



Official Journal of the

ALL WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

Of Sydney



Trophy teams



Cam @ Willowglen

November 2009



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Club Meetings:

Are held at 8pm on the second Wednesday of every month at the Cove Sports Club, Eastern Valley Way, Castle Cove.

A counter meal is available from 7pm.

Visitors are most welcome

Committee Meetings:

Are generally held on the fourth Wednesday of every month commencing at 8pm.

Should Club members wish to attend please contact the President or Secretary to confirm the date and venue.

Annual General Meeting:

Is held in conjunction with the October Club general meeting

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Membership Financial Year:

The membership financial year is from 1 July to 30 June.

Affiliations

The Club is an affiliated member of the NSW-ACT 4WD Association Inc and through that organisation has an active relationship with the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service.

Nominated Charity FY 2010

All funds raised by the Sergeant-at-Arms for misdemeanours, real or imagined, will be donated to the Royal Flying Doctor Service (NSW Division).

Life Members:

- Kevin Couter
- Steve Hedges
- Brian Mitchell
- Steve Dalli
- Neil Follett



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi everyone

Well, we're into a new Committee year and as the newly appointed President of the AWDC I get the privilege of a fireside chat, or in reality a monologue to report back to you all each month.

Firstly, many thanks to last year's C'tee and especially to Cameron for his leadership and tireless effort on behalf of the club over the last four years.

I'm happy that many of the C'tee stood for re-election as I know there's a lot of hard volunteer work ahead and experience will help. Having Aaron and Gordon join us (suitably press-ganged by their peers!) we have a further injection of energetic new blood – which is terrific. We've tested the mettle of the C'tee with our first monthly meeting (a real mammoth event) to identify as much as we can and flush out aspects for our focus and the wellbeing of the club. Seeing as we've only got 12 months we'd better get stuck into it!

For those who weren't present for the AGM, the soft off-roader proposal received a majority 'Yes' vote and it is now on the C'tee's agenda to implement this going forwards.

We have decided to make you all aware of the C'tee meeting and will publish the minutes in the member section of the website – available right now – check it out.

We focussed our discussion on the need for "greater participation" by all club members in the activities of the club. It is disappointing to note that in the last 2 months, 3 club trips and the 1st Aid Training have all been cancelled due to lack of numbers. This seems terribly inconsistent with some members saying they want more trips and plenty of raised hands for 1st Aid Training!

All I can say at this stage is my apologies but thanks to those who have taken the time and effort to organise events to only have them cancelled due to lack of interest. We will be focused on greater member participation and vibrancy within the club. We have established a Trip sub-c'tee to review our process and practices re Club trips, to seek improvement for us all – more on this another time.

To whet your appetite between trips we plan to screen member photos each monthly club meeting before the formalities. Let me know by email (president@awdc.com.au) if we can share in some of your photos and we'll start getting things coordinated.

Don't forget the Belrose Bunnings BBQ, a club fundraiser. We need more members to give an hour or two and help make it a successful day – please book in now!

The Club Xmas Party is right around the corner and an ideal social event for both old and new members – bring the kids ('cos they love camping and rivers and....) and start sharing in the Club Xmas spirit – book in now!

This month's guest speaker is Doug Roser from the RFDS, our chosen charity.

I'm looking forward to a great year ahead, both in the city and out in the bush – see you out there.

Chris



Editors page



Hello everyone,

We have a new, less crowded look for the magazine this month. I hope you like it.

I welcome suggestions for what you want from the magazine. Please email any suggestions or comments to me so I can improve it over time.

I was lucky enough to win the Memory Map software and USB GPS receiver at the AGM raffle. What a great bit of gear.

It has all the 1:250,000 of Australia and the Hema maps of the desert and high country plus street maps of all towns in Australia. I have since brought the topo maps of NSW in 1:25, 1:50 and 1:100 thousand scale. I used it on the Abercrombie trip last weekend on my lap top and it was perfect.

We did some exploring on the way in and all the tracks were marked. You can zoom out to see where you want to head and back in again to see close up details. I look forward to exploring some new areas.

The new committee has met and is very enthusiastic. I look forward a great year with many changes for the better.

Lee Bradstreet



**Next magazine closing date :
29th November 2009**

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Trip reports articles and photos can be sent to me by email: editor@awdc.com.au
Post : PO box 15 Newport Beach 2106
Or in person at the meetings

**Cover photos this month were supplied by:
Steve Cox and Katy Jennings.
Chris Wren.**

This magazine is printed solely for the benefit of our members and any article appearing may be wholly or partially fictitious. Therefore, nothing printed herein should be construed as a true interpretation of the club, it's members or their activities.

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Christmas Party

When: 28th & 29th November 2009

Where: The party will be held in the Nowra area. At the same place as last year.
Koloona Drive, off Illaroo Rd, North Nowra.
Illaroo is last rd on right before crossing the Shoalhaven River bridge into Nowra
Gate co-ords are: S34° 50,663' E150° 32.491'



Details: Start from 10AM Saturday to set up camp.

