



4WD Now Monthly Newsletter

2017 Issue #3



Secretary/Editor: Elias Wehbe

Welcome to NSW & ACT 4wd Association 2017 issue 3 newsletter. Remember if you club has anything there would like to put in the newsletter please email me editor@4wdnow.com.

Association Quarterly meeting:

Date: Saturday 20th May 2017

Event: Four Wheel Drive NSW & ACT Association Quarterly Meeting

Where: Quality Hotel 344 Stewart Street, Bathurst, New South Wales, Australia. 8.30 for a 9am meeting, coffee, morning tea and lunch provided.

Time: 9.00am

Ten Pin Bowling Night:

Date: Saturday 27th May 2017

Event: Inter Club Ten Pin Bowling Night

Hosted By: MacArthur 4wd Club and Black Diamond 4wd Club

Where: Campbelltown City Bowl, 11 Hollylea Road, Leumeah

Time: Meet at BBQ Galore and camping world for sausage sizzle at 4pm till 6pm all members will receive 20 - 25% off all prices store wide. Address 5C Hollylea Road Leumeah. Head down to Campbelltown City Bowl from 6pm till 10pm Cost \$20.00 per person unlimited bowling.

Come along and join in the fun.

President: Craig Thomas

Hi all, well time is flying and we are nearly half way through the year.

Insurance; we have a new way of doing it now so please read and make sure your committee knows what is going on. All affiliated clubs are covered until the end of June. The national body has picked up the tab for the extra month. If you have an event in June that you think needs to be covered please send an email to exec@4wdnow.com and we will sort it. Tony will soon be sending out invoices for clubs to pay and it will have an extra \$4.70 per member on it for insurance. Please note this is nearly half what members have paid in the past and is another great reason to be in an affiliated club. Just be aware you have to pay on time or you are not insured and you will not be doing the right thing by your members.

After a slow start to the year the Vehicle Standards working groups have started up again with both the aftermarket lights group and a review of the braking standards happening. Now that we have our RTO back on track we are starting the process of moving this to Getabout. It involves a few different things, but primarily one being the formation of a DTU committee. We have had a meeting and things are starting to look good for a long and stable future.

That's it for me, looking forward to the May meeting at Bathurst to be held at the Quality Hotel 344 Stewart Street, Bathurst, New South Wales, Australia. 8.30 for a 9am meeting, coffee, morning tea and lunch provided.

Adventure Show Darren Calleia:

The dates for the Sydney 4WD and Adventure Show will be 13-15th October 2017 and the preparation meetings have commenced. The next meeting will be 5th June 2017 at the Liverpool Catholic club.

We are in track to have another show of equal or better standing to 2016 and are really excited about another opportunity to showcase ourselves the association and you our clubs as well as the opportunity to intermingle with National Parks, State Forests, Police, Scouts, RFS and SO MANY more!

Make sure your club books their attendance by checking out the Adventure Show web page and book your site as an exhibitor. (Free for Affiliated 4WD clubs). It will also be good to send me and email (adventureshow@4wdnow.com) once you are booked in so we can keep track of numbers.

If you have any ideas for additional input, make sure you come along to our next meeting or send a club representative because the more input we get, the better we can endeavour to make the show for all of you!

Letter Received from Jules Bros (National Park Ranger - The Glen)

Hi Lee,

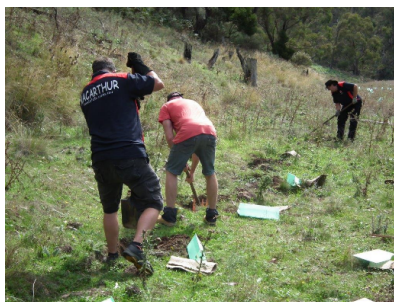
Amazing work by the 15 Macarthur 4WD Volunteers yesterday at The Glen. The remaining 141 eucalypts and wattles were planted within 2 hours!

Cheryl Woods did a great job rallying the troops and they coordinated the planting procedure like pros. Please mention their great work around the 4WD Ass. Circuit.

That brings a total of 845 plants in the ground at The Glen reveg site. All the previous plantings are growing well. There is one site left to plant out near the top gate and I was wondering if you would like to organise another planting day like the initial one back in Nov last year? Possibly in May / early June? We could plant another 400 tubestock in a day?

Many thanks,

Jules



Members Articles:

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION AND COME AND TRY DAY

For many years now, the Wagga Wagga Four Wheel Drive Club Inc has been conducting an annual “Demonstration and Come and Try Day” for the general public. For this year’s event we registered 16 visitor vehicles at the gate, and together with around 20 member vehicles it made for a great gathering of around 70 enthusiastic people (including children).

