

www.rivercity4wdclub.net



Bulldust - Newsletter

Bulldust

February 2012



What are Friends for!

Board members and contact details

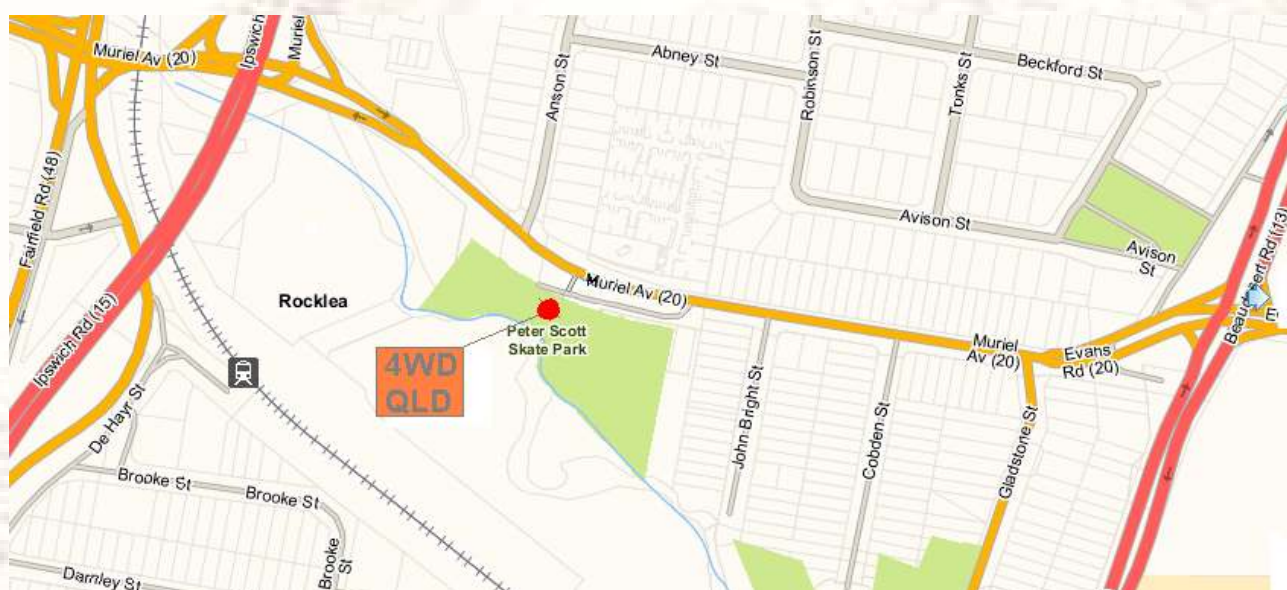
President	Peter Richens	0427 600 181	prichens@iinet.net.au
Vice President	Victor Cox	0400 929 772	waterstone@ozemail.com.au
Secretary	Sharyn Raymer	0459 690 470	sharyn99@ozemail.com.au
Treasurer	Troy Bignell		tbignell@gmail.com
Trips Coordinator	Adrian Pitts	0459 690 470	thebeastmaster63@bigpond.com
Ass Trips Coordinator	TBA		
FWD QLD Rep.	Johnny Osbaldiston	0438 798 226	johnnyos@bigpond.com
Editor	Michael Leyden	0420 332 738	homeviewphotos@yahoo.com.au
Care Bear	Richard Malone	04 12 194 778	rjmalone@optusnet.com.au
Web Admin	Peter Richens	0427 600 181	info@rivercity4wdclub.net

Important Club information

Club Postal address: PO Box 231, Archerfield 4108 QLD.

Club web/forum address - www.rivercity4wdclub.net

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month from 7:30pm at the 4WD QLD Hall, 90 Muriel Avenue, Moorooka - or during club trips, please check the clubs forum site for more information.



Map from whereis.com.

President & Editors report



Hi

Welcome to the first edition of the bulldust for 2012.

A Note about the cover photo, this sign was spotted by a mate of mine while they were “working” Glenn Haden from Roo Systems kindly posed for the photo, how do I get a job like that!

I Trust you all had a good Christmas and New year’s activities and are well and truly recovered from this physically if not financially!

Narelle and I certainly had a busy and productive time even managing to sneak in a trip to Moreton Island for New Years, your invitations must have got lost in the mail ☺

Actually I was joining some non club friends and only just managed to get a booking on both the barge and camping on the island as I left it way too late for that time of year.