Activities: Swimming, walking, talking.
"Best Christmas tent award"
Dinner provided by the club.
"Children's night walk"
Sunday lunch
Santa arrives after lunch

End time: Sunday 3-4PM

Cost: \$10

Book early



BYO Drinks





All Wheel Drive Club of Sydney



Four Wheel Drive NSW & ACT, INC

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info@4wdnsw-act.asn.au

Bulletin - October, 2009

- Reminders and updates are:
 - **Please don't forget the electronic Trip Reports required for visits to State Forests and National Parks; make them a routine for Trip Leaders.**
 - **The next quarterly meeting and the Association's AGM is on 21 November. It will be hosted by the Land Rover Owners Club (Sydney Branch) at their meeting place 134 Queens Road, Five Dock. All Executive positions fall vacant and I encourage you to become involved at this level. The challenges are many but the satisfaction and interaction with members and their Clubs makes it very rewarding.**
- Appointment of a Paid employee. The search continues and we will advise Delegates at the quarterly meeting of progress.
- VSI 50: We now have approx 6000 responses to the survey including 1400 approx. from Victoria. The results will be on the website shortly however, **please don't let that stop you completing one if you have not already done so.** To complete the survey on line go to www.4wdnow.com Please continue to access the website for current developments and please keep sharing views. The working party will meet again when the RTA has done further evaluation work; we expect this to occur sometime in November, 2009.
- DTU: A training workshop for 4WD clubs to have people trained and assessed to be held on 7 & 8 November at Dooralong to be hosted by the Central Coast 4WD Club. There is no doubt that having more trained instructors will be a significant benefit to your club in the future. If Dooralong does not work for your Club, talk to the DTU about holding a more localized training event.
- Bulletins: This is my last bulletin having completed three years in the role of President. They are sometimes difficult to compile and often, there is so much happening you struggle to keep the volume to a low roar. I believe they will continue but I would ask Clubs to provide feedback about what they want to see or need. These bulletins have been going out now since May 2007 **and sometimes you don't see the wood for the trees. Please feel free to comment;** the forum is a good place to do so. If you can remember that far back, communications was voted as one of the major failings of the Association. These bulletins have been one of the steps to rectify that problem area. It is important they stay fresh and useful.
- The future is always what matters and I hope the current position of the Association has it well positioned to represent you and your Club.
 - Issues like VSI 50 will happen from time to time; the Association responded quickly and effectively and is increasingly respected and will respond to future issues.
 - Access remains a vital issue. Those that would have you locked out of the areas we treasure, respect and volunteer in, remain very active. We have made progress but there are very significant steps still to be taken to get



All Wheel Drive Club of Sydney

the recognition and rewards for our efforts and our attitude. Your Association can do that task.

- Communication: The website and the forum has been developed to a level unrecognisable from what it was 2 years ago and is now a very powerful medium for distributing information and our views and your achievements. Its development must continue and to do that all members and Clubs should be involved.

- Events: We have learnt that these are a very effective medium for promoting our interests. Many Clubs have been doing it for years and successfully. The ACT Clubs are a good example. In Sydney we are going to emulate them in 2011 and have made a very good start with the growing Sydney Region Expo. We now have two trailers bought for this purpose. Please make sure they continue to be used to promote your Club and 4WD Club membership.

- The Association is financially sound. That gives us some strength to pay for what we want. However, that could change quickly if the wrong decisions were taken. Decisions are being taken and are contained within the business plan and again, your input is vital; we are your Association.

- Image: Still a major issue and there are no quick fixes. I suggest it is the role of the Association to continue to promote what you do. Recent events suggest we may be having an impact. However, we can do a lot better **and need "Reporters" within**

Clubs to feed back events and activities.

- Regions: We have two well established Regions, Sydney and the Hunter and two relatively new ones, South Coast and Canberra. All are working well and all represent opportunities to further our interests. I encourage all Clubs to get involved and thank the various Chairmen for their very real efforts.

- Training: The planned broadening the scope of our training is vital. It will underpin the reputation we seek to exploit as an organisation representing Clubs that can be relied on to follow a code of conduct, who contribute to our bushland heritage, and have the requisite skills to be relied on when asked to do a task.

The challenges are just as numerous as they were three years ago. Nothing changes except the people and I suggest there are many within our Clubs who are more than capable of taking them on and I wish them good luck. Subject to the new

Executive's mandate, I intend staying involved with the Association and enjoying the camaraderie I have experienced over the past three years.

My thanks are again to you all for the terrific support I have received, from individuals, from your Clubs, and from the Executive.

Greg Redfern, President

26 October, 2009



Swagman Points

The club awards points for participating on club events with the winners being announced at the annual general meeting and prizes awarded.

- First prize \$250 to spend at any club sponsor
- Second prize \$150 to spend at any club sponsor
- Third prize \$100 to spend at any club sponsor

SWAGMAN POINTS

Trips	Pts	Magazine reports & articles	Pts
Lead a 2 day trip or longer	50	Trip Reports- Verbal & Written	25
Lead a 1 day trip	40	Trip reports with photos or presentation- (either Verbal or written)	30
Attend a 2 day trip or longer	20	Published magazine articles (non reports)	20
Attend a 1 day trip	10	Published magazine articles with photos	25
Compete in a competition for the AWDC (Any length of time)	20	Published magazine photos- photos only	10
		Assisting the Editor	5
Late for a trip	-10	No report given within 60 days of trip	-40
Not confirming a trip	-15		
Failing to attend without notice	-25	Introduce new member to club	50

Rules of the Swagman Points

Swagman points Start & finish on the 30th September each year.

There must be a min number of 3 vehicles, including trip leader, on a trip before points can be issued.

Trip leader can't receive points for a trip report.

Trip must be open to all members. (no points for a committee trip)

Committee members filling their roles cannot receive points.

10 points per article that your photos are used (not 10 points per photo).

Max of 20 points per magazine for articles used or 30 points with photos.

4WD Events.

Must be representing the AWDC. Competitors & support crew can only receive points.

Max points per member will be 20 points. NO points for spectators unless it is gazetted a AWDC trip. Max 10 points (regardless of the length of the event).

All reports for the current year swagman points must be printed in the magazine already or verbally done before the 30th September.



