

September 2006

Bulldust

Newsletter of the River City 4WD Club Inc.



Club Meets 2nd Wed of every month at 7:30pm, in the QAFWDC Hall, 90 Muriel Ave. Moorooka

Out with the Old and in with the New

Well, it's been a break that I've certainly enjoyed, but I'm back again for some more punishment. As the AGM was last month and a handover of committee positions has now taken place, I must give the previous committee their deserved dues.

Whether you feel a club has progressed, regressed, evolved or simply just existed, you have to give the departing committee the recognition and gratitude they truly deserve. People fill these positions voluntarily, giving up their spare time, whether it be a lot or a little. You the general members, nominate or choose who you want to fill the positions for

the following 12 months. You decide, who will steer the club in a direction that hopefully gives the members the desire to want to participate and enjoy the companionship of their fellow members.

As an "outsider", I'm sure everyone played their part as expected, but I'd like to make special mention to a few. Thankyou Andrew for not only giving the Presidents role a go (twice), but for all the extra things you've done along the way. He may be a bit rough around the edges and has that dry, unexcited manner like his dad, but he has put in a lot of effort and was always willing to go out of his way for others.

I'm sure you'll all agree that Kerin did a great job of filling in where Helen

left off. The magazine can be a tedious job and I'm personally hoping that thanks to email, it will be a lot better. Kerin lifted the magazine to a new level with her artistic collage front pages, while maintaining a format that seemed to please most. I'm sure she's relieved to hand over the editor's role, again after 2 years of filling the position.

I'd also like to thank Ken and Sue for their part in ensuring those behind the scenes activities, were performed with the dedication they deserved. I hope you both enjoy your break. What an amazing difference to our bank account the committee has made over the last 2 years. You've got to give them credit for that.

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Presidents Report

Well the AGM has once again come and gone and with surprising eagerness all positions were filled. Pizza was had by all, bringing out some members we haven't seen for a while, even Grandmothers whom seem to have an uncanny knack of winning at bingo.

I would like to thank all the past members of the committee for their hard work and commitment to the club. I would also like to welcome all the new Committee members into their positions for the

year 2006/2007. I am hoping for a year full of fun and adventure and lots of participation from the members, as without you, the club dies.

The Johnny Navara Comedy Corner

I'll kick this off, but I'm hoping Johnny will take me up on the idea.

***Two fish swim into a concrete wall.
One turns to the other and says "dam"***

What's Happening this Month



Trip Participation Mandatory Requirements

- Working UHF radio
- Snatch Strap with no fraying
- 2 x 3.25t rated shackles
- Front & rear recovery points
- Club sticker (members only)

Visitors are welcome to attend trips, for the small fee of \$5/vehicle. The above requirements must still be met.

The member who introduces the visitor will be responsible for that visitor throughout the trip.

The trips book must be signed by all adults, whether they are members or visitors.

The Trip Leader has the right to refuse participation in the trip to anybody not complying with the above.

15, 16 September : The Springs 4WD Park

Trip Leader: Johnny Navara 0427 982 270

Cost : About \$ 45 for the 2 days. No dogs.

Meeting time and place : 8:00am Chalk St, Redbank Plains. Chalk St is signposted and is off Ipswich Rd. We will meet in the bitumen clearing that used to be a service station.

4WD Level: Bit of everything. Mainly easy but some very challenging.

We visited The Springs for the first time earlier this year. Just for a day drive. It's actually quite a good place. A very attractive camping area, with a very new amenities block and hot showers. A fairly easy access road exists into the camp ground that will allow access to most vans, maybe not real big ones like Bob & Jenny's though. A sit-down café exists at the office, that does very tasty hamburgers if you wanted to pack light. It is not too far away, that those who want to just go down for the day on Saturday, could quite comfortably, as we did last time.

30 September : Eumundi Markets / Cruise Day

Trip Leader: Bob Cosgrove 0428 580 118

Cost : As little or as much as you want

Meeting time and place : 8:00am BP on the Highway heading North, near Morayfield

4WD Level : Nil

This is just a nice social day, where we'll head up to Eumundi in convoy and spend some hours at the markets. After the markets we'll go for a nice drive in the country and just have a pleasant relaxing day.

Future Trips

A very productive Trips Meeting was held at Roger and Jenny's place. Not to mention an excellent BBQ and a great social day.

Thanks to those who attended, we have a pretty exciting year ahead. Lots of places we haven't been to for a while. Some we haven't been to at all.

Most trips have Leaders already nominated. Thankyou to them for volunteering. A few still need volunteers though.

Apologies to those who were nominated on the day, without consultation. A few of you fell into this category. I hope you are still willing and able to assist with these activities, but if not, contact Roger or Jenny.

