

# 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

## Jan/Feb 2013

**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**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Mar 2013**

**E-Mail:** [enquiry@mackay4wdclub.com](mailto:enquiry@mackay4wdclub.com) **Web Site:** [www.mackay4wdclub.com](http://www.mackay4wdclub.com)

### Committee Members and Office Bearers 2012-13

<b>President</b>	Terry Devery		<b>0428 554115</b>	4955 0955
<b>Vice-President</b>	Kable Gilliland		0427 371 700	4954 7427
<b>Secretary</b>	Kylie Walker			4952 3863
<b>Treasurer</b>	Derek Van Kerckhof		0416 270 013	4966 8136
<b>Committee Member</b>	Steve Whykes		0407 677 075	4969 6087
<b>Driver Awareness &amp; Environment Off</b>	Peter Grech Ken Kiernan		0412 031 097 0414 266 887	4942 2092
<b>Activities Co-ordinator</b>	Bruce Wolsey		<b>0458 007 700</b>	
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<b>Ass. Editor</b>	Michelle J	4959 3424 0438731822	<b>Training Officer #2</b>	Ken Kiernan 0414266887
<b>Ass. Activities Co-ordinator</b>	Ian McDonald	0418795607	<b>Greeter #1</b>	Fay Devery 4955 0955
<b>Insurance Officer</b>	Alan Lovett	4955 1513	<b>Greeter #2</b>	Helena Wolsey 4955 1545
<b>PR Officer</b>	Terry Devery	4942 0280	<b>Ass. Comm. Member</b>	Paul Whitestyles 4957 3754
<b>QAFWDC Ass Rep #1</b>	Alan Lovett	4955 1513	<b>Web Page editor</b>	Dave Christensen 4969 5482

The views expressed in this magazine are those of the individual and not necessarily those of the Club. The Association cannot assume responsibility for the material presented by the magazine. Likewise we cannot guarantee or endorse any product offered through our advertising. Club articles may be reproduced in other publications provided accreditation of the author and Mackay & District 4WD Club Inc. is noted.

## 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



# GET EQUIPPED WITH TJM MACKAY



Here at TJM Mackay we have all the products that we have tested, trust and recommend, we stand behind and in front of the products we sell. Best of all our team can give you real advice not just sales advice.

Our warm and friendly team invite you in, no matter what brand you drive, no matter what your passion is, with a wide variety of brands including TJM Products, Bull Bars in Alloy and Steel - Nudge Bars - Side Rails and Steps - Rear Bars and Towbars, Pro Locker diff locks, TJM XGS Suspension, Snorkels and Recovery equipment. Rhino Rack Roof Racks, TJM, Premier and Warn Winches, Polyair, Airbag man and Super Springs load carrying solutions, EvaKool and Engel fridges, Uniden and GME communication systems, Hema maps and Navigators, Air Compressors by Bushranger, spotlights by Britax XRay, Frylyt, Lightforce, Hella and Narva, LED Lighting and electrical accessories. Redarc DC to DC Chargers along with C-TEK products and TJM Dual battery systems. MSA and Black Duck Canvas products including the famous drop fridge slide, Black Widow accessories, Kaymar tyre carriers and ProQuip Jerry cans inc, water, diesel and petrol all ADR designed and approved. We also sell and service ECB Bull bars and nudge bars, electronic rust protection systems by Couplertec and ERPS. Whatever your recreational or fleet requirements are there is a good chance we have got you covered.

Drop in store to check out are massive range we are located at 95 Gordon Street Mackay and are open from 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday and 8.30am to 12pm Saturdays (excludes public holidays). Remember to present your Mackay and District 4x4 Club card to receive your 10% discount on any purchase made in store. (Excludes already discounted items). **Ph: 4957 3886 Email: [mackay@tjmproducts.com](mailto:mackay@tjmproducts.com)**



## 24th – 25th NOVEMBER 2012 – SEAFORTH CHRISTMAS CAMP

What a lovely club weekend we all had! Everyone arrived at different times on Friday and Saturday & set up at Seaforth Camp ground in the same area leaving a gap in the middle for the big tarp.



Once our camp was set up, a swim for the kids was next on the agenda followed by setting them up under a shady tree with Emma's tea set so that mud cakes could be made. The kids had so much fun with this simple 'old school' activity. A run down at the beach kept them busy in the late afternoon until it was time to get ready for the party games.



