

Club Magazine

Around the Tracks



Affiliated with the QLD
ASSOCIATION
of FOUR WHEEL DRIVE
CLUBS Inc.
Member of the
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL
FOUR WHEEL DRIVE
COUNCIL

April/May
2011

Mackay & District 4WD Club Inc.
PO Box 3469
Mackay North Qld 4740

Meetings held
Second Monday
of each
month at
North Mackay
Bowls Club

Next meeting
7.30pm,
Monday
13th June 2011

E-Mail: enquiry@mackay4wdclub.com Web Site: www.mackay4wdclub.com

Committee Members and Office Bearers 2010-11

President		Steve Johnson		0438 005 844	4955 2291
Vice-President		Terry Devery		0428 554115	4942 0280
Secretary		Alan Lovett		0428 719 105	49551513
Treasurer		Fay Devery			4942 0280
Committee Member		Steve Whykes		0407 677 075	4969 6087
Driver Awareness & Environment Off		Paul Whitestyles		0402 576 619	4957 3754
Activities Co-ordinator		Ian McDonald Michael Ward-Grodd		0418 795 607 0447 766 022	4998 5806 4955 2978
Editor	Kathy Searle	4942 7457	Training Officer #2	Ian Stagg	4959 1267
Ass. Editors	Michelle J	4955 2291	Host Person	Jeanette VK	4966 8136
Ass. Act. Co-ord.	Michael W-G	4955 2978	Greeter #1	Angie Brannan	4955 5305
Insurance Officer	Bruce	4954 6793	Greeter #2	Cheryl Oakley	4942 1956
PR Officer	Terry	4942 0280	Ass. Comm. Member	Derek VK	4966 8136
QAFWDC Ass Rep #1	David Christensen	0427701362	QAFWDC Ass Rep #2	Melissa Christensen	4969 5482
Training Officer #1	Paul W	4957 3754	Web Page editor	Sonia +Wendy	4956 4224

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MACKAY & DISTRICT 4WD CLUB Inc. ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS (05-05-04)

ACTIVITIES

- 1) (a) The Trip Leader should remind all drivers before moving off, that convoy procedure should be followed. Participants on trips will obey the Trip Leader's instructions at all times regarding speed, position in convoy, convoy procedure and route to be taken on or off roads and tracks. The Trip Leader's instructions will not be deviated from except in the case of discussion by all members on the trip and a majority vote on the proposed deviation by those members present
Prior to the start of a trip, the Leader must:
 - i. Arrange suitable rendezvous during the trip at which all vehicles stop. These are based on either time or distance.
 - ii. Inform the driver of the last vehicle that he/she is the last vehicle in the convoy.
 - iii. Check with drivers of vehicles that all basic essential equipment is carried in or on each vehicle. Refer Clauses 4 and 5.
 - iv. Check with drivers that any specially requested equipment is carried in or on vehicles.
- (b) The lead vehicle will stop at any turn-off or intersection at which doubt may exist as to the correct direction. It will wait for the following vehicle before moving off in the correct direction. Each successive vehicle will then wait for the following vehicle before moving off. By this means, all will follow the lead vehicle and a message can also be sent in both directions along the convoy. At other times it is the responsibility of any preceding vehicle to keep the vehicle following in sight.
- (c) No vehicle in convoy will pass another vehicle in convoy without the Trip Leader's instructions, unless under exceptional circumstances, whilst the convoy is moving.
- (d) When travelling in convoy on main roads, the distance between any vehicle should not be less than six (6) vehicle lengths, to assist overtaking traffic.
- (e) Avoid driving too close to the vehicle in front on bush tracks, where ratio changing and braking could be a problem.
- (f) Persons leaving Association convoy or group MUST notify the trip leader and if possible, give details of their intentions.
- 2) No unofficial competitions or displays of "Four wheel driving" shall take place during Association trips without permission of Property Owner and/or Trip Leader. [Refer Clause 1 (a) paragraph 3].
- 3) Vehicles must be registered, maintained and in a good road-worthy condition. The Association reserves the right to demand a Safety Certificate from an authorized Inspection Station designated by the Association, at the Member's expense. All drivers shall hold a current Drivers License.
- 4) Every 4WD vehicle on Association trips and/or 4WD activity must be fitted with front and rear towing points.
- 5) Every 4WD vehicle must carry basic recovery gear and First Aid Kit on Association activities.
- 6) **Permission must be obtained** from property owners before travelling on their property. Permits required MUST BE OBTAINED for Forestry and National Parks.

- 7) No animals will be brought on Association trips.
- 8) Fuel tanks must be filled prior to the departure time of the trip.
- 9) Fire-arms prohibited on all Association trips and activities.
- 10) At Association functions, members are expected to follow verbal instructions and visual signs erected by the organizers. Association members are responsible for their visitors.
- 11) (a) Bushfire regulations shall be obeyed at all times.
(b) Camp and billy fires must be totally extinguished by water, and/or covered with earth.
- 12) Before breaking camp members will clear the site of all litter and rubbish deposited during their stay, and carry it with them away from the camp area to a designated rubbish dump or receptacle.
- 13) When crossing private property and crown land under lease, gates, clip-rails and property will be left as found, or as instructed by the Trip Leader. Where gates are to be opened/closed, the first vehicle behind the Trip Leader will pull over and open the gate and after the convoy passes this vehicle will close same and fall into convoy in front of Tail End Charlie. This rotation procedure will be repeated for each gate open/closure.
- 14) No member of the Association will at any time knowingly give information of any kind to any person, who is not a member of the Association, which may assist that person to gain access to areas which the Association visits on Association activities where those areas are "off the beaten track", or not general knowledge.
- 15) The wearing of **seatbelts** is mandatory. Riding on vehicle bonnets and tailgates is prohibited.
- 16) (a) Fauna will not be disturbed. Fishing excepted where permitted.
(b) Flora of any description is not to be removed under any circumstances whilst on Association activities.
- 17) Motorcycles to be excluded from attending Association outings and field days. Property owner has discretionary powers
- 18) No person shall exceed the legal alcohol limit when driving in any Association activity. Nor shall any person consume such alcohol while driving in any Association activity.
- 19) Tracks and roads should not be deviated from. **This is particularly relevant where Parthenium, Giant Rats Tail or other noxious weed is present. Where required by property owner, appropriate vehicle washdown shall take place.** Any damage caused to tracks and roads will be repaired where required and/or where practicable.
- 20) It is mandatory for members of M&D4WDC, if when visiting or traversing official club properties to pursue 4WD activity and on other than a current M&D4WDC event, to register their name and the date in the Activities Book.