This for both of us is the first time we have been to Moreton Island and while we both had a good time and managed to see heaps, even managed to get to Blue Lake, why is it called Blue it was more a dirty yellow colour and was not that pleasant – sort of been there done that now lets move onto another spot. When all done and said I still prefer Fraser Island over Moreton as I found it way too small, overcrowded and way too commercialised for my liking, but being so close to Brisbane there is still some attraction for a return trip, maybe a long weekend or even a weeklong trip.. have not sorted a date out yet but will let you know this time ☺

Well hopefully this is the last Bulldust I will be producing as the position has been advertised and as you may have noticed the position is now filled by Michael Leyden, I trust he will get right in and produce something for all of us to enjoy before the next meeting ☺

Other Positions that have been filled include Adrian Pitts as the Trips Coordinator, and Shazz has kindly taken over the role of Secretary as Michael is finding meeting attendance an issue with his new work.

This year has already attracted a few exciting trips but we need more to fill the calendar so if you find somewhere you think others will like please let us know, as with some of my current day or weekend trips it need not be a full on 4WD trip but it would be nice to be able to lock the hubs in at some stage.

Meeting for this month was moved both to the 18th and to Shazz’s house, this was a combined monthly meeting and a discussion about several of our future trips, in particular the Blue Mountains

trip that Adrian is leading and the Corner Country trip Victor is leading, many items were covered and Shazz put on a feast – don't think dinner is needed tonight!!

As some of you should know we are currently planning a trip that will encompass both Cameron and Haden corners, we should also be visiting many outback towns including Birdsville and should even get the chance to go for a run up Big Red for those wishing to put that under the list of things you have done – and just for a bit of fun ☺

The trip runs for 16 days and there should be a good chance for us to see many things without rushing (unlike my Desert trip in 2010) but while I have been through many of the towns I still have no clue as to what the areas have to show off and places to visit so we need some help on finding out places of interest. I have posted up on the forum a spreadsheet listing dates and places that we may be visiting, the trip sked is in no way set in concrete as track conditions change also if we find an area of interest we may divert to check it out and even stay a night as we have several additional days up out sleeves.

It's an exciting year for the club – I hope to see you all out on some of our trips!

Peter Richens “TroopiePete”
President 2010-2012, Webadmin,...
Sometimes I even get to go Camping and Driving!

Technical Report, By TroopiePete

Some of you should have seen the rocker switches used by ARB and several other companies for things like Air Lockers and Compressors, some people even supply them for Driving lights and Winch Isolators, in the Troopy I have both Front and Rear Lockers from ARB and they were supplied with Blue Lenses for all three switches, while this looks good Blue is a very bad colour for your eyes and possibly the worst for night vision as it makes you quite blind when it comes to dimly lit areas, as the remainder of my Dash has been converted to the night vision friendly colour of RED the Locker switches just had to be replaced! Fortunately the topic of switches had a thread running on the 4WD Action forum and someone posted up a link of a company that not only supplied these switches but would label them to what you wanted and in many different Colours!

I contacted Ian at Custom Rockers with anticipation of the cost involved in swapping out the switches and was pleasantly surprised to find out that I only needed to replace the top covers and was able to get them in red, also my Compressor switch in lying down so I was able to get the label changed to suit.

So if any of you wish to get personalised switches I highly recommend contacting www.customrockers.com.au for a quote.



Recovery Etiquette - How I see it.

Without trying to sound like a lecture I think this topic is worth mentioning and something we all need to try and remember, believe me when in the situation of recovering someone it's easy to forget or overlook BUT it's something we should get into the practice of doing - and that is?

1 - In the situation of recovery ensure that the bare minimum of people are involved, get all bystanders to move away from both cars by a bare minimum of 1 length of the winch cable or recovery strap - more if you can!

This includes people in cars as a flying winch or recovery strap with a D shackle attached will easily slice through the vehicle and kill whomever it hits!

2 - Appoint a person whom will be the recovery manager - this person is responsible for checking that all persons do as instructed and to keep a close eye on the recovery process, hand held UHF radios are almost a must these days.

3 - When the vehicles are attached and you are ready to start the recovery the manager ensures that all people are moved to a safe distance from both cars, trees whatever you are attached to by the same distance, this includes the person controlling the recovery!

4 - NO ONE should ever step over a loaded snatch strap or winch cable - NEVER !!

5 - Except for emergencies or when there simply is no other choice no one should approach the recovery area until the load has been removed from the cables - the danger has not been removed just because you are not currently being pulled or the winch has stopped!

Some of this may seem a bit over the top but if you follow this and similar precautions the chances of someone being killed or injured are greatly reduced.

Devices such as cable dampeners are a good idea but a good old beach towel will do a good job, just ensure whatever you use is kept clear of the winch!

But this is a good topic for a future discussion ☺

Troopiepete.

Johnny Navara's Funnies

Subject: The Bad Parrot

A young man named John received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary.

Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity.