Meanwhile the men had put up the enormous tarp with much head scratching, standing around and lots of willing hands. The pizza oven trailer arrived & started to warm up.



Kylie Goodwin did a great job of organising the games with Casey Tiller and the kids had a ball!!! They did a version of an egg & spoon race, Vaseline on the nose to run a paper disc back and forth, guess

what is in the Santa sack, and an amazing treasure hunt which had the kids running all around the camps looking for Christmas treasure until they had all 12 clues. There was lots of excitement and fun and the bigger kids did a great job of herding around the little ones so that everyone was included regardless of age or ability. Thanks guys!



Suddenly there was the sound of a 'bell' – or maybe a towbar tongue and shackle – and a tall Santa strode into the camp with lollies and Santa sack in hand. The kids were enthralled including those in camps around us who were kindly not forgotten by Santa who threw lollies into the air for them too.



Santa soon got down to business and distributed some gifts to those kids who had been nice and not naughty. He asked for any volunteers to sit on his lap but no one took him up on his offer without Nat around this year.



Soon the pizzas were ready and there was a constant stream circulating around the group to make sure all were well fed. Afterwards, desserts appeared from the various camp sites but some hadn't left enough room to sample all the goodies!



The kids continued to have a ball running around and playing happily in large groups. Fortunately there was only one injury as my daughter learnt that there are lots of sharp edges under the camper trailer when she hit her head. But nothing a steri-strip couldn't fix fortunately and she was soon back to playing with her mates.

Some retired for the night early, some left to drive back to Mackay and some continued until late in the night chatting under the tarp with a few drinks. It really was a social gathering.

The next day, the kids continued to enjoy the open space of the Seaforth Camp grounds and eventually the adults started to pack up, except those fortunate ones who were able to stay on for another night.

Thanks to all those who took the time to organise such a great gathering for the club. A fantastic weekend!

Story by Kathy Searle & photos by Terry Devery & Kathy Searle



## FRIDAY 14 DECEMBER 12 – CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TOUR

The trip began at Horselands near the City Gates with 7 vehicles: Kathy & Des Searle with Nicholas, Madeleine and Mitchell; Shane & Michelle Prince with Katie; Jim & Joyce McNicol with Grace and Joyce; Alan & Helen Lovett with Latchlan; Geoff & Kylie Jones with Rhianna & Imogen; Peter Grech & Viv Barker with 2 friends; and Paul Robertson.



After a group photo, we set off for the first competition house on the tour in Ooralea – 48 Bernborough Ave which is always a winner. We all enjoyed the display which included a crocodile hidden in the hedge. The kids (big and little) also consumed their first lot of lollies for the night...



The second stop was in Paget at CQ Production and Engineering at 12 John Vella Drive. This business was decorated all over and the lights were choreographed to the music pumping out over the streets. They had set up chairs across the road so that people could sit down and watch the show and it was

magnificent. Soon after we arrived, the popular track – Gangnam Style – was played and the kids were enthralled with the lights and the beat. This was the clear winner of the night. If they enter again in 2013, I highly recommend a visit!



We loaded everyone up again and meandered up towards Glenella via a few very well decorated streets in South Mackay that aren't in the competition but make a lovely street picture. One highset house was decorated all in white lights and was a favourite of mine. However the best decorated street of the evening would have to belong to Bradman Drive in Glenella which was outstanding again this year with even more houses participating (approx 19 houses). Two houses across from each other are in the competition and are decorated from roof to grass. 63 Bradman Drive had photo booth with Mr & Mrs Santa and his naughty elf. Once again, more lollies were consumed by all the 'kids'. After close inspection of all the houses, we eventually rounded up the group and departed for Beaconsfield.



As we moved into Beaconsfield we drove past a few well decorated homes some of which were in the competition and then headed out to 271 Slade Point Rd which is a well known competition house which often wins the grand prize or people's choice. Once again they had not only decorated the front of the house, but also the backyard and the carport was full of Christmas toys from Christmas stuffed toys to train sets and snow globes. The kids (again big and small) were transfixed by the array and indulged in yet more lollies. They even had a sleigh in the front yard pulled by Rudolph and his friends which the kids could sit in for photos. It was an amazing display.



We then headed into the “depths of Andergrove” – a comment which refers to my habit of getting lost in Andergrove during past Christmas lights tours. We passed some beautifully decorated houses along Tropical Ave and went up to 142 Aspley Way where they had a 20ft high inflatable Santa as part of their display. It was very impressive.