ADMINISTRATION

- 1) Any elected Association Member is disallowed from holding the same Official Committee Member position, after having served three consecutive terms of office in that same role.
- 2) The appointed Committee Member term extends to 6 months overall, with the Assistant Committee Member whose term of 3 months is included in the 6 months term assumes voting rights after 3 months when the Committee Member retires and the new Assistant is appointed.

Management Committee



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COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MEETING OPENED:

7.25pm Wednesday 06.04.11 at Steve Johnson's residence.

ATTENDANCE:

Steve Johnson, Ian McDonald, Michael Ward-Grodd, Ian Stagg, Steve Whykes and Alan Lovett

APOLOGIES: Terry & Fay.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Resolved that the minutes of the previous General Meeting on Monday (14/03/2011), be confirmed as per magazine. Moved by Ian Stagg, Seconded by Ian MacDonald, Carried by All.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- The club camp ground, owned by the Younger Family has been sold. It is yet to be confirmed whether the new owners will permit the use of the property by Mackay & District 4WD Club. Members of the committee to make contact with new owners in near future.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Inwards:

- 4WD Qld rep's meeting minutes – Feb 2011
- Email from Emily & David Hunt re. club outings
- Email from Charles Gosling re joining club
- Email from Roger Van der Veen re joining club
- Mky Land Rover Club News – March 2011
- Email from Sporting Wheelies organizer, Peter Sumpter about club outing.
- Updated club membership list
- Updated Activities list for April – June 2011

Outwards:

- Email replies to Emily & David Hunt, Charles Gosling &, Roger Van der Veen.
- Email reply to Sporting Wheelies organizer, Peter Sumpter, advising on club campgrounds sale & possibility of access to Rowellan Park.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Secretary Al read the Treasurer's report.

Opening Balance \$ 7198.92

Total deposits	\$ 297.00
Total withdrawals	\$ 150.00
Closing Balance	\$ 7345.92

ACCOUNTS PASSED FOR PAYMENT:

- Aust Post (postage) \$15.66
- Fay Devery (binders, stores & glue) \$17.00
- Petty Cash top up \$55.00

Moved by Michael Ward-Grodd, Seconded by Ian MacDonald, Carried by all.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT: Nil

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- The Ward-Grodd boys, Callaghan & Nicholas have been invited to attend a national Karate meeting in Adelaide in Sept 2011, with an approx. Cost of \$1000 each to attend. The boys will be involved in fundraising activities such as pie drives, sausage sizzles etc. & permission has been requested of the committee to advertise these events through the club magazine. The committee has agreed to allow the advertising & it is to be bought up for discussion at the next general meeting.
- Access to the property at Cathu that hosts the annual Mackay Off Road Challenge is being sought for possible future recreational visits by the club. At present access is unavailable due to the recent wet weather & as well scheduled logging activity which will run until approx August 2011. Al Lovett to contact property owners later in year.
- Relay For Life – if the club is to participate in this event again this year there is a need for interested people to coordinate the event etc.

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR:

- Sandy Shores camp unfortunately cancelled due to wet weather.
- Info afternoon at A1 Battery Pro was a roaring success with approx 25 club members attending. A very informative presentation given by hosts James & Mark covering a

range of topics relating to batteries, maintenance, charging & wiring just to name a few.

- Committee members Terry, Ian Mac & Alan went to Rowellan Park recently to have a look at suitability for the Sporting Wheelies event as well as possible use for future camping and / or driver awareness training. Unfortunately as it was still very wet not a lot of the property could be seen.
- Assistant Activities coordinator, Michael Ward-Grodd acknowledged that due to his recent busy time with work that Ian MacDonald has been doing all of the coordination, organizing, contacting of property owners etc. (& doing a mighty fine job as well !!!) A big thanks from the committee as well as all club members to Ian for his efforts, (all he needs to do now is to learn how to control the rain)

Future trips:

- Gumby Gumby trip has to be cancelled due to wet.
- 22nd to 26th April - Wash Pools Easter trip has been substituted with Theresa Ck dam camp with day trips to Mt Coolon, Tomahawk Ck & possibly the Gemfields.

- 22nd to 26th April – some club members have indicated that they go to Eungella Dam over the Easter Break.
- 30th April – 1st & 2nd May – Eungella Dam camp on Labour Day weekend.
- May 14th – 15th Ladies Day - Conway Beach Camp
- May 21st - Afternoon visit to Camping World
- May 29th - Car Rally – Navigation Run. This trip will start at a designated place outside of town & make way back into town (reverse from usual Nav Runs)

DRIVER AWARENESS OFFICER:

- The following (new) club members have recently completed part / all of the required Driver Awareness components :- Russel & Karen Manley (theory) & Kasey Tiller (theory & practical)
- Driver Awareness guru, Ian Stagg is to check with the Qld 4WD Association (State body) if there is any updated appropriate training materials available for use ie written or visual when he is in Brisbane for the 4x4 show.