Total Swagman point for last year

Member	Points	Member	Points
Bradstreet, Lee	300	Brisco, Andy	45
Kortink, Mark	235	Gompes, Danny	45
Mann, Bruce	235	Adams, Carolyn	40
Mitchell, Brian (B1)	200	Bauer, Kevin	40
Humphrey, Bob	190	Couter, Kevin	40
Millburn, Stuart	190	Cox, Steve	40
Sommerville, Brian	185	Hedges, Steve	40
Humphrey, Maureen	180	Lee, Greg	40
Dutfield, Sue	155	Mitchell, Ben	40
Morgan, Lori	150	Peddell, Jason	40
Shaw, Ross	145	Todd, Anne	40
Bell, Mike	130	Jennings, Katy	40
Henderson, Helen	130	Barnes, Roslyn	30
Cutting, Graeme	125	Darling, Trevor	30
Phibbs, John	120	Hurwitz, Mike	30
Bell, Dorathy	115	Lyle, Pandora	30
Blackwell, Rod	115	Millburn, Michael	30
Van Tuinen, James	105	Muino, Jose	30
Dutfield, Peter	100	Zev, Harold	30
O'Keefe, John	100	Alexander, Dale	20
Moore, Gary	95	Brisco, Alison	20
Tourney, Sandra	95	Bullard, Lillian	20
King, Jason	90	Bullard, Peter	20
Reid, Phil	90	Cutler, David	20
DeZwart, Michael	85	Johnson, David	20
Mitchell, Aaron	85	King, Shane	20
Parkes, Graham	85	Panetta, Michael	20
Vituseck, Werner	85	Vituseck, Belinda	20
Barnes, John	80	Gibbs, Evan	20
Rhall, Steve	80	Sparks, Meagan	20
Sommerville, Kirsten	80	Hutt, Ben	20
Halnan, Gordon	75	O'Connor, Tim	20
Follett, Neil	70	Holmes a Court,	
King, Ann	70	Campbell	20
Richardson, Cam	70	Huggett, Chris	20
Vukovic, Adrienne	70	Irvine, Scotty	20
Hedges, Kylie	65	Paul, Brad	20
Wallis, Gary	65	Paul, Deb	20
Hoffmann, Vladimir	60	Milton, Richard	20
Hunter, Simon	60	Penman, Ross	10
Wren, Chris	60	Richardson, Belinda	10
O'Reilly, Lola	50	Walker, Chris	10
Gillespie, Steve	50	Browning, Schon	10
		Dalli, Steve	20



Web Links



AWDC Web page:	http://www.awdc.com.au/
4WD NSW—ACT Association:	http://www.4wdnsw-act.asn.au
Australian National 4WD council:	http://www.anfwdc.asn.au/
National Parks:	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/nationalparks/
Forests NSW:	http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/forests
Weather forecast:	http://www.bom.gov.au/index.shtml
VKS 737 Radio network:	http://www.vks737.on.net/
Explore OZ:	http://www.exploroz.com/Default.aspx
Australian 4WD Action:	http://www.4wdaction.com.au/
4WD Monthly:	http://www.4wdmonthly.com.au/
Repairs & modifications:	DIY Toyota
Outer Limits 4X4:	http://www.outerlimits4x4.com/
4WD Online:	http://www.4wdonline.com/4WD.html
Tuff Truck:	http://www.tufftruck.com.au/
4WD Movies:	http://www.4x4movies.com/

Send me your favourite links to put in the next magazine.
Send them to: editor@awdc.com.au



Puzzle Page

QUIZ

1. Wilhelm Konrad Roentgen was the discoverer of what?
2. This country is located between France and Spain.
3. Which Caribbean island has the greatest area? 1. Hispaniola, 2. Trinidad 3. Jamaica, 4. Cuba.
4. What is a sapote?
5. A gorget, a tassel and a gauntlet are articles worn by a?
6. Which prefix signifies 'all'? 1. pen-, 2. para-, 3. pan-, 4. Poly-.
7. According to Mattel, what is Barbie's last name?
8. Which is not a fruit? 1. Rhubarb, 2. Pumpkin, 3. Tomato, 4. Cucumber.
9. Which Indian group is not from Central or South America? 1. Arawak, 2. Incas, 3. Mayas, 4. Pueblo.
10. Which type of beer is the darkest and the strongest? 1. Pilsner, 2. Ale, 3. Porter, 4. Stout.

Sudoku

		4			7	6		
7	2	6		1			3	
	8		6					
9	3			8				1
	1	2				5	7	
4				6			2	9
					8	1	4	
	5						9	6
		9	3	7		2		

The winner of this years Darwin awards

When his 38 caliber revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach , California would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked.

Puns

When you dream in colour, it's a pigment of your imagination.

Condoms should be used on every conceivable occasion.

Reading whilst sunbathing makes you well-red.

When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.



Driver Training

All new members **MUST** complete our Club's 4WD Theory and Practical Training to satisfy Club Bylaws and Insurance Policy. 4WD Training consists of a theory night and practical weekend in the bush. It will be held approximately every **6-8 weeks** or as required. Theory must be completed before practical. If you have dual membership, then your partner must do their practical training on another weekend **or in another vehicle**.

There will **usually** be a maximum of eight and a minimum of four vehicles at each practical training session. The theory will **usually** be held on a Tuesday night, shortly before the practical weekend. Four Wheel Driving is a family past time, so bring your partner to the theory night (but no children please). All are welcome on the practical weekend.

PLEASE NOTE: Both theory and practical 4WD training **MUST** be completed *BEFORE* you can take part in any 4WD activity, such as trips, Trophies, etc. For the practical weekend, each vehicle should have a snatch strap, rated shackle, (both available from our sponsors) **Your vehicle must have front and rear suitably rated tow/recovery points**, jack, wheel brace and a full tank of fuel. All vehicles must be roadworthy, in good mechanical condition and the driver must hold a **current driver's license valid in Australia**.

Communication between vehicles during the weekend is via UHF Radio.
A car mounted radio is preferable but a hand held radio would be adequate for short range communication during the weekend.

TRIP DETAILS

Driver Training – Theory Night

Please contact the Driver Training Officer to confirm your attendance at least **7 days** prior to the theory night. This starts at 7.00 pm sharp! and finishes around 11.00 pm. Please try to arrive by 6.45 pm and bring a pen and pad for notes.