After a tour around the decorated houses on Emperor Drive we headed down Bedford Rd to a house at the end where the homeowner was decorated from head to foot in LED lights. Of course there were more lollies here too.

After Peter & Viv left us for home at Glenpark St we also lost the Jones family – but that was because they didn't have a radio in their car & didn't realise the rest of the convoy was doing a drive past some decorated houses in Mt Pleasant. Opps. And double oops as I had spare handheld radios in the trip briefcase.

The night ended with a snack at McDonalds Northside about 9.30pm for those interested (Searles, Lovetts and Paulie) and eventually the Jones' joined us after a few facebook messages to me and eventually a call to Alan – bad move as Lachlan was writing the fines for the trip!

Thanks to all for coming along and enjoying the Christmas lights. It was a fun trip!

Story and photos by Kathy Searle





**4 O'Loughlin Street, Mackay**  
(Behind BP Moss Marine)  
**Ph: 4951 4922**



## The Tarpaulin Shop

**TENTS**  
**SWAGS**  
**TARPAULINS**  
**POLES**  
**PEGS**  
**ROPES**  
**LIGHTS**  
**CHAIRS**  
**TABLES**  
**STRETCHERS**  
**SHADE GAZEBOS**  
**STORAGE BAGS**  
**BACKPACKS**

**8.30am - 5pm Mon to Fri**  
**9am - 12noon Saturday**

**Support the local camping business that supports your local club.**



**Ask for club discount on non-sale items.**

Call in to True Blue Camping & Canvas for some friendly local service. We have off street parking, a large range of camping & canvas goods, tents and swags on display and a well equipped canvas workshop for all your custom canvas requirements. We custom make tarpaulins, shade sails, seat covers and storage bags to suit your specific needs. We can even repair damaged tents and swags.

## FEBRUARY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**MEETING OPENED:**

7.10pm Wednesday 06.02.13 at Peter & Vivienne's residence by President Terry Devery.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Terry Devery, Ian McDonald, Kable Gilliland, Steve Whykes, Derek VK, Paul Whitestyles, Alan Lovett, Peter Grech, and Kathy Searle.

**APOLOGIES:** Kylie Jones.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Resolved that the minutes of the previous General Meeting on Monday (10/12/2012), be confirmed as per magazine. Moved by Terry, Seconded by Alan, Carried by All.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon) purchased by club at a reduced cost from TJM (\$360). Also available at reduced rate of \$368 to club members. Need to nominate 3 contacts for the EPIRB (not necessarily club members)

**CORRESPONDENCE:** for period 11/12/12 – 11/02/13

**Inwards:**

- 9 email enquiries about joining club.
- Aust Post Postage account.
- Info brochures – Haley's Cabins & Camping grounds at Bloomfield.
- CBA Bank statement
- NQBE – account for 30 calendars & magazine printing.
- Email brochure re - Mky Homeshow & Camping expo – May17th to 19th 2013
- Landrover club magazine for Nov 2012

**Outwards:**

- Replies to the 9 email enquiries
- Secretary sent out 5 "thank you" letters to property owners & True Blue Camping & Canvas

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

Derek read the Treasurer's report.

Opening Balance	\$9987.60
Total Deposits	\$ 275.00
Total Withdrawals	\$ 10.00
Closing Balance	\$10241.60

Accounts passed for payment

- NQBE - \$5.20
- NQBE Dec Mag - \$45.20

Moved by Steve W, Seconded by Kable, Carried by All.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Accounts for advertising to be sent out.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- Terry has approached the Buffalo Club management as a potential venue for club meetings.
- Terry tried to contact Pres of Aero Club re another potential venue (still to catch up).
- Qld 4WD Association contacted us re Annual Fees.
- Steve Whykes bought along the new EPIRB being purchased by the club.
- Terry has downloaded the EPIRB application / registration forms
- Due to increased work commitments, Ian McDonald has had to step down as Activity Coordinator. (Terry canvassing members to find a replacement for this position)
- Reminder that if members want to participate in one of the club outings that they must register their names with the Activity Coordinator by Thursday night prior to the trip.
- Update club web page and remove Activities page from web. (Dave C/Kathy S)
- Need some more (2) ads for the club magazine.
- Suggestion to raise raffle ticket prices - \$2 for door prizes & \$5 for major prizes
- Suggestion to reinstate the "Getting to Know You" segments in club magazine.
- (Kathy S) – has friends in Mini Club, suggestion to swap notes on Rally's / Nav Runs. It was also proposed that we could also run catering for their outings & vice versa. Halves the number of runs that we have to put together & promotes some interaction among clubs.
- Update the list of members that have done Driver Awareness sessions. (Peter / Terry)