MEETING CLOSED: 8.40pm.

Please contact us with any stories, photos, business ads, for sale items, trivia change of email or address:

Kathy Searle (Magazine Editor)

Ph 4942 7457 or 0402 326 393

Email: kathy.searle@yahoo.com.au

Michelle Johnson (Assistant Editor)

Email: steve_shell@bigpond.com

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

GENERAL MEETING held at North Mackay Bowls Club on 11th April 2011.

Meeting opened at 7.38pm by President Steve J.

ATTENDANCE:

As per the attendance book (47 members attending).

APOLOGIES:

The Naylers Snr, Lynda Irvine, Tony Brennan, Tony & Brownyn Donald

VISITORS:

Mick & Danielle Hohenhaus, Charles Gosling & Sherry Dennis

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Resolved that the minutes of the previous General Meeting on Monday 14.03.11 is confirmed as per magazine.

Moved by Steve W, Seconded by Kelvin, Carried by all.

SECRETARY FOR CORRESPONDENCE:

Inwards:

- 4WD Qld rep's meeting minutes – Feb 2011
- Email from Emily & David Hunt re. club outings
- Email from Charles Gosling re joining club
- Email from Roger Van der Veen re joining club
- Mky Land Rover Club News – March 2011
- Email from Sporting Wheelies organizer, Peter Sumpter about club outing.
- Updated club membership list
- Updated Activities list for April – June 2011

Outwards:

- Email replies to Emily & David Hunt, Charles Gosling &, Roger Van der Veen.
- Email reply to Sporting Wheelies organizer, Peter Sumpter, advising on club campgrounds sale & possibility of access to Rowellan Park.

The Secretary moved that the Incoming correspondence be received and the Outgoing correspondence be confirmed.

Moved by Sandi, Seconded by Mick W, Carried by All.

Business arising: Nil.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Fay read details of report:

Opening Balance	\$ 7198.92
Total deposits	\$ 297.00
Total withdrawals	\$ 150.00
Closing Balance	\$ 7345.92

Accounts passed for payment :

- Aust Post (postage) \$15.66
- Fay Devery (binders, stores & glue) \$17.00
- Petty Cash top up \$55.00

Moved by Fay, Seconded by Jumbo, Carried by All.

COMMITTEE MEETING BUSINESS:

Pres. Steve gave a synopsis of the Committee meeting held on Wednesday night.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- 2011 AGM coming up in June, a reminder to members that all committee positions will be declared vacant on night of the meeting. Here is an opportunity for members to give back to the club by way of taking on a committee position (it's not that difficult!!!)
- The club camp ground, owned by the Younger Family has been sold. It is yet to be confirmed whether the new owners will permit the use of the property by Mackay & District 4WD Club. Members of the committee to make contact with new owners in near future.
- Access to the property at Cathu that hosts the annual Mackay Off Road Challenge is being sought for possible future recreational visits by the club. At present access is unavailable due to the recent wet weather & as well scheduled logging activity which will run until approx August 2011. Al Lovett to contact property owners later in year.
- Relay For Life – if the club is to participate in this event again this year there is a need for interested people to coordinate the event etc. Should any members be interested in participating in this worthy event, please contact Pres. Steve for further info.
- It has been recognized that magazine editor Kathy is doing a wonderful job in collating & preparing each months club magazine. A job well done & many thanks to Kathy from the committee & all club members. Note: all members can assist with contributions to the

magazine such a trip accounts, photo's, items of general interest etc.

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR:

- Assistant Activities coordinator, Michael Ward-Grodd acknowledged that due to his recent busy time with work that Ian MacDonald has been doing all of the coordination, organizing, contacting of property owners etc. (& doing a mighty fine job as well !!!) A big thanks from the committee as well as all club members to Ian for his efforts, (all he needs to do now is to learn how to control the rain)
- Sandy Shores & Gumby Gumby trips had to be cancelled as access to both areas had been severely affected due to the recent prolonged wet weather.
- Planned Easter trip to the Wash Pools has been substituted with visit to the Theresa Creek Dam at Clermont. This area was visited by members last year & reports are that a great time was had by all. The dam is full, the country is green & the weather is cooling down, hopefully the weather gods will be kind and allow (finally) for a trip away.
- Due to the outstanding success & huge turn up by members to the info afternoon at A1 Battery pro, it has been decided to approach the company again to request a guest speaker to attend an upcoming meeting. This would give more members the opportunity to gain valuable info relating to topics such as battery maintenance & charging, electrical wiring set-ups, solar panels etc. just to name a few.
- An updated / amended activities list has been emailed out to members on 10.04.2011 & is also printed in each month's club magazine.
- Awards Night has been organized for the 18th June at the North Mackay Bowls Club. The theme this year is "INTERNATIONAL" which gives huuuge scope for a variety of costumes. A two course (subsidized) meal consisting of a main & a dessert will be served on the night. A variety of fun activities are being arranged by the organizing committee with prizes to be awarded for different games, door prizes etc. on the night. Nominations for awards to editor Kathy ASAP please
- Future trips to the popular Gumby Gumby property will have to be modified as a significant portion of the station has been lost to mining in

addition to the loss of approx 12000 acres on adjoining Musgrave Station also to mining activity.

- The committee is still investigating access to the local Mackay Scouting property, Rowellan Park for future visits by the club. This area, along with its' well established infrastructure & amenities, would be an ideal venue for events such as the annual Sporting Wheelies outing.