Driver Training – Practical Weekend

Members will be introduced to practical four wheel driving, including convoy procedure, safety, recovery, hill climbs, side slopes, mud, sand and river crossings, rock steps and protection of the environment, under the guidance of the 4WD Training Officer and his assistant. On the Saturday night we will camp in the bush and you will be introduced to the social graces of four wheel driving.

Note:

Although the Training Officer will provide guidance throughout the weekend, it is up to the participant to accept responsibility for their vehicle and its' occupants as there will be some B grade rock steps, steep and rutted hills, and the possibility of a deep mud hole and deep river crossing.

NB - If in doubt about front and rear recovery points please call in to check with one of the club sponsors; before undertaking driver training.

This years Dates:

17th, 21st & 22nd November. 2009
2nd, 6th & 7th February, 2010.
30th March, 3rd & 4th April, 2010.
18th, 22nd & 23rd May, 2010.
27th, 31st July & 1st August, 2010.
14th, 18th & 19th September, 2010.
As always these are dependent on numbers.

Any questions; contact Phil Reid at drivertraining@awdc.com.au or 0412 553 403



TRIP CALENDAR

Yengo & Wollemi areas

Start Date Saturday, 21 November 2009 **Finish Date** Sunday, 22 November 2009
Grade C
Max Vehicles 10
Trip Leader Mark Kortink
Description The trip will go from Laguna along the Yengo Trail to Howes Valley, through Putty to Three Ways, to Sheepskins Hut to Howes Valley and across the Old Convicts Track to Wollemi. We will check out various tourist spots along the way including aboriginal rock art.

AWDC Christmas Party

Start Date Saturday, 28 November 2009 **Finish Date** Sunday, 29 November 2009
Grade E
Max Vehicles
Trip Leader Bob Humphrey
Description The Christmas Party is for all who belong to the All Wheel Drive Club & their families. We will be camping out for the weekend, with Santa arriving on Sunday morning. The Christmas Party will be held west of Nowra in the same location as last year.

Bendethra Valley & surrounds

Start Date Saturday, 12 December 2009 **Finish Date** Sunday, 13 December 2009
Grade C & E
Max Vehicles 7
Trip Leader Stuart Millburn
Description The plan is meet early Saturday morning at Braidwood (probably wise to stay in Braidwood overnight) and then on to Bendethra which is situated in the Deua National Park inland from Moruya.

BBQ @ Bunnings Belrose

Start Date Sunday, 13 December 2009 **Finish Date** Sunday, 13 December 2009
Grade F
Max Vehicles
Trip Leader Bob Humphrey
Description This is a Fund Raising event for the club, at Bunnings Hardware store, Belrose. We would like your help at some stage during the day. If you can spare 1hour or more, all would be greatly appreciated. When you book on the trip notice, please place the time you can start & the amount of time you can spare, so we can roster people during the day.

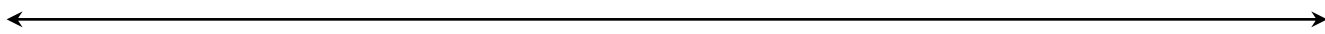


Victorian High Country

Start Date Saturday, 23 January 2010 **Finish Date** Tuesday, 26 January 2010
Grade C & E
Max Vehicles 7
Trip Leader Stuart Millburn
Description Plan is to explore Deddick Trail and I am endeavouring to stay on a private property which has a camp kitchen etc (cost maybe \$20 per night). The area has some great tracks which are steep and challenging.

Gourmet Weekend

Start Date Saturday, 27 February 2010 **Finish Date** Sunday, 28 February 2010
Grade F (Fun)
Max Vehicles
Trip Leader Sue Dutfield
Description Did you see the photos? Did you hear the stories? You didn't? Well make sure you are part of it this time. The theme this year will be children's stories. You need to get a group of 6-8 people (3 – 4 couples) together, or we will put you in a group, and plan a gourmet meal around your theme. The meal can be fairly normal and you can dress to your theme or you can combine both. For the meal, the groups will be sitting in the same area under tarps – so don't forget to dress up your table and tarp space to match your theme. We will be at Newnes again and people will be there from Friday afternoon. If you need some help, or don't quite know how to go about it all, please give me a ring (Sue Dutfield) on 9999 3699 or 0409 045 368. We would hate you to miss out on a great night. The emphasis of the weekend is FUN



Trip bookings.

To book in on a trip you have to put your name down on the list at the meeting or email or phone the trip coordinator. Put your name down even if there are a large number on the reserve list.

The week before the trip you have to confirm with the trip coordinator or you will lose your place to someone on the reserve list.

Email: trips@awdc.com.au or phone Bruce on 0418 288 991 or 9888 6951

On line bookings.

If you go to the calendar on the web site you will shortly be able to book in on trips. Just click on the trip on the calendar and a form will pop up. Fill out the details and click send.

Follow this link:  [Club web site](#)



Driver training

Participants:

Phil Reid - Landcruiser
Cam - Suzuki
Chris & Sharon - Pajero
Tim & Jerry - Patrol
Greg - Landcruiser
Campbell - Landcruiser
Megan, Jason & Kye - Pajero
Ben - Pajero
Evan and Anita - Prado — Trip report

The weekend of the 19th and 20th September began with an early start at the Zig Zag Railway in Lithgow. Despite my best efforts to get the family on the road as early as possible we were late and therefore delegated the task of writing this report.

Tip 1: Check your equipment well before a trip to make sure it is in working order. Tip 2: Swearing does not make up for poor planning.

Here we met our team leaders Phil and Cam, and our fellow students. Cam's Suzuki competed with Campbell's Taj Mahal on wheels for everyone's attention.