- Suggestion to add birthday dates of members to Club Magazine
- Relay For Life – if the club is going to be involved this year we need to start organizing soon.
- Potential guest speakers – Frank Marcetti (motivational speaker), Transit Tyres, Turbocharger Repairs, Diesel Tech, QPWS – Bill Lennox / Bryan Kunst, Food packaging / storage companies such as Tupperware, Cool Rite – 12 volt setups / solar panels etc.
- TJM (Steve & Sandi) have kindly offered to do another club info / promotional day.
- True Blue Camping & Canvas day to be rescheduled.

#### ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR:

Ian gave report:

- Washpools trip on Australia day weekend cancelled due to flooding.

#### Future trips:

- 16/17 Feb – Stringy's Camp
- 2-3 Mar – Emu Gullies Camp
- 9 Mar – Mud Driving Day Venue TBA
- 11 Mar – General Meeting
- 16-17 Mar – Dennison Creek Camp
- 29 Mar – 1 Apr Easter Camp Washpools.

#### DRIVER AWARENESS OFFICER:

- Nil

**MEETING CLOSED:** 8.40pm.

## ITEMS FOR SALE:

### Camping gear:

- Black Wolf Tent 240x270x210 high as new **\$350**
- Two DMH Offroad Mats King Single self inflating 190x81x8 deep. as new. **\$60 each**
- Self inflating mat S. with blow up pillow 156x64x4 deep **\$20**

Please contact Pam on 49584584

### Clarks Off Road Camper Trailer :

Custom built camper with heavy duty Alko Suspension, wind down legs and 10" jockey wheel, full electrics, swing out stainless kitchen, 80 litre under floor water tank, electric tap, 4 x 17"x 8" alloy Prado wheels with BFG AT's, twin jerry can holders, twin gas cylinder holders, tool box, heavy duty Hiland Hitch, led lights, electric brakes, spare spring and hub attached to trailer to always have a spare, mix and match the multiple awning walls that have never been used. Call for more info or to arrange a time to look. **\$11500**  
Please contact Ken on 0414 266 887



### Trailer Tyres:

3 Sunraysia 6 stud 15 inch steel rims with all-terrain tyres to suit camper trailer. Tyre 31x10.5 R15 - two with fair tread & one suitable for spare. **\$300 ono** Please contact Kathy on 0402 326 393

### GIVE AWAY:

Set of 4 2" Raised Coil Springs suit GU/GQ Patrol – Contact Paul 0402 576 619

### Joke corner:

- *What were the last four words of the red-neck four-wheeler? "Hey y'all, watch this!"*
- *A bloke goes into a parts shop & says to the salesman "gimme 2 wiper blades for a 80 series" & the salesman says, "OK fair swap".*

## MINUTES OF FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

**GENERAL MEETING held at North Mackay Bowls Club** on 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2013.

**Meeting opened at** 7.40pm by President Terry Devery.

**ATTENDANCE:**

As per the attendance book.

**APOLOGIES:**

Paul Roberston.

**VISITORS:**

Graham Walker, John Haughton, Jamie Hallinan, Damien McGrath, Kim Proud, Scott Thomson, Kerry & Tim Schultz

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Resolved that the minutes of the previous General Meeting on Monday 10.12.12 be confirmed as per magazine.

Moved by Michelle Johnson Seconded by Vivienne Barker, Carried by all.

**Business arising from the minutes:** Nil

**SECRETARY FOR CORRESPONDENCE as reported by Alan Lovett:**

**Inwards:**

- 9 email enquiries about joining club.
- Aust Post Postage account \$40.44
- Info brochures –Haley’s Cabins & Camping grounds at Bloomfield.
- CBA Bank statement
- NQBE – account for 30 calendars & magazine printing. \$798.00
- Email brochure re- Mky Home show & Camping expo – May 17th to 19th 2013
- Landrover club magazine for Nov 2012
- Brad Doolan from North Jacklin invitation to 4wd club to demonstrate the new Nissan Patrol
- Aust Post – Tax invoice - \$55.44
- 4wd QLD Association – 22/12/12 – Quorum not reached – information forum only
- Receipt from TJM for purchase of EPIRB.
- Resignation letter from Ian MacDonald as Trip leader.