FUTURE TRIPS:

- 22nd – 26th April – Easter at Theresa Creek Dam, Clermont.
- 30th Apr – 2nd May – Labour Day long weekend at Eungella Dam
- 14-15th May – Ladies Day / Conway Beach camp
- 21st May (Sat. afternoon) – info afternoon at Camping World where members will have the opportunity to view a wide variety of camping equipment & also have the opportunity to pose questions to the owners on topics relating to camping equipment
- 29th May – Car Rally

FUTURE TRIPS (non-club):

- CREB Track (Daintree to Cooktown) Sept / Oct 2011 - Paul Whitestyles & Ian Stagg
- Gympie Muster - Aug 2011 - Steve & Michelle Johnson
- Birdsville Races - Sept 2011 - Steve & Michelle Johnson

DRIVER AWARENESS REPORT:

- Ian Stagg to arrange theory & practical sessions during week commencing 11th April so that new members can participate in upcoming Easter outings.

VOTED IN: Nil

RAFFLE:

Congratulations to Ian Stagg for winning the first prize of a Multi Tool. Second prize of a LED Torch & Light was won by Wendy Coad.

Next Committee Meeting on 4th May 2011.

Next General Meeting on 9th May 2011.

Meeting Closed: 8.20pm by President Steve J.

EASTER / ANZAC CAMP 22nd – 25th APRIL 2011

Our normal venue at The Washpools was washed out this year & after checking with the Property Owners, it would seem it would be some months before the creeks are down sufficiently for us to gain access.

Much discussion was held regarding alternative campsites with Eungella, Seaforth, Lake Elphinstone, Sandy Shores, etc, being queried as they would also be crowded due to the wet conditions of the inland so it was decided that we would confirm our previous backup at Lake Theresa Dam, Clermont.

Alan rang to confirm our intentions with the Caretaker on the Tuesday night & was informed that he also was expecting a crowd, but that he would fit us in ok.

Good Friday arrived & with Ian Mac, our Shepherd, meeting us at the City Gates before he left for Rockhampton for his weekend, Steve organised our 6 families into a convoy & we left for Clermont. Our first smoko break was held at the BP Servo just before the Moranbah turnoff with Tony showing his Scottish side by refusing to pay \$ 4.30 for a Mars bar. They don't miss you out here.



About 5 minutes past this stop Michelle received a phone call from Staggy. He was ahead of us & had arrived at the Dam. He advised that the park was filling up & the manager had slashed an area outside the park where he was placing the overflow. Our booking had not counted & we were to be assigned this area as well. He said that this area was not very inviting & was a distance from the amenities. He & Tracey were not impressed & they intended to travel on to meet a family friend at a camp on a creek outside Emerald.

A roadside discussion followed where our options were raised. Some families thought about the Emerald site but in order to keep the group together, all decided to travel back to the Moranbah turnoff & to take the Pipe Line road up to Lake Elphinstone. We refuelled back at the BP stop, again no Mars Bars, then headed off for The Goonyella Mine area. This road was good with a short stretch of dirt that was dry this trip, compared to a couple of weeks ago when it was a quagmire.

Driving past the Burton George Dam spillway which was still overflowing, we then approached Lake Elphinstone to find that it was also quite crowded, as was expected. We soon found a clear area just above the shower block and after setting up the tents & camp, a late lunch was enjoyed by all.

Time to set the Lobby pots. We travelled back up to the second dam and soon had the pots in **3 feet** of water. This height was confirmed by the high tide mark on Kelly's chin. With Lachlan & Nathan helping and despite a small flesh wound to some one's leg, we then loaded up Tony's ute with firewood.



Back to camp where we settled in to watch the more energetic play Totem Tennis and also play Soccer with a rather dubious 'Jeep' blow up ball. They must be free.?



Fay had spent some time at home making Easter Bunny Hats for the weekend. These were produced & were a hit with whole group as we took photos of the soccer players and it set the Easter Theme in place for the weekend. As usual, the fire was stoked up for the night & a happy hour soon followed.



Sat morning saw an easy breakfast while watching the Ski Boats going around the dam. We then all headed off into Glenden to buy the morning paper, etc. This developed into a counter lunch at the Town Club where we saw the highlights of the Bronco's win from the previous night. Back to the lake and it was time to go and check the first tide over our lobby pots. This showed quite a good result with a couple of buckets full. A bit more firewood on the way home. I think Nita must have slipped in through the night as we seem to go through heaps! Another nice night around the fire was enjoyed by all.

Sunday morning. Breakfast over, the whole group including Mick & Wendy left for a drive up to Mt Coolon. Finally, a bit of dirt road to drive on!! We arrived just before lunch & donned our Easter Hats for the obligatory photo outside the pub.



The publican had organised a B-B-Q lunch @ only \$6.00 per head which was good value. He also spread a bucket of Easter Eggs all over the back yard as an Easter hunt for the kids. Did they need more chocolate? No !! This was a great break & we then left for home again on the dirt road.

Now as you all know, I am a Toyota man. I must admit however that I was not aware that if you own a Nissan & you come to a bit of rough road, you have to stop & put a strap around your vehicle to hold it together?? (See photo below) Steve may have a different explanation.



Back at the camp, the boys again left to go & check the pot's and get more firewood in Alan's trailer. Finding the pots full we then returned to camp where we spent the next hour cleaning some 200 plus lobbies for the night's meal. Many hands made light work of this chore as all helped. The chef's then bought out all the condiments & the lobbies were placed in bowls with about 6 different flavours, to marinade till tea time.



This was our best night so far, as with Kel doing the cooking on the B-B-Q plate, despite complaining about his legs getting roasted, he produced some of the best tasting prawns we have enjoyed. Everyone sampled the different flavours & agreed it was a top meal.



Monday. Anzac Day. Breakfast over again, we then gathered around the Aussie flag which was flying from a tree adjacent to the camp. Here we conducted our remembrance ceremony where it was great to see the participation of all the group with some of the poems being read by the younger boy's as well.