If you have any other ideas for trips or activities that you would like to organise, don't hesitate to speak up.

We will also be looking for members willing to assist with the organising of our club Christmas Party in December. Contact Jenny if you're interested.

Trip Report – City View Visit.

Well I have been missing in action for the last few months due to work commitments, and hanging out for some old fashion 4 wheel driving. So when I saw that we had a day trip on to city view park – I was their. I attempted to contact the trip coordinator with no luck. So off to the assembly point.

I was soon joined by John O and Ken – but sadly not trip leader. So off we went by ourselves. We arrived at the office, to find it locked and unattended. Waited for sometime until we finally made a phone call to locate some one. The office is surrounded by lots of good stuff or to me lots of junk, old cars and tyres etc.

Finally he arrived to take our money, \$25.00 per car per day. A bit steep for my blood but O.K. I really wanted to see what improvements have been made.

We paid up and got a map, looked good. Eager to go.

Well there is a new entry road, - very bumpy, with two gates both on up-hill areas. Mental note – do not

bring the Caravan, not if I want it in the same condition to go home.

Once in the park proper it was time to do some serious map reading. But I was soon to discover what looked simple on the paper was in fact hopeless in reality. Too many tracks with the same number - and on the ground too many tracks that did not really relate to the map all that well.

But a little bit of poor map design or map reading was not going to spoil my day. Had a look around, and some will find the park great as it is very bumpy and challenging all the time. For me I found the constant bumping around on what should have been simple sight seeing areas a little too much. May be I am getting old. (You did buy a van. ED)

We tackled a few hills – yep no worries – Nissan, Jeep, Nissan handled it all good.

By morning tea I was ready for a lay down to recover from the constant bumping around. Spoke with some other travellers and they too found the map reading less then desirable. In fact it appeared to be a common thread with anyone we spoke with.

Had lunch and found the camping grounds have some chemical toilets available, but – when was the last

time they were cleaned, last century I think. Did a little more exploring - tried a few more hills, well at least I did, and yep no fuss or bother for the Nissan. (That's right, you've got a locker now. ED) Then it was time to find the new exit track, now where did they hide that track.

Finally found the track. Again! Mental note do not being a Caravan to this park.

Finally we were out of the park and no more bumping around, heaven.

So how was the day, - in a word Great, good company, great vehicles and fantastic drivers. Park not really to my liking at all. Not user friendly at all in my humble opinion, but I think it will be a great place for those who like to rock and roll and take the vehicle home on the back of trailer. Park prices – far too high, camping grounds, great for the swag - but by the way – don't take the Caravan to this park, not if you want to come home as good as it went.

So would I go back? Maybe - but not in a hurry, a year or two away maybe. But I am sure there is plenty that will. Thanks for a great day, great company and great vehicles, no one got stuck all day.

Scott

Don't Mess With Grandma!

An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and, upon returning to her car, found four males in the act of leaving with her vehicle. She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun, proceeding to scream at the top her voice, "I have a gun, and I know how to use it! Get out of the car..!!!"

The four men didn't wait for a second invitation. They got out and ran like mad. The lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her bags into the back of the car and got into driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not get her key into the ignition. She tried and tried, and then it dawned on her why.

A few minutes later, she found her own car parked four or five spaces farther down. She loaded her bags into the car and drove to the police station.

The sergeant to whom she told the story couldn't stop laughing. He pointed to the other end of the counter, where four pale men were reporting a car jacking by a mad, elderly woman described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair, and carrying a large handgun.

If you're going to have a Senior Moment, make it a memorable one!

🌀 Club Christmas Party 🌀

When : 2 & 3 December 2006

Where : Crows Nest Caravan Park

We will be dining at the parks licensed restaurant on a 3 course meal. Soup, garlic bread, 3x roast meats, lots of veges, salads, home made bread, plum pudding, pavlova, ice-cream cakes, tea, coffee etc etc. (geez do I feel full) \$22 per head.

Van sites are \$16 double. Dogs are permitted, children are not (only joking). Cabins are available but you need to book yourself. Let them know you are with the club. Ph 4698 1269

We require commitments from members in the form of a \$10 deposit per adult and \$5 per child, preferably at the next meeting.

Stay tuned for more info.

The Future is in YOUR HANDS

As usually happens in a club of our modest size, the same people tend to cycle through the committee positions numerous times before finally getting a deserved break. In that time, you hope new members join who are young and enthusiastic and have the right drive to make a club the social gathering of people with common interests, as it should be. I've said it before, the more involved you are in a club, usually the more you get out of it.