**Outwards:**

- Terry replied to the 9 e-mail enquiries.

- Secretary sent out 5 “thank you” letters to property owners & True Blue Camping & Canvas

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

Moved by Paul Whitestyles Seconded by Kable, Carried by All.

**Business arising:**

- Nil.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Treasurer Derek VK read details of report:

Opening Balance	\$ 9987.60
Total deposits	\$ 275.00
Total withdrawals	\$ 10.00
Closing Balance	\$ 10241.60

**Accounts passed for payment :**

- NQBE \$ 5.20
- NQBE for magazine \$ 45.00

Moved by Kelly Potter, Seconded by Alan Lovett, Carried by All.

**Business arising:**

To pass that the 4wd club to pay our 2012 4wd association fee (Moved by Fay Devery, Seconded by Kable Gilliland, Carried by all).

**COMMITTEE MEETING BUSINESS:**

Secretary Kylie gave a synopsis of the Committee meeting held on Wednesday night 06.02.13.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- Terry has approached the Buffalo Club management as a potential venue for club meetings.
- Terry tried to contact Pres of Aero Club re another potential venue (still to catch up)
- Qld 4WD Association contacted us re Annual Fees
- Steve Whykes bought along the new EPIRB being purchased by the club.
- Terry has downloaded the EPIRB application / registration forms
- Due to increased work commitments, Ian McDonald has had to step down as Activity Coordinator.(Terry canvassing members to find a replacement for this position). With the resignation of Ian Mac as trip leader, a

committee has been organized to take over his role. Bruce Wolsey to take care of the emailing side of things, Neil Barker, Terry Devery to contact property owners and Ian & Peter Grech to help organize trip destinations.

- Reminder that if members want to participate in one of the club outings that they must register their names with the Activity Coordinator by THURSDAY NIGHT prior to the trip.
- Update club web page and remove Activities page from web. (Dave C/Kathy S)
- Need two extra advertisements for the club magazine.
- Suggestion to raise raffle ticket prices - \$2 for door prizes & \$5 for major prizes
- Suggestion to reinstate the "Getting to Know You" segments in club magazine.
- (Kathy S) – has friends in Mini Club. Motion: To swap notes on Rally's / Nav Runs. It was also proposed that we could also run catering for their outings & vice versa. Halves the number of runs that we have to put together & promotes some interaction among clubs.  
Seconded: Steve Johnston Carried: All
- Update the list of members that have done Driver Awareness sessions. (Peter / Terry)
- Suggestion to add birthday dates of members to Club Magazine. Motion: Members can voluntary add their birthday for the club magazine. Names to be collated by Michelle Johnson.  
Seconded: Paul Whitestyles Carried: All
- Relay For Life – if the club is going to be involved this year we need to start organizing soon. No one volunteered to organise so it was decided to give it a miss this year.
- Potential guest speakers – Frank Marcetti (motivational speaker), Transit Tyres, Turbo-charger Repairs, Diesel Tech, QPWS – Bill Lennox / Bryan Kunst, Food packaging / storage companies such as Tupperware, Cool Rite – 12 volt setups / solar panels etc.
- TJM (Steve & Sandi) have kindly offered to do another club info / promotional day.
- True Blue Camping & Canvas day to be rescheduled.

#### ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR:

- 20<sup>th</sup> Jan – Day trip to Koumala and Notch Point – cancelled due to lack of numbers
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb – Visit to True Blue Camping and Canvas – cancelled due to lack of numbers. It was a

busy time of year for everyone and will be re-scheduled.

- 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Feb – Washpools over Australia day weekend – cancelled due to flooding
- 9<sup>th</sup> Feb – Night drive at Captains Crossing – Trip Leader Ian Staff. Story Kelly Potter, Fines Ken Keirnan

#### FUTURE TRIPS

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar – Emu Gullies Camp
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar – King Pin Trip
- 9<sup>th</sup> Mar – Mud driving day
- 11<sup>th</sup> Mar – General Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> – Denison Creek Camp
- 29<sup>th</sup> Mar – 1<sup>st</sup> Apr – Washpools Easter Camp

#### FINES

- Seaforth Xmas campout: Fine – Bruce Wolsey – He volunteered to be Santa but he forgot his bell so he used his towbar tongue and shackle as a bell. Might have got brownie points being a MacGyver but still, it's not very traditional!
- Xmas Lights Tour: Fine – Kylie & Jeff – for not having a UHF (and not admitting it during briefing) therefore they followed Peter Grech's vehicle who was turning off to go home (but they didn't know that because no radio) and promptly got lost towards the end of the tour. After a few attempts to contact Kathy Searle via facebook, Kylie rang Alan Lovett. They were all at Maccas.