Four of the group were heading home, so the camps were pulled down & packed away ready to go. Fay then received a surprise while packing when a Yetti with a beard (aka Mick WG) & wearing a strange pair of pants appeared from behind a trailer & grabbed her for a cuddle. It is said that she might never recover? Goodbye's were said to Steve and Michelle & Alan, Helen & the boys as they were staying for the extra night. The smaller group then left for home and enjoyed the usual ice cream at the Junction Cafe before continuing on home to unpack the gear & clean up.



Postscript.

Steve, Michelle & The Lovett family enjoyed the night around the fire as usual but later through the night several started showing signs of upset stomachs. Food Poisoning? Mick & Wendy also had the same complaint even though they were camped away from us & did not eat the same items as the main group? All of the first group home were ok.

Tuesday morning. The last two packed & headed for home but soon after Steve had to stop the car as he became sick as well. Following later discussions, Alan, Terry & Kelvin believe that the copious amounts of Port they consumed over the weekend must have made them immune & they intend to follow this practice on future trips.

Well, despite a rocky start, a great weekend was enjoyed by all & on behalf of Fay & myself, I thank all who participated for their company & friendship over the weekend.

Story and photos by Terry Devery

FINES:

- Alan Lovett - Using his underwear as tie-downs on his trailer
- Alan again for getting a fright when his coffee cup slid off the table
- Steve J - Miss-communications over the UHF's. Steve said don't know what you are all talking about but I like PRAWNS PORN & PORK.
- Steve again for his rear bar spare wheel carrier for breaking and holding up the convoy back from Mt Coolon Pub.
- Terry - For bringing port along to the campfire and insisting people help him drink it (especially my husband Steve).
- Sam - For not helping with the cleaning of the Red Claw, too busy enjoying reading a book.

CONWAY BEACH CAMP 14-15 APRIL 2011

The Ladies Drive weekend organised by Michelle Johnson was a lot of fun as those who attended can attest. Jim and Joyce McNichol and Kathy and Des Searle went up to Conway Beach Tourist Park on Friday to get an extra night of camping in. Although in Jim & Joyce's case it was to be a whole week of camping and they brought both the caravan and the tinny with them. Jim & Joyce came around to visit the Searle's camper after dinner and were witness to Nicholas helping mum with the dishes (a sight that probably won't be so willingly participated in over the years to come). Whilst the adults chatted, the kids watched a movie – thank goodness for portable DVD players.

On Saturday morning Joyce and Kathy headed into Proserpine to meet up with Michelle & Steve Johnson and John & Lynda Ivine as they drove up from Mackay. 'Colour Me Crazy', the eccentric Proserpine boutique was the first stop on the shopping tour. If you couldn't find a gift in that place then it must be impossible to buy as there is everything from plants, pots, jewellery, clothing, house nick-nacks to haberdashery and man gifts. A true treasure trove! So after the delights of 'Colour Me Crazy' were exhausted, the group moved on to the several second hand shops in the main street and finished up at the cafe/bakery for a coffee and cake. Steve & John were very patient and didn't complain at all about the shopping. Well done men!



Nic Searle testing the pool

We all headed off to Conway Beach Tourist Park and the new arrivals set up their camps. Kathy's friends Michelle and Shane Prince arrived with their kids Tommy & Katie and checked into their cabin. The 4 kids – Nicholas (4), Madeleine (2), Tommy (4) & Katie (2) – had a ball on their scooters and trikes

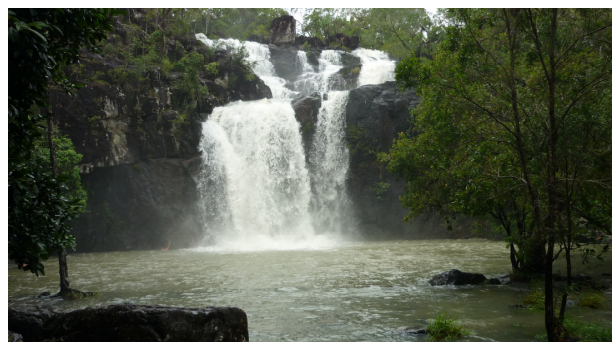
around the quiet roads of the caravan park. It was a very child friendly venue complete with 2 jumping pillows, a pool with water slide and a huge sand pit in an old boat which Nic and Tommy commandeered as their pirate ship (see photo below).



In the afternoon Joyce, Michelle, Steve, John, Lynda, Kathy and her friend Michelle and Katie took a short drive to Cedar Creek falls. The falls were very quiet and beautiful and Steve and Lynda took a climb to the top of the falls to check the view out. The rest of us waited on the shore below commenting on the beauty of the river rocks. The water was freezing so no-one was brave enough for a dip.



Cedar creek falls during our visit



Cedar Creek falls in January



The view from above the falls

On the drive back to the caravan park, we took a detour into Wilsons Beach and drove around the quiet streets looking at the mixture of old beach shacks and newer houses. The radio was quiet save for a comment between John & Kathy about the only off-road'ing in this trip being the dirt road. We were almost back at the caravan park when Michelle said "you all missed my commentary on Wilson's beach as I had the radio turned off! I was wondering why no-one was replying". Thank goodness Joyce was in Michelle's car to back up her story!



The crew in the BBQ shelter

Drinks and dinner were the order of the night under a BBQ shelter near the kids' playground. Unfortunately (or fortunately) the jumping pillows are deflated at night so no excitement could be had there. We had to make our own fun by chatting into the night. The kids all went to sleep really quickly after a big day scooting and playing on the beach. Just before bed time Michelle, Kathy and her friend Michelle all went for a walk down to the beach as the sound of the

waves was really strong. It was a lovely moon-lit night even if it was a bit cold.