So what does the next 12 months hold for us? I know Adam's keen to get in there and give things a good shake up. It's encouraging to know that he was thinking about taking on the position a couple of months ago and has followed through with accepting his nomination. I hope family life doesn't bog him down too much and he gets the opportunity and support from the committee, to achieve what he wants for the club.

My hopes for the next 12 months personally, are that we have an influx of new members. My observation is we haven't had too many new members in the last couple of years. There's been a surprising number of visitors to

meetings, but very few actually joining. Obviously this can be attributed to a number of reasons, but is something the committee needs to sit down and have a good chat about, to determine how we're going to turn it around. I certainly prefer that we still remain a smallish club, but we need to allow for the longer standing members who leave to pursue other interests and those shorter term members, who join to discover the club just doesn't have to offer what they wanted in a club.

I know you can't please everyone, but we should try and work out what the majority of members want and run the club to satisfy those requirements, while trying to attract members who have the same wants. It's no good just doing what was done in the past and expecting people to stay interested. I love 4wd driving, but just don't have that desire to drive up and down hills all day, or push my vehicle and nerves to their limits.

There's no questioning, the needs of our members have changed, not necessarily for the worst, they've just changed. Let's embrace that change and build our club back up to be a group to be proud of.

Minutes of the River City 4WD Club GENERAL MEETING – 09.08.2006

Meeting Opened: 7:35pm

Visitors: None

Apologies: Wayne Bischoff, Paul Wallace, Keira Johnstone, Scott Crawford, Shane Blacker

Minutes of previous meeting: Moved by Debbie Murray, Seconded by Bob Cosgrove

Correspondence Report: Moved by Kym Cowell, Seconded by Johnny Navara

Raffle prize for tonight: Tie Down Straps, Shade Tent

Treasurer's Report: My apologies, the treasure did give me a copy of the report but I have misplaced it. Moved by Tony Appleton, Seconded by Kerin Stinear

QAFWDC: Nothing to report this month.

Trips Completed: Progressive Dinner – Great time had by all.
Levuka day run – Andrew reported it was a fun day.

Trips Coming Up: Levuka – 12 – 13 August
City View 4WD Park – 27 August
Springs 4WD Park – 16 & 17 September

Fines: Nil

Driver Awareness Unit: Nil

Technical Advice: Nil

General Business: •Mike Rymer announced he would not be renewing his membership as he is off to travel around Australia. Good luck Mike. •All drivers at Landcruiser Park were breath tested last week by the police. Beware.

Meeting closed: 8:10pm

Minutes of the AGM – 09.08.2006

Meeting Opened: 8:25pm

Nominations received from the floor:

President: Adam Murray (unopposed)

Vice President: Kerin Stinear (declined),
Peter Richens (accepted)

Secretary: Kerin Stinear (unopposed)

Treasurer: Tony Appleton (unopposed)

Trip Coordinator: Roger Gesch (unopposed)

Asst Trip Coordinator: Andrew Bischoff (declined),
Anthony Semmler (declined), John Osbaldiston (declined),
Darren Batkin (declined), Bob Cosgrove (accepted)

QAFWDC: John Osbaldiston (unopposed)

DAU: Scott Crawford (unopposed)

Tea Lady: Keira Johnstone (unopposed)

Newsletter Editor: John Dibble (unopposed)

Meeting closed: 8:44pm

What do you think about the club newsletter?

It's probably disappointing for some, damned annoying for others and just maybe some might say "it's a bit different". The last I'll take as a compliment. Considering I played a fairly major role in the last facelift of Bulldust, nearly 6 years ago, as the "unopposed" newsletter editor, I just felt like a change.

Despite my soapbox outburst at the meeting, I will actually listen to people's views and opinions on the newsletter. I don't promise to please you all, or take on the advice and recommendations expressed, but I certainly encourage and want to hear the feedback.

I intend producing a scaled down version of what we're accustomed to, with less "padding" and less emphasis on those items most don't really need or want to read.

**Another View of
CITY VIEW 4WD PARK
DAY RUN 27 AUGUST 2006**

We met at the usual gathering place, Shell Jimboomba. When I got there Johnny Navara and Scott Crawford were already there. So we had three vehicles and four people. City View is within an hours drive of Brisbane and with the closure of Ormeau, it may just be the nearest place where one can legally 4WD close to home. We waited a further 15 minutes past the advertised departure time and with Scott leading, off we went.

We arrived at City View at around 8.15 but with no one at the office, we had to ring the nominated mobile phone number to get the owner up to sign us in. With a map in hand, off we went to test out this vast array of tracks. We started in near camp ground No. 1. If anyone is thinking of bringing a caravan down here forget it. Tight corners, wash outs and a small hill climb will make it near impossible for most of the vans in this club.

