation and suspension modifications to ensure customers have a trouble free 4WD adventure.



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- ARB accessories
- RV Storage Systems
- Wide Range of Tyres
- Roof Racks
- Rhino Racks
- Long range fuel tanks
- Electronic parking aid
- Tyre repair kits
- Air compressors
- 4WD maps and books
- Optima batteries
- Drive Lights & Light bars
- Kaymar step bar and wheel carrier
- Recovery kits
- Safari snorkels
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- DP Chip
- Taipan Exhaust
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