Nic and Tommy taking a break from scooting for breakfast.



The awesome jumping pillow in use.

The next morning – Sunday – we all (except Jim & Joyce) had to pack up and make our way back home. Nicholas was most disappointed and told us that next time we have to stay 4 nights. Thanks to Michelle for organising such a great trip. Conway Beach is well worth a visit!

Story by Kathy Searle & photos by Michelle Johnson and Kathy Searle.

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MEETING OPENED:

7.00pm Wednesday 04.05.11 at Steve Johnson's residence.

ATTENDANCE:

Steve Johnson, Ian McDonald, Steve Whykes and Terry & Fay Devery

APOLOGIES: Michael Ward-Grodd, Ian Stagg and Alan Lovett.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Resolved that the minutes of the previous General Meeting on Monday (11/04/2011), be confirmed as per magazine. Moved by Steve Whykes, Seconded by Fay Devery, Carried by All.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- Discussion regarding our request to use Rowallan Park as a venue for the Sporting Wheelie weekends.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Inwards:

- Email from Ian MacDonald – "Don't know if I told you but I forwarded a copy of our magazine to Dept Environment & Resource Management and A1 Battery Pro so they could see what was written about them. I was in at Battery Pro today and they were wrapped in the article and the fact that we did listen to what they had to say."
- Email from Bruce Wolsey with contact details for the Scouting Organization acting Regional Commissioner (re. Club access to Rowallan Park) Alan contacted Mr Brian Harvey.
- Email reply from Brian Harvey re our letter regarding the use of Rowallan Park for our future Sporting Wheelies activity. Brian advised that there would be a meeting of the Regional Executive on Monday the 2nd May. He intended to table our request at this meeting and could see no reason why it should not receive a favourable hearing.
- Email inquiry from Michael West who has just moved up from Wollongong, seeking info on joining the club.
- Flyer from Cadburys re their Fundraiser offer to Sporting Clubs. They offer confectionary

packs that we could sell to raise funds for the club.?

- Insurance Renewal notice from TCIS Insurance Brokers. This is for our Public and Products & Associations and Officials Liability. The renewal date is the 31st May 2011. There are 2 pages of details to complete & return. It would appear that our club with 17 or more members would have a fee of \$ 7.70 per member / family group.
- The Scope of Cover defines what is covered in our 4WD Activities. Normal driving, camping, etc, is ok, but not the higher risk abseiling, caving, water slides, etc. It is interesting to note that 'Unpaid driving instruction' is also covered. This is confirmation for our Driver Awareness officers who complete these duties in their own time & not as a defined club activity.
- Pricing Statement from Australia Post. Treasurer to reply.
- E-Mail inquiry from Larry Saron requesting more info on the Club.
- E-Mail from Jacquie Henry. Sales Executive organizing the Queensland Outdoor Adventure & Motoring Expo which is to be held at Toowoomba on the weekend of the 29th July. Brochure also included showing the list of events that will be held.

Outwards:

- Email to Brian Harvey (A/Region Scouting Commissioner, Mky District) requesting access to Rowallan Park
- Reply by Terry to enquiry from Michael West re club info.
- Reply by Terry to Larry Saron

TREASURERS REPORT:

The Treasurers details are away with our accountant, Bennett & Partners for the preparation of our annual return prior to the AGM, so current details are not available at this time.

The figures as at 11 April were:

Opening Balance	\$ 7198.92
Total deposits	\$ 297.00
Total withdrawals	\$ 150.00
Closing Balance	\$ 7345.92

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT:

Accounts for April / May will be presented at the May Meeting, once the books are back from the Auditor.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Steve Whykes advised that he would approach the people from Light Force, as to their visiting our club as a guest speaker.
- Terry to try & ring Errol to find out the latest regarding the new owners of the Camping & Training Grounds
- Discussion was held re the Moranbah area. Apparently there is an Off Road type track just outside of town.? We will try to contact some person locally to ascertain what they do at this venue & whether we could join their club for some activities? Alan Lovett be asked to contact his brother at the Flexi Hire outlet for any info.?
- Names are required for people who wish to join the Committee for the next 12 Months. Get in early or you may miss out on the position that you want. Approach Steve after the meeting & he will explain the duties of each position. AGM is to held shortly and we need names prior to this meeting please.
- Guest Speakers. If anyone is aware of someone in business or in a group that would visit our club, please advise Steve.

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR:

- Ian Mac gave a report on past trips & outlined the trips for the future. ** We need numbers for the Ladies Day next weekend so that bookings may be made for people staying overnight in the Park.
- Discussion was held re holding an 'Open Day' where the public could be invited along to see what we do. Display of our Vehicles, the Recovery Gear we use, discuss our camping trips, set up a small off road track for a driver display, etc. We would need a suitable venue reasonably close to town. Rowallan Park could be suitable if we gain access to this property?

Future trips:

Ian will report on future trips as per his agenda. There will be a Trip Planning meeting on Wednesday, the 1st June. Anyone with ideas for new or future trips is welcome to attend. Venue to be advertised.

DRIVER AWARENESS OFFICER:

Nil report as Ian was absent. Report to be tabled at the General Meeting

MEETING CLOSED: 8.30pm.

**Notice of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
at North Mackay Bowls Club
Monday 11 July 2011 7pm**

and

**CLUB FEES of \$65.00 are due by June 30th 2011
Please pay our Treasurer Fay Devery either in cash at
the next club meeting or by direct debit into the club
account with your name as the reference.
Account name: Mackay & District 4WD club
BSB:064724 Account: 10172580**

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

GENERAL MEETING held at North Mackay Bowls Club on 09th May 2011.

Meeting opened at 7.35pm by President Steve J.

ATTENDANCE:

As per the attendance book (42 members attending).