We then took the track leading down to camp ground No. 2 and after much discussion as to which track to take

from there we ventured out onto track 24. We had decided to miss the extreme tracks and just try to tackle the medium to hard ones, of which there are plenty. Track 24 is a beauty, a good tough hill climb with a rocky ledge $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up. From here we drove around on track 3 until we came back along the ridge called the Goat Track. We stopped for smoko at the camp ground on the hill and then headed down into the play area for some fun. Johnny really enjoyed getting down into some mud and Scott took on a very dusty, loosely gravelled hill climb but made it up without much trouble. (Did you know he had a locker. ED)

Then we went over to the back of the place to tackle a track up on the high ridge. There had been a bushfire through this part of the property during the week, which had left some trees still burning and others fallen down across some tracks. At the top of the hill on track 2, a large gum was across the track, so a detour was needed. Scott found a little used track to our left, so we were soon on our way. Very scenic track with views out over Mt Lindsay and on the right you can see the buildings of the Brisbane CBD. I had Peter Best

along as my navvie for the day and wouldn't you know it we were parked under a sign which read The Best Lookout. A photo opportunity if I ever saw one. Anyway, back down the hill through some very dusty tracks to our lunch stop at camp ground No. 2 (again).

After lunch we headed off to the tracks up behind camp ground No. 1. We ventured out along the goat track again this time in the right direction. After reading the map we discovered that when we traversed it in the morning we were going the wrong way. Lucky for us no other vehicles were coming along towards us. We then made our way back down through a very washed out hill and headed out of the property for home. I really enjoyed the day out and being so close to home it is somewhere that we should visit more often.

Thanks to Scott, Johnny and Peter for their company. I think everyone was impressed with most of the tracks, but Scott was a little critical of the site map. It can be confusing.

Ken

Club Noticeboard

Best wishes to Debbie and Adam Murray, who are expecting the birth of their second child this month.

Happy Birthday to Tanith for last month.

Thanks to Anthony Semmler for the Mapworld closing down sale notification. Cost me a small fortune, but got heaps of good maps and the meeting raffle prize of a 4WD DVD.

If you haven't yet paid your membership renewal, you really should. We've got to be one of the cheapest clubs around at only \$50 per vehicle.

\$\$\$\$\$ FOR SALE \$\$\$\$\$

Wheels & Tyres, 235/75/15 Dunlop SP Road Grippers. Two brand new, two done approx. 5000km. Fitted to 6 stud 15x7 white sunraysia rims. All less than 18 months old. Set of 4. \$500
Ph John Dibble 0429 428 467

Trailer hubs/electric brake drums, Melb Axle Sales. 6 stud, includes brand new big 80mmOD inner bearings and 60mmOD outers. Hubs were on van for less than 18 months. New \$600 Sell \$300
Ph John Dibble 0429 428 467

Chair Covers, custom made in polar fleece. Makes your folding camp chair heaps more comfy, especially in winter.
Ph Jenny Gesch 3802 1355

Honey, fresh from our own local producers, better GI than processed honey. \$12 for 2 litres.
Ph Wayne or Andrew 3287 3771

12 Month Trip Calender

Date	Activity	Co-Ordinator
14, 15 October	Kennilworth SF camping at Kennilworth Showgrounds	Scott
29 October	Duck Creek Rd to O'Reilly's day drive	Roger & Jenny
11,12 November	Crystalvale day drive / weekend	Adam & Deb
2, 3 December	Club Christmas Party – Crows Nest	Roger, Jenny & Chrissy committee
9 December	Video/DVD/BBQ night at the Blacker's	Roger & Jenny
26 Dec to 1 Jan	Glenn Innes – Forestry drives/fossicking	Volunteer required
13 January	Ten Pin Bowling	Sonjya & Kim
26, 27, 28 January	Yarraman/7 Mile Diggings/Blackbutt SF-Yarraman caravan park	John & Helen
17, 18 February	Sandy Creek	Scott
4 March	Numinbah SF day drive	Ken & Anthony
17, 18 March	Richmond Range SF – camping at Orme & Sandra's or Bonalbo	Roger & Jenny
1 April	April Fools Day Car Rally	Ken and Ro
6-9 April	Camp on the Clarence at Alice, explore Yuraygir SF/Drake/Rover Park day trip/Malara Ck fire Trail	John & Helen
25 April	Border Ranges NP day drive	Volunteer required
5, 6, 7 May	Manar near Proston	Volunteer required
5, 6, 7 May	Corroboree at Mackay	Scott
26, 27 May	Kilkivan including Goomeri Pumpkin Festival	Roger & Jenny
9, 10, 11 June	Christmas in June Stanthorpe	Kerin
14, 15 July	Neurum Creek / Mt Mee SF	John & Helen
11, 12 August	Levuka	Volunteer required