John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to 'clean up' the bird's vocabulary.

Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. John shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even ruder. John, in desperation, threw up his hand, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer. For a few minutes the parrot squawked, kicked the door and screamed.

Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute.

Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer.

The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arms and said:

"I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behaviour."

John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude.

As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behaviour, the bird spoke-up, very softly,

"May I ask what the turkey did?"

Johnny Navara



Trip Report

Ok this is something I try and get other trip members to write but failing this I have put just a few words together and couple of photo's that have been posted on our Forum by Adrian - <http://www.rivercity4wdclub.net/phpBB3/viewtopic.php?f=9&t=158>

As many of you may be aware the trip this month was to be a day visit to the Minyon Falls area, not far from my old home town of Lismore NSW, we did this trip early last year but as we have a whole new bunch of members thought it worth visiting again... Well that was until Joe suggested a camping trip to Mt Pikapene and Ewingar State Forests, it was very short notice and did preclude some members from attending but this is an area that I visited over 20 years ago and have wanted to go back to for some time now so how could I resist!

The trip required us to drive south via Lismore and Casino where we headed west turning off at the Mallanganee look out, the views from this location are breathtaking, suggestions were this should be a camp site for some future trip, some people have such good ideas ☺

We toured about on both dirt and tar until venturing up to the Pikapene plantation area, wow what fantastic tracks and so well used... NOT! the grass in places was over the top of our cars and tracks were almost impossible to find but fortunately for us most were quite firm and no one got bogged.

I was very disappointed to find that while the track up to the fire tower looked very good and the gates unlocked it was clearly sign posted that we were not to enter - pity as the towers location was a frequent spot for us many years back for Radio weekends - so sad that places like this are now locked out from people like us ☹

Having travelled most of the tracks we ventured on to Ewingar State Forest, just getting there was a bit of fun as several of the rivers were flooding with one bridge going under as we were crossing it - had we left it even 10 min later I think it would have been un-passable!

Later that day we did find a river that was flowing way too fast and was way too deep to cross so I guess that's just part of the fun we call 4WD'ing!

That night we camped in an old logging camp site that turns out to be a regular spot for campers, it even has a pit toilet or two so I guess it's worth visiting again some day... soon!

That night and for that matter during the day we had several heavy rain showers and a very interesting time watching both the clouds forming then blowing over us as fog plus the lightening flashing between clouds of differing heights, Got to love camping at such heights!

The next day we travelled around the old Gold mining areas and spotted a few very nice creeks that I think a future panning visit may be needed, never enough time on trips like this plus I had to work that night so down to Tabulam, quick pie for lunch then off home we travelled.

The driving on this trip was mostly easy with just a few sticky spots and a little tree removal but I enjoyed it and will be returning soon, except next time work will have to be moved so we can spend more time exploring!





ED – Troopiepete.



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Basic Trip Rules

All vehicles are to be registered, Insured and in a road safe condition. All vehicles must have a working UHF CB (Club Ch28), Tow Points front and Rear of the Vehicle (tie down points are not to be used) 2 x 3.25T rated shackles, rated Snatch strap and a Club sticker.

All Drivers must sign the trip book, doing so advises the Club you comply with the rules.

Prospective Members are welcome to attend but must comply with the above rules. While Training is not compulsory, new members need to inform us of your experience level; with this in mind all visitors must be introduced to the Trip Leader prior to commencement of any Trips.

Basic Convoy rules: always keep an eye on the car behind you, if turning off the main track wait until the car behind you has caught up.

Membership fees

\$50 per year on \$12.50 per full or part quarter, determine by joining date, Plus a \$5 joining fee. \$50 for existing members - due 1st July each year (Per vehicle, not person)

Other important details

4WD QLD contact details: www.4wdqld.com.au

Email: info@4wdqld.com.au

President: - Peter Fowler Ph. 07 3886 9295

TCIS insurance - PH 1800 633 745

(Association of National Four Wheel Drive Clubs Insurance Scheme)

Opinions and views expressed in this new letter are not necessarily those of the River City 4WD Club Inc.

Club Merchandise for sale

Long stickers - \$6

Small Club stickers - \$2

Event Planner

March 2012 -

10th & 11th - Kyogle trip with a camp over - TL Victor

23rd - 25th - 4x4 show - RNA show Grounds - need people to man the 4WD QLD stand for us.

April 2012 -

5th to 15th - Blue Mountains trip - TL Adrian

May 2012 -

4th to 7th - Corroboree 2012 at Bundaberg - closing date ...

June 2012 -

8th to 11th - Annual Fraser Cleanup - TL Johnny Navara

23rd June to 9th July - Corner country trip - TL Victor

July 2012 -

13th - Boulia Camel Races - TBA