Phil explained the rules of the weekend, covering how to drive in convoys, indicator control, dust minimisation and use of the CB radios. We were then given a know your vehicle demo covering the engine, inside, under car, outside and back .

At the Bugle Boy Pine Plantation the first drill was practicing wheel placement. Each driver had to driver over small rocks on the course with either their left or right wheel.

The convoy then did a few dirt trails, a rocky uphill climb, and a steep side slope. To Phil and Cams credit, while each exercise did seem hard at the time they only became progressively harder as the groups confidence increased. Phil and Cam carefully explained everything and closely monitored each car as they did the exercise.



Late Saturday we headed for the bush campsite. Phil decided the creek crossing was too deep and we had to take the long way round. By then it was time to unpack, set up camp and sit around the campfire. It was interesting to see what set ups everyone had for camping – you can always get good ideas by checking out what others have done.

Next morning the Driver Training began with basics on Recovery gear. We learnt about snatch straps (which up till now I'd thought were G-strings), the importance of testing your equipment beforehand, who is responsible for providing the equipment in a recovery (recovered vehicles), and not to leave at home the pin for the tow bar.



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After a few recover drills, the convoy headed off to do a few more side slopes. We then headed off to the bakery for some morning tea (the pink vanilla slices were a favorite). The next exercise was a shale side slope. This was great fun and most of us had more than one run at it.

Time to get wet with river crossings. After having a bit of a rest to ensure that our brakes, diffs etc had cooled down, we did a shallow fairly short creek/ river crossing followed by lunch. Cam seized the opportunity to wash his Suzuki mid river.

Next a deeper crossing (leave downstream windows down, upstream up, no seatbelts). Before driving across this deeper crossing we stopped the car, got out and checked our route by walking the crossing on foot. Phil had lead us to believe that the water level was a bit deeper than it actually was, there was no real need to strip down to slugs after all.

We then went on to tackle a very rocky and rutted out access trail beneath the high voltage overhead power lines road. This involved feathering the brakes on the decent, dodging the rotting kangaroo that lay mid track and ignoring the scraping noises that came from beneath the car. Most of us found ourselves with one wheel several feet off the ground at some stage of this section.

Then for the last leg, rolling convoy, some mud puddles for those who enjoy washing their vehicles (some chose to avoid these puddles).

A stop to top up the air pressure in the tyres and this was the end of our training. It was definitely worthwhile, Phil and Cameron took things at a great pace allowing everyone to get comfortable with the various terrain. Looking back it was hard to believe how much everyone achieved from Saturday morning.

Overall it was a great weekend and well worth the hours of cleaning that were required the following weekend to bring my vehicle back to showroom condition. Looking forward to doing it all again when my wife does here training.



Driver Trainer Training

November 2009.

Jose and I have just returned from the latest workshop run by the Driver Training Unit of the association. This was held at Awaba (Freemans Waterhole) in the training ground used by the association, 4wd clubs and commercial operators.

Jose, the new assistant Driver Trainer came through with flying colours to gain his qualification –

“SRODRV001B Drive and recover a 4wd vehicle.”

Despite the unfortunate attention the H2 received on arrival (and the dodgy relay that interrupted proceedings momentarily), both driver and vehicle performed admirably.

Twenty two people from various 4wd clubs around the state were assessed by 12 assessors, who in turn underwent a peer review by three other assessors (all part of the professional development required to keep in the assessing arena).

Phil Reid.
4WD Training Officer.



Squeaking our way to Belangalow The 2009 Trophy

Saturday 26 – Sunday 27 September 2009

By Steve Cox and Katy Jennings

Participants

Lee & Holy Bradstreet	Nissan Patrol
Steve Cox & Katy Jennings	Navara
James & Priska Van Tuinen	Triton
Chris Wren & Sons	100 Series
Simon & Penny Hunter	4 Runner
Jason & Ann King	80 Series
Brad & Deb Paul	Prado 90
Brian & Kirsten Sommerville	100 Series
Richard Milton & Ian Urban	Disco 3
Gordon Halnan & David Westrope	Jimny
Michael Dezwart & Mark Wolff	100 Series

Helpers

Neil Follett
Peter & Sue Duttfield
Phil Reid
Mike & Dot Bell
Steve & Stephanie Gillespie
John Phibbs
Bob & Maureen Humphrey
Brian Mitchell
Lori Morgan & Bruce Mann
Matt & Jesse Morgan

This trip report comes with the disclaimer that we weren't in fact the last people to arrive at Waterfall Station on the morning of Saturday 26th September. Had we known from the start that we would have this task bestowed upon us, we might have taken more notes of the intricacies of the weekend!

This was our first trophy and had no idea what to expect. We had heard the term "tulip diagram" thrown around at the previous meeting so, luckily, we had looked them up on the internet the night before. Our allotted start time was 7.35am from the station car park. Bruce briefed the teams individually and we departed at 5 minute intervals. At 8.10am we were eventually called up, (twice – we had failed to realise we had been given the team name *the Cox Plate*) given our tasks to complete, and took the first turn... only to run straight into the *Potential Divorcees* who were stuck behind a peloton of Saturday morning racers.

It was at this point that we realised that there was a bit of a squeak coming from under the Navara. It could only be heard at low speeds and when accelerating. It got faster with speed rather than revs... It must be the drive shaft, clutch or something else that turns. We stopped, reversed. No squeak?! It can't be the drive shaft... Oh well, keep going and take it back to Nissan on Monday. Love that warranty!

The first of our tasks was a series of quiz questions. The questions were simple enough in themselves, as long as you could keep up with the speed at which you came across the answers. A few teams missed a question or two near the start of the course and were thrown out for the rest of the trip. We



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gave a couple of extra clues to *Wrench and Sons* who had missed some answers. You never know when you might need a favour from the new President in return!