#### DRIVER AWARENESS REPORT:

- Lorkam Kenny and Matthew Bowman have both done their theory and practical driver awareness sessions.

#### VOTED IN:

- New members were introduced and applications voted on. New members are: Graham Walker, John Haughton, Jamie Hallinan, Damien McGrath, Kim Proud, Scott Thomson, Kerry & Tim Schultz

#### RAFFLE:

- Congratulations to Charlie Bezzina for winning a pack of cards, Ian Stagg for a tent light and Paul Whitestyles for a set of Canadian gloves.

Next Committee Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> Mar 2013.

Next General Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> Mar 2013.

**Meeting Closed:** 8.50 pm by President Terry Devery.

## NIGHT DRIVE SATURDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2013

So the arrangement was for everyone to meet at the Mirani Hotel at 6pm. The Hotel even put us in their dining room and the food was very good, must be a new cook.



So after everyone caught up with each other, were fed and watered the group headed out the front to sort out the tail end charlie, story and fines people, we headed to our vehicles.

Before we even headed off Ian Stagg nearly stepped on a snake in the main street of Mirani - says a lot about Mirani.

Then Paul Whitestyles did some main street 4WDing by reversing back across the road from a centre park and mounted the kerb so that he did not have to do a u-turn.

So the group headed off and before long someone commented on the two-way that if you get lost to just follow Paul Whitestyles' black plume of smoke.

Making our turn at Pinnacle we headed up the track. Due to the rain, the track was a little greasy and muddy in places with a few areas washed out a little but overall and easy drive. Only fauna spotted on the trip other than the snake were a couple of cows on the way up.

We arrived at the crossing at 8.45pm with a 1 group of campers on the town side. Some of the group followed Stagg across the crossing and then all had to turn around in the sand due to campers on the other side as well.

We all decided to go back to the original spot we stopped at for smoko on the previous trip. Everyone settled in for a chat and some smoko, with some stories and some had a look about.

After last year's events there were no takers to do any water crossings on the night.

After about an hour, four vehicles left and headed back out which then started movement in the camp for the rest to pack up and head out as well.

Good night was had by all.

Story by Kelly Potter, photos by Terry Devery.

## **DRIVING IN THE OUTBACK – [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)**

Some tips from the Department of Transport for driving in the outback:

### **Before you leave:**

- Work out where you want to go with a good map. Calculate how long it will take driving there.
- Determine all the stops along the way. Driving too far without a break will increase your chances of crashing. You should take at least a 15 minute break every two hours.
- Have your vehicle serviced before your journey.



### **Just before you leave:**

- Check tyres, lights, windscreen wipers, battery, coolant and hoses, oil and fuel.
- Get plenty of sleep the night before — no alcohol.
- If you're heading into a remote area, give friends, neighbours or the police the details of your trip.
- Charge your mobile phone. It should work in regional centres but possibly not in areas between.
- Pack plenty of toys and games if you're taking children.
- Obtain a weather report. (Consider delaying your trip if heavy rain is forecast.)
- Check road conditions — Transport and Main Roads' website, RACQ, shire councils and local police.

### **Standard equipment for your outback trip**

Pack into your vehicle:

- first aid kit
- water (20 litres emergency use and 4 litres per person per day)
- food, in case of delays or breakdown
- fire extinguisher
- tool kit (jack, winder, wheel brace, spanners, screwdrivers, spare fan belt, hoses and fuses)
- two spare wheels
- tow rope
- shovel (in case you get bogged)
- toilet paper
- maps
- compass or global positioning system (GPS)
- tarpaulin
- cooler or fridge
- rubbish bags
- matches or lighter
- communication equipment. Your mobile phone may not work in the outback.



### **Unsealed roads**

Slow down. Dust may be disguising an oncoming vehicle, pot holes, loose gravel and slippery mud patches. Turn on your headlights where visibility is poor. Consider stopping if you can't see the road in front of you.

### **Sunrise and sunset**

Many of Queensland's outback roads have an east–west orientation. When the sun is low in the sky, clear vision is impossible. You could miss oncoming vehicles or hit an animal crossing the road. Avoid driving before 7.00 am and between 4.00 pm and 5.00 pm.