APOLOGIES:

Rod & Glenis Vichie, Jeanette VK, Arthur & Lorraine Nayler, Natalie Nayler, Kathy Searle, Tony & Angie Brennan

VISITORS:

Drew Cashen, Matthew Cashen, Sherry Dennis, Michael West

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Resolved that the minutes of the previous General Meeting on Monday 11.04.11 is confirmed as per magazine.

Moved by Steve W, Seconded by Jumbo, Carried by all.

SECRETARY FOR CORRESPONDENCE:

Inwards:

- Email from Ian MacDonald – “Don't know if I told you but I forwarded a copy of our magazine to Dept Environment & Resource Management and A1 Battery Pro so they could see what was written about them. I was in at Battery Pro today and they were wrapped in the article and the fact that we did listen to what they had to say.”
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- Insurance Renewal notice from TCIS Insurance Brokers. This is for our Public and Products & Associations and Officials Liability. The renewal date is the 31st May 2011. There are 2 pages of details to complete & return. It would appear that our club with 17 or more members would have a fee of \$ 7.70 per member / family group.
- The Scope of Cover defines what is covered in our 4WD Activities. Normal driving, camping, etc, is ok, but not the higher risk abseiling, caving, water slides, etc. It is interesting to note that ‘Unpaid driving instruction’ is also covered. This is confirmation for our Driver Awareness officers who complete these duties in their own time & not as a defined club activity.
- Pricing Statement from Australia Post. Treasurer to reply.
- E-Mail inquiry from Larry Saron requesting more info on the Club.
- E-Mail from Jacquie Henry. Sales Executive organizing the Queensland Outdoor Adventure & Motoring Expo which is to be held at Toowoomba on the weekend of the 29th July. Brochure also included showing the list of events that will be held.
- Email from Ian MacD re update on condition of a number of areas that club travels to
- Email from Ian MacD re update on Ladies Day/ Cape Conway trip
- Financial Report for club (yr ending 30.04.2011)
- 4 Wheel Cruisin’ – Mar/Apr magazine.
- Budekin 4WD Club Apr magazine.

Outwards:

- Email to Brian Harvey (A/Region Scouting Commissioner, Mky District) requesting access to Rowellan Park
- Reply by Terry to enquiry from Michael West re club info.
- Reply by Terry to Larry Saron.

The Secretary moved that the Incoming correspondence be received and the Outgoing correspondence be confirmed.
 Moved by Alan, Seconded by Mick W, Carried by All.

Business arising: Nil.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Fay read details of report:

Opening Balance	\$	7995.92
Total deposits	\$	130.50
Total withdrawals	\$	201.42
Closing Balance	\$	7255.00

Accounts passed for payment :

- Bennet & Associates Accountants \$220.00
 - Australia Post \$13.92
 - NQBE \$86.50
 - Club Annual Insurance \$585.00.
- Moved by Fay, Seconded by Kable, Carried by All.

COMMITTEE MEETING BUSINESS:

Pres. Steve gave a synopsis of the Committee meeting held on Wednesday night with the main discussion regarding our request to use Rowallan Park as a venue for the Sporting Wheelie weekends.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Committee to meet with the new owners of "Club Campgrounds" to discuss possibility of continuance of use.
- Reminder that Ian MacDonald will step down from the Activities Coordinator position at the upcoming AGM. A call goes out to all club members to consider taking on this role & others that will soon become vacant.
- 4WD Qld is developing new 4WD Training instructional material that will be of use to training for our new members as well as a refresher for existing members. It is likely that Qld clubs will be requested to contribute to the production costs of the training materials – how much yet to be determined. The materials will be available for purchase once completed this year.

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR:

- Asst activities coordinator, Michael W-G proposed thanks to Ian MacDonald for the recent efforts he has put in arranging activities.
- Easter trip to Lake Elphinstone trip (substituted for the Lake Theresa, Clermont trip). A great weekend had by all which included a drive to & lunch at Glenden, a drive to Mt Coolon with lunch at the historic Mt Coolon pub (along with an easter egg hunt for the kids) & a number of members attending the Anzac Day parade in Glenden.
- Other members not attending Lake Elphinstone headed off to Emerald for the Easter break. All reports are that a great time was had by all (with a few sore heads after just to remind some of how much of a good time was had.....)

FUTURE TRIPS:

- 14th & 15th May – Ladies Day / Conway Beach Camp
- 21st May – Camping World visit
- 29th May – Nav Run.
- 11th to 13th June – Twin Bridges Camp (long weekend)
- 18th June – Awards Night

DRIVER AWARENESS REPORT:

- All club members have completed their theory and practical training.

VOTED IN: Nil

RAFFLE:

Congratulations to Peter Haber for winning the first prize of a Toolbox and rope. Second prize of a Jiggler Siphon hose was won by Ian MacDonald.

Next Committee Meeting on 8th June 2011.

Next General Meeting on 13th June 2011.

Meeting Closed: 8.20pm by President Steve J.

VISIT TO CAMPING WORLD 21 MAY 2011

Saturday afternoon of the 21st May saw a group of about 25 members assemble for a visit to the Camping World shop at North Mackay. Our Host's Alan & Di Binks had prepared for the afternoon with a table offering nibbles and drinks for all.



We then got down to the main reason for the visit as Alan explained the goods that were in stock & demonstrated some of the more recent innovations and improvements that were happening in the camping industry.

The new range of Primus fridges in Stainless Steel were impressive with a choice of many sizes in both fridge & freezer combinations. Alan advised that while the wall thickness of the Waeco units were 32mm and the Engle at 35mm, the Primus came with 50mm insulation, which improved the cooling considerably.