Our first set of tulip diagrams took us to Thirlmere Lakes where we were met by Sue & Peter, who surprised us with a vehicle check. Luckily we ticked most of the boxes and were allowed to proceed... meeting another competitor coming in the wrong direction down Slades Rd in the Thirlmere Lakes National Park. This was a boost for our first-timer confidence at reading the diagrams.

The other task we had been given at the start of the course was a collection of photos that we had to reproduce as accurately as possible. After an hour or so of driving we were becoming concerned that we hadn't found the first picture. We stopped to ask the help of a local, who frustratingly said he had never seen the station in what we thought was the first photo. He did tell us that Picton sawmill was a couple of kilometres down the road, so we proceeded, assuming that we had missed the first photo. It wasn't until later that we realised the photos had been printed in portrait order rather than landscape, and we were still on track.



The sawmill photo posed problems for a few cars who had difficulty fitting between the post and the water tap. We presume this was intentional of Neil when he parked his Corolla in there with plenty of room to spare. As it was, most drivers were unable to leave their vehicles, so it was left up to the navigators to compose the shot.



The next photo involved lining the tyres up on the tracks of a disused railway station. This seemed like a much simpler task until *The Hunters and Collectors* arrived, only to find a railway maintenance vehicle parked in the exact location they needed. They waited patiently for the vehicle to move and then started to manoeuvre into place when the workmen came back and told them they weren't allowed on the tracks without hard hats and vests. The trophy planners didn't think of that one, did they?!



Squeaking along to the third photo, we were glad we didn't have a trailer to squeeze into the small space behind the statue. Our main problem here was that to accurately reproduce the photo, both of us had to be in it. No problem if you have a camera with a timer and a tripod. We didn't have the latter. Not to worry, an aluminum camping table frame, a plastic food box and a few twigs to get the angle right can work wonders. Bruce later told us that he didn't expect vehicles with only one passenger to show two people in the photo. Apologies for holding up the *Potential Divorcees* and the Kings.



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At the next check point we experienced first-hand the expertise and camaraderie for which the AWDC is so well-known. Phil and Neil were there to offer us invaluable advice regarding our mysterious squeak. "I know that problem... it's a Nissan!" and "You know how you can fix it? Turn the radio up!" We now think that their insistence that we drove, reversed, drove, reversed continually for 5 minutes was in fact not to identify the noise, but to throw out our odometer reading.



The final photo before entering Belangalow State Forest was a public convenience on the Hume Highway. Chris was there when we pulled up, having his photo taken sitting on the women's toilet with the door open. A couple of families were waiting to use the facilities, but Steve followed suit (he had to read an Engel catalogue as we didn't have any AWDC magazines with us) and had his photo taken accordingly. Worryingly, as we were leaving the carpark, a young man completely unrelated to the trophy also went into the women's toilet, sat down with the door open and had his photo taken by his mate. Surely there can't be other people who do the same as us?



The final two photos in the forest were much trickier than the others. Pretty much by chance Katy turned around just as we were passing the two trees we needed. Our tactics here were to take the photos as quickly as possible so that no one would come up behind us and see where we were. Unfortunately, other people must have had the same thought, because we completely missed the final photo behind a rock. Our secret tactics came into play and we took a close-up of the original photo, hoping Bruce wouldn't notice our car had changed colour... and grown a boot.



Just before we arrived at camp we found a note pinned to a tree warning us that there was a fallen tree ahead and we would need to take a detour. Was this a trick to throw us off track? We figured that that wouldn't be in the interests of fair play, so we decided to follow the note's advice. Everyone managed this without too many problems, apart from Brad who got lost on the detour. (Did he ever get fined for that?)

On arrival at camp we checked in with our final odometer reading and were given the basic ingredients to make damper. We set up our tent as far away from any dead branches as possible (we had heard a weather forecast that had predicted 140kph winds that night) only to find that we were camping adjacent to the memorial to the backpacker murders. Everyone

paid a visit to the memorial throughout the weekend.

Just as we had set up camp Jason received a phone call calling him back to the buses, so they hooked back up their trailer and made their way back to Sydney. The kids kept themselves (and us) amused for a while over a quick game of soccer, whilst the adults plotted their tactics in the damper cooking contest. As the competition became serious, each team added their own secret ingredients such as coke, beer, dried fruit and jam. We opted for milk, Laughing Cow cheese and salami. There were conflicting theories over how best to cook damper. Some opted for the 'burnt and melted aluminium' method, Brian decided on slow cooking, while other teams wrapped them around a stick and burnt one mouthful



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at a time. Phil was the lucky taste tester and we will leave it up to him to tell you which method and ingredients worked the best.

Most dampers were out of the fire by the time the rain started. Everyone rushed to help put up Bruce and Lori's tarp, which was just large enough for us all to fit underneath, but just far enough away from the fire for us to have to brave the rain every few minutes to warm up again. The fire was especially appreciated by Brad, who had only taken a pair of shorts for extra warmth. At least that minor misdemeanour resulted in a fine! However, we can't say too much. On Steve's prediction of a lovely warm weekend, Katy hadn't taken a coat either. (Thanks for loan of yours, Penny!)

A strong gust of wind which blew the tarp away and bent a couple of tent poles in the process was the signal we needed to take an early night. It should be pointed out at this point that we have been members of the AWDC for around six months. Our driver training was in torrential rain, we camped in -8 degrees on the Mount Airlie trip, and now 140kph winds. Any guesses what future trips might have in store for us?

Sunday morning was slightly brighter and Lori's bacon, sausage and egg rolls were welcomed by everyone. After breakfast we were again put to the test, this time with 8 figure grid references. We were given a map on which to plot the references, and then follow them to the locations of the tasks. Our first task was to solve a jigsaw puzzle of a large scale map and answer a few questions... all without speaking to each other. Next was a task that, had Katy completed her required uni work before the trip, would have been a lot more successful. It wasn't until we got back to Sydney that she realised the international phonetic alphabet is an integral part of a linguistics degree. As it turned out, we invented the Australian phonetic alphabet, comprised of signals such as *Kangaroo*, *Echidna* and *Melbourne*. Hopefully Mike remem-





All Wheel Drive Club of Sydney

bered to send out the Royal Flying Vet Service to rescue the unfortunate camel that had been run over by a 4x4 and bitten by ants.