Our public days involve an action packed program of demonstrations on safe 4WD driving techniques plus the opportunity for visitors to drive around our training tracks under supervision and mentoring by experienced Club members. Strict safety procedures are adhered to for the whole day. We also incorporate photo and information displays, lucky gate prizes (1 year’s free Club membership etc), a sausage sizzle lunch and so on. There is no entry fee.



Our training area is a leased, disused quarry reserve where we have developed drive tracks and obstacles which range from very easy to very difficult, and a 5 km drive through a bush area. Being very close to Wagga Wagga it has easy access off the bitumen and is easy to find. It is ideal for our training purposes and after recent rain we even had water holes and a bit of mud to play in (and no dust!).



Demonstrations are kept to 30 minutes each and are conducted by our Club driver trainers. This year they included: Safe off-road driving (picking the line, choosing the right gear and momentum, hill climbing and descending, stall recovery); Tyres and tyre pressures; Safe snatch strap recovery; Suspensions and traction control; and Safe winching. It was a great day. We even organised gorgeous autumn weather.

Obviously, an event like this involves a great deal of planning, co-ordination, teamwork and effort by many people. Remember the 7P’s? (Proper Planning and Preparation Prevents P*** Poor Performance). So what do we get out of it? I firmly believe that an outward looking Club is a healthy one and to this end we provide significant input into community events. We try to promote a positive image of responsible recreational four wheel driving. The day builds teamwork and social networking within the club, and our members learn a great deal from involvement in the organisation and the demonstrations which hone our own skills. The visitors have a good time and learn a great deal. Our bonus is that we pick up a few new members from the day. We follow up the day with a formal driver training weekend for new members and trips suitable for novices.

We have around 70 vehicles in our Club, and in 2018, the Club is very much looking forward to the 40th anniversary celebrations of our establishment in January 1978.

If anyone would like more information on our public days, we would be happy to provide it.



John Kent.

Association Delegate and Training Co-ordinator.

Wagga Wagga Four Wheel Drive Club Inc

“Living the Adventure!”

CLEAN EARTH: 4WD enthusiasts and volunteers were happy to roll up their sleeves to help plant over 400 trees recently in the Burruga area.

Twenty-five four-wheel driving enthusiasts, from the combined clubs of the NSW and ACT Four Wheel Drive Association, spent the weekend working alongside NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) staff helping to rehabilitate 160 hectares of bushland near Burruga.

The parcel of land known as The Glen, located within the Abercrombie State Conservation Area, is a popular location for both people and wildlife.

"The Abercrombie Reserve is such a diverse area, it has so much to offer 4WD enthusiasts," says Lee Dunstan, President of the Black Diamond Recreational 4WD Club. "It's great that we could help out this weekend and give back a little," he says.

Home to gliders, Booroolong frogs and the Macquarie Perch, the planting of 400 food trees and shrubs will enhance habitat, reduce erosion and improve water quality in the area.

The trees will provide an important food resource for several glider populations as well as other nectar-feeding birds, bats and mammals.

"These animals, many of which are threatened species, depend on ready access to flowering shrubs and trees throughout the year," says Mary Bonet, Coordinator of the Kanangra-Boyd to Wyangala (K2W) conservation partnership.

"While neighbouring Abercrombie River National Park is the largest intact patch of open forest on the NSW Central Tablelands, the Abercrombie Reserve is in poorer shape having suffered the impacts of various land uses over time.

"The loss of flowering shrubs and hollow-bearing trees puts species such as gliders at risk of extinction from the local area, so repairing habitat and planning for future resilience is really important," Mary says.

Jules Bros, Kanangra Area Ranger with NPWS, agrees saying it was fantastic to have the 4WD groups embracing the conservation cause.

"It's a social club with a strong emphasis on families and environmentally sound practises. It really demonstrates their interest in taking care of the bush and the natural environment," she says.

The Black Diamond Recreational 4WD Club's efforts are part of a wider relationship between the NPWS and the NSW & ACT Four Wheel Drive Association which has seen the clubs help maintain camping areas and participate in conservation activities across the State.

The community planting day was part of a range of projects aiming to restore and re-connect habitat in the Kanangra-Boyd to Wyangala (K2W) supported by Taronga Zoo, Boeing, the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife, the NSW Environmental Trust and Local Lands Services.

Calling all Photographers

A 2018 calendar is being published for distribution to all FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION of NSW and ACT members.

The calendar will showcase the best and most **spectacular locations across NSW and the ACT**. We are looking for submissions from club members for inclusion in the calendar. **One photo from each region** will be chosen and the photographer and club will be given credit on the page that it appears.

For full details please email info@clever-products.com.au

– SUBJECT LINE Regional Photo Submission

You can submit more than one photo and Submission Deadline June 30th 2017