Moving along, we were then shown a new Pressurised style of shower unit where hot water could be placed into a stainless steel cylinder and then pumped up to provide a flow of water out of the adjustable height, shower rose. This unit could also

be placed alongside the fire so as to heat the water in the bottom cylinder. We are getting spoilt these days?



We continued through the range of cooking gear, Camping Chairs, Tents, Sleeping bags, etc and then spent some time looking at the latest offerings in Lanterns, Torches and Head lights, where the LED style of bulbs are now becoming much more popular.

We completed our circle of the shop which brought us back to Alan's new favourite area, the clothing section. Advances in space flight requirements, Mountain Climbing, etc, have seen vast improvements in technology where the clothing range now offers Thermal & Windproof items that are very light weight, but highly efficient. There is also a range of daily wear that allows the material to breathe which is suitable for extended holiday periods, with less washing being required to keep the clothing fresh. Laurie was impressed with the items shown & walked away with a new coat which had a detachable inner liner which could be worn to suit normal or extreme conditions.





To round off the day, Alan then donated three gifts to be won as lucky prizes. As it would happen, Fay took out the first prize of a terrific set of insulated Travel mugs. Cable was the second winner with a combination Back Pack & Water container while Yours Truly took home an Engle cold storage fishing bag. The Devery's cleaned up, due to the absence of the Nayler's for a change.

To our Host's Alan & Di we say a big thank you for their time in showing us the latest offerings in the camping area and also for their generous gesture in providing the three terrific prizes that were appreciated by the winners. I am sure most members found something in your store that is needed for their camping gear list in the future.

Story and photos by Terry Devery



MACKAY & DISTRICT 4WD CLUB'S ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

We'd love to have you come and join us for the Mackay & District 4WD club's annual awards dinner on Saturday 18 June at the North Mackay Bowls Club. The theme will be 'International' so put your thinking caps on and organise your costume. There will be lots of prizes to win including a lucky door prize of a TJM Compressor and bag (retail \$240) and sensational awards for those who are nominated for events during the year.

So mark the date in your calendar and we hope to see you on Sat 18 June!

The 2011 Awards dinner committee – Tracey, Bev, Sandi & Kathy

Activities Calendar

JUN - JUL 2011

Sat 18th JUNE – AWARDS NIGHT AT NORTH MACKAY BOWLS CLUB @ 6.30pm

25th - 26th JUNE – SANDY SHORES CAMP Grade: 2-3 Trip Leader: TBA

Meet at Horseland @ 7:45 for 8: 00am departure

Good fishing, swimming or canoeing by a running stream. Needs to get no worse than grade 1.5 for those who wish to relax, or up to 3 for the more adventurous.

Requirements: Basic recovery gear, full tank of fuel, drinking water, first aid kit. Camping gear.

This property will eventually be submerged by a dam

Sun 3rd JULY – DAY TRIP NORTHERN BEACHES / BOULDER CREEK Grade: 1

Trip Leader: TBA

Meet at Conningsby Service Station @ 7:30 for 8: 00am departure

Easy drive to some of our beaches to the north and some back roads to Boulder Creek

Requirements: Full tank of fuel, Recovery gear, First aid kit, Smoko and lunch.

10th JULY – REECE to STRINGY's CAMP (if the road is open)

Mon 11th JULY – AGM AT NORTH MACKAY BOWLS CLUB @ 7.30pm

Sat – Sun 16th – 17th JULY – STRINGY's CAMP Grade: 1-2 Trip Leader: TBA

Meet at Horseland @ 7:45 for 8: 00am departure

This will be a bush camp approx 1 ¾ hours from mackay in Crediton state forest. This area was once a logging camp but now overgrown. It will be the first time we have camped here as we were supposed to go here in the past for the first time but had to be cancelled due to rain. This time we will be concentrating on clearing lantana as we hope to develop it into one of our regular destinations. Just come for the day if that suits you better. Off road trailers only at this stage.

Requirements: Basic recovery gear. Full tank of fuel. Drinking water. First aid kit. Camping gear.

Sat – Sun 23rd – 24th JULY – EMU GULLIES CAMP Grade: 1-2 Trip Leader: TBA

Meet at Horseland @ 7:45 for 8:00am departure. Drive to a nice quite spot 1hr 20mts south of Mackay. Relax, fish, swim and have fun. Always a popular trip. No 4WDing.

Requirements: Camp gear, basic recovery gear, full tank of fuel, drinking water, first aid kit.

AN EXCELLENT FAMILY CAMPSITE. CAMPER TRAILERS OK. THIS SITE WOULD BE EXCELLENT AFTER RAIN. WE NEED TO HAVE THOROUGHLY WASHED DOWN VEHICLES WHEN WE ENTER PROPERTY. THERE MUST BE NO TRAVEL ON PROPERTY ROADS OTHER THAN TO GO DOWN-STREAM TO THE LARGE WATER HOLE.

Sat – Sun 30th – 31st JULY – CLUB CAMPGROUNDS

This depends on negotiations with the new property owners

Note: Thursday evening is the final notice to attend a trip. Names in trip book for all activities please.

Trip Contacts

Ian McDonald on 0418795607 or 4998 5806, Email: mac.ian@bigpond.com or

Michael Ward-Grodd on 0447766022 or 4955 2978, Email : ward-grodd@bigpond.com

Further information on some of these trips can be found on our Web site www.mackay4wdclub.com

E-mail: enquiries@mackay4wdclub.com



From:
The Editor
Mackay & District 4WD Club Inc
PO Box 3469
Mackay North Qld 4740



Send to

**Postage
Paid
Australia**

Make the Club Meeting night a social night out!!!

Join some of our members and enjoy a pre-meeting meal

From 6.00 pm Meals from \$12.50

@ North Mackay Bowls Club

Before the Meeting

***This is a good way for all members, including
new members to socialize & get to know each other.***