## Fatigue

Long distances and stretches of unchanging landscape can make a driver very tired. Stop for a break if you experience:

- sore or heavy eyes
- dim or fuzzy vision
- daydreaming or hallucinations
- tiredness, stiffness or cramps
- aches and pains
- delayed reactions
- wandering across the road.



## Prevent tiredness:

- take regular breaks; at least 15 minutes every two hours
- pull into rest areas, tourist spots and driver reviver stops frequently
- don't drink alcohol before and during the trip
- eat properly (not too much or too little)
- check medications with your doctor
- get plenty of sleep before your trip
- don't drive for more than ten hours a day
- wind down the windows every now and then for some fresh air
- share the driving
- plan ahead
- stop as soon as you feel tired or your attention wanders
- don't start your trip too early in the day. Your body isn't used to concentrating before dawn or in the early hours.



## Caravans

If you are a member of a 'caravanning convoy', don't travel too close together. Other road users will become frustrated if they are unable to overtake safely. The law requires caravans and other large vehicles, outside a built-up area, leave at least 60 m between each other. The distance is 200 m in a road train area.

## Animals

Don't swerve to avoid an animal on the road. This may cause you to roll your vehicle. Gently brake and slow down. Beep your horn to alert the animal.

If you come across cattle and sheep on the road, stop and be patient. It's all part of the 'outback experience'. The animal might stop in the middle of the road to watch you approach. Just be patient; perhaps beep your horn and the animal will soon move on.

## Weather warning

If the roads are wet, be careful of slippery conditions and unstable road edges. Try to keep one wheel on the bitumen, if possible.

When driving in wet weather:

- keep your windscreen and lights clean
- keep headlights on low beam. In foggy conditions, it is easier to see the low beam
- use your air-conditioner or demister to keep the windscreen clear
- slow down
- double your following distance
- after driving through water, drive a short distance slowly, with your foot on the brake pedal. This helps the brakes dry out.

If you come across a closed road, due to flood, do not attempt to enter. You could face a fine or even endanger your life.



If the road is flooded, avoid attempting to cross. Wait until the level drops or use an alternative route. The force of the flood water could sweep your vehicle away.

## Incidents, accidents and emergencies

### Flat tyre

- Park on flat, firm ground.
- Leave manual vehicles in gear.
- Know how to use your jack.
- Tighten wheel nuts alternatively until all are fully tightened.
- Lower the vehicle slowly.
- Check wheel nuts again.



### Road accidents

- Stay calm.
- Check for injury.
- Call for assistance, including fire, ambulance, Flying Doctor and police.
- Don't leave your vehicle. Wait for help to arrive.

### In case of injury

- Don't move the injured person if it can be avoided.
- Apply first aid.
- Call for assistance, giving full details of location and injuries.
- Wait for help to arrive.

### Shattered windscreen

- Look out of the window or door to see where it is safe to pull over.
- Fill demister vents with paper or cloth. This stops glass getting in the vents.
- Remove glass.
- Wind up other windows.
- Drive on slowly.
- If the windscreen is just cracked, it may be safe to drive on. Replace as soon as possible.



### Lost or broken down?

- Don't panic.
- Stay with the vehicle and wait for assistance.
- Flag down or phone for help.
- Make sure vehicle is visible.
- Conserve food water and energy.
- If you become mobile again, advise authorities.



Queensland's outback is a diverse landscape. It can be dusty, muddy, flat or flooded. The roads can be empty but they can also carry ten-car-long road trains. You never know what's around the next bend. It's best to be prepared for every situation.

Source: <http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Safety/Driver-guide/Driving-safely/Driving-in-the-outback.aspx>

Additional images: [www.4wdcampervans.com](http://www.4wdcampervans.com) , [www.news.drive.com.au](http://www.news.drive.com.au) , [www.australiantraveller.com](http://www.australiantraveller.com) , [www.mynrma.com.au](http://www.mynrma.com.au)

# Activities Calendar

**MAR - APR 2013****Sun 10<sup>th</sup> MAR – MUD DRIVING DAY - CAPE PALMERSTON Grade 3-4****Trip Leader Kable Gilliland****Meet at Macs Truck Stop 8.00 for 8.15 departure**