Next came the “monster crusher”. The purpose of this was to provide as much amusement as possible to the participants in the following car who could watch you drive round and round a tree trying to squash the drink cans you had had to force yourself to drink at the start of the game. (Didn't get fined for doing 10 laps of the tree either, did you?!)

At “hangman's noose” Steve had to reverse and lift up a shackle that was tied over a tree branch to his bullbar, then drive forward and drop the shackle as far away from the midline as possible. Again, in due concern for the wellbeing of the Nissan, Phil was worried that the extra weight of the shackle might rip off the bullbar, but luckily we came out of this task unharmed (squeak notwithstanding). On his second attempt, Steve actually managed to swing the shackle right through the hollow of the stump it started on. We think extra points should be awarded for such a feat.

The next task again provided amusement at the cost of Brad. A lot of shouting, swearing and aggravated hand movements were involved in directing his car around the course – in reverse. (Sorry Brad, but you were the only other car we had the chance to watch doing these tasks!) Katy was later told that she was standing too close to the car for Steve to be able to see her in the mirrors. She's standing by the story that she had a radio up her sleeve and so wasn't relying on hand signals!

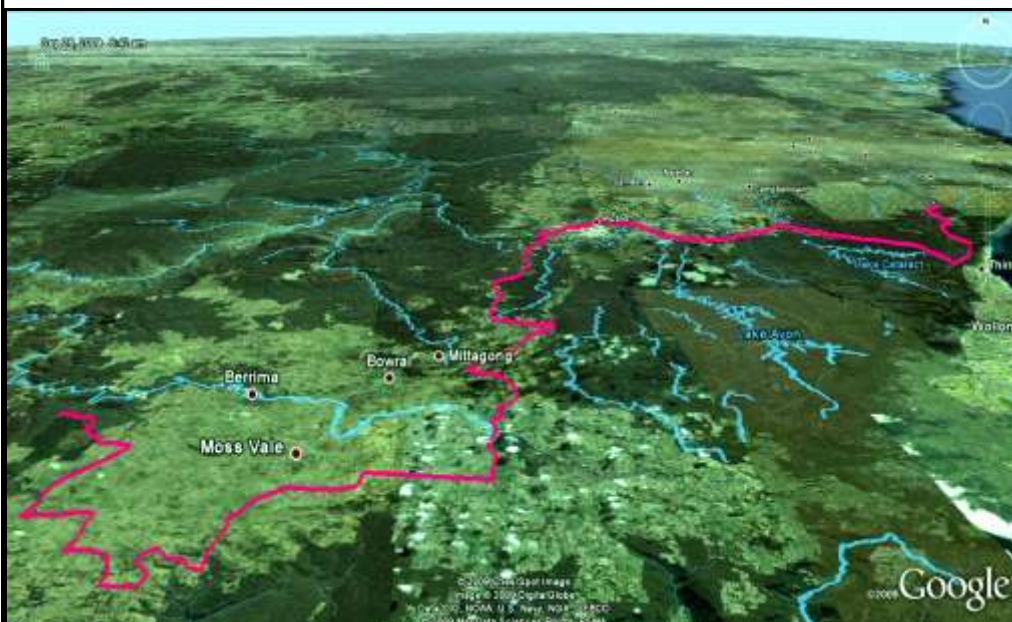
The final two tasks involved reversing backwards up a steep rock to stop as close as possible to a pole, and driving around a course, using BBQ tongs to place golf balls on top of poles (and knocking them back off again), which was made even trickier by the blustery winds and the fact that Katy's arms aren't very long!

Early afternoon we squeaked our way back to camp where we had to present all our photos from the previous day. At this point we had to come clean about not having found the final location, although Bruce did say he would award us points for initiative for taking a photo of *his* photo.

As the goodbyes were being said and the thanks being handed out to the fantastic team of helpers, we were asked to write up the trip report. With the amount of time and effort that the helper team had put into the weekend, it was the least we could do.

Postscript. Steve took the Navara into Nissan the following Wednesday. By this time the squeak had all but disappeared. He promised the 16 year old “service manager” that it really had been a bit worrying at

the weekend and that it sounded serious. He reluctantly said he would get one of the mechanics to look at it. That afternoon we picked up the Navara with a brand new drive shaft (and fuel sensor?) all under warranty. It turned out that the squeak was a completely seized U.V. joint. The mechanic said that this was a very rare condition that is only known to manifest itself in Nissans that have spent prolonged periods of time in close proximity to Toyotas.





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All Wheel Drive Club of Sydney

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING OF THE ALL WHEEL DRIVE CLUB OF SYDNEY INC Wednesday, 14 October 2009

MEETING OPEN

8:15pm at "The Cove Sports Club" Eastern Valley Way East Chatswood.