Extreme action Mud. Be prepared to get bogged and recovered and help others recover. Picnic lunch. An excellent trip to this National Park. Beach driving and Inland Track-weather permitting. On a clear day the views are really great. For those who wish to get dirty. Trip distance – up to 250km

**Requirements:** Full tank of fuel, Full recovery gear, First aid kit, water & lunch.

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup> MAR – GENERAL MEETING AT NORTH MACKAY BOWLS CLUB @ 7.30pm****Sat –Sun 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> MAR – DENISON CREEK CAMP Grade 1-2 to camp & 3-5 on tracks****Meet at Wests Car Park, Branscombe Road, Walkerston 8.00 for 8.15 departure**

Easy 4WD, Bush camping, Tracks offer medium to hard 4WD. Trip distance – 150 – 200km

**Requirements:** Camping gear, recovery gear, full tank of fuel, first aid kit, water & food. Suitable for trailers.

**Fri –Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Mar – 1<sup>st</sup> APR – WASHPOOLS EASTER CAMP Grade 1-3****Trip Leader – Terry & Fay Devery (backup venue is Lake Elphinstone if necessary)****Meet at Wests Car Park, Branscombe Road, Walkerston 8.00 for 8.15 departure**

Very popular club activity on a cattle property. Excellent site for all interests. Kids love it, especially a secret visit from the Easter Bunny. This is a great place for water activities. Medium 4WD, Bush camping, Swimming, Fishing, Canoeing. Trip distance – 400 - 450km

**Requirements:** Camping gear for long weekend, recovery gear, full tank of fuel, first aid kit, water & food.

Suitable for trailers. **Strict guidelines apply for property entry and exit. Always follow existing tracks.**

**Property owners are very much aware of the spread of noxious plants. A leader must accompany any separate groups arriving/departing.**

**Sun 7<sup>th</sup> APR – GUMBY GUMBY DAY TRIP Grade 1-3 Trip Leader: TBA****Meet at Wests Car Park, Branscombe Road, Walkerston 8.00 for 8.15 departure**

We proceed to Nebo and head west to a cattle property not far from Nebo. There are some interesting landscapes, sandy creek crossings, natural springs and some bush driving. Come and see this place before it is completely taken over by mining. Trip distance – 200 - 250km

**Requirements:** Recovery gear, full tank of fuel, first aid kit, water & lunch. Don't forget the camera.

**Mon 8<sup>th</sup> APR – GENERAL MEETING AT NORTH MACKAY BOWLS CLUB @ 7.30pm****Sat-Sun 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> APR – STRINGY'S CAMP Grade 1-2 Trip Leader: TBA****Meet at Wests Car Park, Branscombe Road, Walkerston 8.00 for 8.15 departure**

This is a bush camp approx 1 ¼ hours from Mackay in Crediton State Forest. Set up camp on a grassed area beside a flowing creek. Suitable for trailers. This was once the site of a logging camp of a local Eungella family but has since been overgrown. Some members of the club have cleared a large area for camping. OK for day trip when others are camping. Trip distance – 200 - 250km

**Requirements:** Camping gear, recovery gear, full tank of fuel, first aid kit, water & food.

**Sun 21<sup>st</sup> APR – HORSE CREEK DAY TRIP Grade 4-5 Trip Leader: TBA**

**Meet at Wests Car Park, Branscombe Road, Walkerston 8.00 for 8.15 departure**

Mia Mia State Forest area - day trip, very rugged track, capable vehicles only. This track is for experienced drivers only. **Must have done a Grade 3 trip prior to participating.** Trip distance – 200km

**Requirements:** Full recovery gear may assist, full tank of fuel, first aid kit, water & lunch. Don't forget the camera.

**Sat-Sun 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> APR – SANDY SHORES CAMP Grade 2-3 Trip Leader: TBA**

**Meet at Mac's Truck Stop 8.00 for 8.15 departure**

A cattle property south-west of Mackay. Magnificent waterhole for swimming, kayaking, fishing. Bush walking. Can drive on tracks around the property and experience superb views of the surrounding area. This property will be submerged by a dam sometime in the future. Trip distance – 300-400km

**Requirements:** Camping gear, recovery gear, full tank of fuel, first aid kit, water & food. Suitable for trailers.

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

**Trip Contact:**

**Bruce Wolsey - 0458 007 700 (ring or text)**

**Email: [bhwolsey@mrbean.net.au](mailto:bhwolsey@mrbean.net.au)**





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***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 \$14.95  
@ 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.***