CHAIR

President Cameron Richardson opened the meeting by reminding financial members who had not cast a vote in the Soft Off-roader ballot that they needed to do so immediately

President asked Brian Sommerville & Katie Jennings to act as scrutineers for the above ballot

Reminded members that as this meeting would also include the AGM no guest speaker had been engaged

MINUTE SECRETARY

Secretary Lori Morgan

ATTENDANCE BOOK

Attendance book was circulated

APOLOGIES

Maureen Humphrey, Michael Walker, James van Thuien, Richard Destafanis, Kevin Bower

VISITORS

Alex Piper, (via Brian Sommerville) drives a VW Touareg, Frank, (via Aaron Mitchell) drives a Nissan & a Suzuki,

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Proposed by Phil Reid and seconded by Lee Bradstreet, that the minutes of the September meeting held 9 September 2009 as printed are correct. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thanked retiring committee members

Thanked the club for their support during the four years of his tenure

Thanked the sponsors all of whom had been club supporters for a long time

Commented on the strength of the membership & the constant stream of new members

Noted that whilst there had been a drop off in the number of trips run in the last 12 months it was minor and there were still plenty of trips available

Will suggest to the incoming committee that each committee member be asked to lead a tip in the next year

Acknowledged receipt of a \$400 cheque from the Tough Truck organisers as a donation to the club for the **support provided at this year's meet**

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Club Christmas Party – reminder that this will be held at the same location as last year, in Nowra



All Wheel Drive Club of Sydney

Asked club to continue to recommend guest speakers

Not standing as VP next year – thank you for support over last 12 months

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mail received included \$2,200, from ARB for past advertising & Tough Truck cheque for \$400

Not standing as Secretary next year – thanks to members for support over last 2 years

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report as per magazine

Only expenditure for last month was for raffle prizes

Standing again

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Currently 18 unpaid memberships representing 27 members

New memberships are 2 dual & 1 single

103 memberships have renewed representing 150 members

11 people representing 16 people have indicated they will not renew

Only one member not on email

Members badges were available for presentation to new members, however none were present

EDITOR'S REPORT

- Thanks to members who have provided photos
 - Reaction to providing magazine online is good – very few complaints
 - Getting reports in on time would help immensely
- Will stand again

DRIVER TRAINER'S REPORT

Thanks to Neil Follett for his work as Driver Training Assistant over last 12 months

Training Certificates presented to: Meagan Sparks, Gregg Lee, Penny Hunter, Jason Sparks, Steve Cox, Stephen Torney (via Sandra)

Standing again

TRIP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

- Thanks to Sue Dufield for assistance with Swagman data base
 - Thanks to trip leaders – some new faces this year
 - Introduced Trip Leader report form
 - 10 vehicles attended the trophy – results next meeting
 - Some doubt as to whether Trophy will be run next year – show of hands indicated strong support
 - Swagman Points winner was Lee Bradstreet – 300 points - \$250 voucher, 2nd equal were Mark Kortink & Bruce Mann – 235 points each - \$125 voucher each
- Standing again

SOFT OFF-ROADER BALLOT RESULT

Ayes 43 Noes 26 – President declared resolution passed & indicated that the new committee would now have the job of planning the implementation & setting an appropriate timetable



All Wheel Drive Club of Sydney

President thanked the scrutineers

Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm to allow the AGM to be held

Meeting was resumed at 9:30 pm

CHAIR

President Chris Wren reconvened the meeting

Thanks to outgoing committee, in particular Cameron for his 4 years as President

Welcome to new committee

Chris said that main focus for him would be ensuring the vibrancy of the club, through attendance at meetings, participation in trips and general camaraderie

Encourage missing members to take greater part in club activities

MINUTE SECRETARY

Secretary Bob Humphrey

PURCHASING OFFICER'S REPORT

Steve Gillespie gave a report on items now available from the Club Shop, with all wares exhibited at the back of the room

4WD NSW & ACT ASSOCIATION NEWS

Report held over until next month

VIDEO OFFICER'S REPORT

Report held over until next month

GENERAL BUSINESS

Steve Dali – trailer, where is it, what condition is it in – President said committee would review & report back

Brian Sommerville questioned whether the club really had a need for it

Clarification that the By-laws would be now changed as a result of the Soft-off-roader vote

SARGEANT-AT-ARMS

Poll taken on next year's beneficiary of fine sessions. Suggestions were; Youth off the Streets – 16 votes,

RFDS – 21 votes, RFS Assn – 6 votes, Careflight – 3 votes, Westpac Rescue Helicopter – 1 vote, Camp

Quality – 4 votes. RFDS is 2009 – 2010 beneficiary

Brad Paull then conducted fine session

RAFFLE

Annual Monster Raffle was conducted. Major prizes went to; Simon Hunter – ARB Compressor, Malcolm Crabb – Light Force lights, Jose Muni – GME Radio, Scotty Irvine – Inverter, Lee Bradstreet – GPS receiver & Mapping software

MEETING CLOSED

Meeting closed 10:17 pm

NEXT MEETING –

Wednesday, 11 November 2009 @ 8.00pm

Bob Humphrey

Secretary



All Wheel Drive Club of Sydney

ALL WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

OF SYDNEY INCORPORATED
PO BOX 82, ROSEVILLE NSW 2069

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2009 / 2010

Application Type

Member No _____

Membership **Application** [] or Membership **Renewal** [] **Single** Membership [] **Dual** Membership []
(Tick one box) (Tick one box)

Do you want your membership details withheld from any third party? _____ (yes or no, default response is YES)

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Title: ___ Given Name: _____ Family Name: _____

Address: _____ Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone (H): _____ (B): _____ (Mob): _____ Email: _____

Occupation: _____ Drivers License No: _____ Current First Aid: Yes/No

Second Member

Title: ___ Given Name: _____ Family Name: _____

Address: _____ Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone (H): _____ (B): _____ (Mob): _____ Email: _____

Occupation: _____ Drivers License No: _____ Current First Aid: Yes/No

Vehicle Details

Vehicle Make: _____ Model: _____ Vehicle Colour _____

Registration No: _____ Radios: UHF (Yes/No); HF (Yes/No)

Rated Recovery Points: _____ Front: Yes/No Rear: Yes/No

New Members

Where did you hear about the AWDC _____

If it was from a member, what is the member's name? _____

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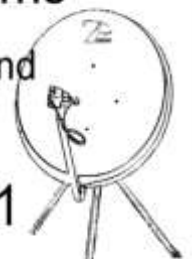
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