Hello everybody!

My name is Emily Tanner and I’m your new newsletter editor, taking over from Kathleen for the September newsletter onwards. My family joined the ACT 4WD Club in 2000, when I was 6, and we’ve been involved ever since. My parents have both been part of the executive committee at various points throughout that time, and there’s a picture of my sister Courtney and I on the club banner.

This month the new executive committee took over, and the outgoing members of the committee left. David Johnson has formally taken over as Vice President, and Brian McGlynn has formally taken over as Secretary. Richard Wdowik has taken on the position of Treasurer and Greg Tanner is our new Trip Coordinator.

Thank you to Kathleen Quan, former newsletter editor, Anthony Quan, former Trip Coordinator and Diane Tanner, former Treasurer for all of the time and effort that you put into your time helping the club.

Not related to 4WDing, but here’s some entertainment in the form of a spider doing the YMCA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xYlUFrOeh3q
GENERAL CLUB INFORMATION

YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President  
Steve Sponberg

Vice President  
David Johnson

Secretary  
Brian McGlynn

Treasurer  
Richard Wdowik

Trip Coordinator  
Greg Tanner

Newsletter Editor  
Emily Tanner

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Public Officer  
TBC

Property Officer  
Ansis Rieksts

Training Coordinator  
John Southwell

Web Master  
Tim Elliott

CLUB BANK ACCOUNT

BSB 805 022
ACCT 0337 0382

CLUB SUPPORTERS

Please support those who support us

“Four-wheel-driving just means getting stuck in more inaccessible places”

LIFE MEMBERS  
Jeff and Jenny Shepherd  
Norm and Lesley Syme

HONOUR ROLL  
Peter and Sally Edwards  
Greg and Wendy Murray

EDITORIAL POLICY

This newsletter has a wide circulation and is easily shared. The Editor reserves the right to edit any material submitted for inclusion in the newsletter to ensure that the club and its members and families are seen to be promoting safe and responsible enjoyment of the environment and the pastime of four wheel driving.

The views and opinions in this newsletter are that of the individual, and do not represent the views and opinions of the club as a whole.

Trip reports should be regarded as works of fiction and not relied on as fact or an absolutely accurate representation of the undertaken activities.

The next General Meeting will be held at Woden Tradies Club, Cnr Launceston and Furzer Streets, Woden on Tuesday 2 September at 7:30pm. Come along from 6pm for dinner in the bistro. Tuesday night special is $10 schnitzels for members of the Tradies Club.

Visitors considering joining the club are welcome to attend Club meetings. Please contact the Club Secretary before the meeting to confirm your attendance.
PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello again everyone and as always, I hope this correspondence finds you all healthy, hearty and well.

What a fantastic run of spring weather we are experiencing. I particularly enjoy crisp mornings and clear sunny days with mild temperatures that make weekends so enjoyable. I hope the weather continues although as I write this (25/08), there is further snow predicted in the Alps and rain heading our way so my enjoyment may be short lived.

I have received many emails from members expressing their thanks and passing on best wishes to the organisers of the Xmas-in-July party. May I also pass on my congratulations to Catherine Matthews as well as Les & Sue Briggs for the efforts they did in organising such a smooth and well run event – thank you!

By the time you read this we will have completed a hand-over of the new Executive committee who are all looking forward to the year ahead. There is going to be a revamp of the monthly newsletter so please look for changes and a fresh layout. Keep in mind that the newsletter Editor is always looking for anything 4WD or Club related to include into the monthly edition so feel free to send anything that you might like to have included or made public.

We’ve had a few more new and low kilometre 4WD vehicles appearing throughout the membership. I note our Vice-President was so keen to acquire his new vehicle that he flew to Port Lincoln SA to pick it up and, drove back to Canberra via a short detour into Adelaide all within 3 days – great effort!

I am meeting with our insurance broker to clarify just what we are insured for when travelling on a club sanctioned trip and for that matter, what we are not insured for. I hope to be able to report the findings of this meeting at the next club gathering.

I have also finalised the costs for potentially purchasing some area specific satellite phones as requested of me by a club member. Our Facebook page is still going gang-busters with some great photos and stories so keep up the interest and keep those photos coming.

Please keep in contact with the Club Trip Coordinator if you wish to be a Trip Leader or would like instigate a trip for yourself and other members. It is important we keep a log of who attends the many trips both from a training and insurance perspective.

Look forward to seeing many of you including our new members at the September meeting at Woden Tradies.

Best regards and keep safe

El Presidente
ACT 4WD MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 2014

TITLE: Minutes of the Monthly Meeting and AGM for the ACT 4WD Club

VENUE: Tradies Club, Woden

EVENT DATE: Tuesday 5 August 2014

OPEN: 7:30pm

CLOSE: 8:40pm

PRESIDENT: Stephen Sponberg

SECRETARY (AND MINUTES): Brian McGlynn

The Committee of the ACT 4WD Extravaganza presented the Club with a cheque for $16,000.

Visitors - visitors welcomed were:

- Mein Bonan
- Peter Petkovic
- Thomas Hart and Rachel Carte
- Klaus Matthaei and Caryl Hill

New Members:

- Alan and Litza Cooper

Secretary’s Report

- Extreme Marquees has a “Refer a Friend” offer – see the Secretary for more info
- Chris Burch from AP Tuning in Bungendore – 1st 3 club members that book a tune receive labour/installation free

Treasurer’s Report

- Club membership renewals are now due
- Name badges are available
- The Club is in a sound position financially

Upcoming Training:

- Snow and Mud
- Camper Trailer Towing
- Sand and Water
- Rock and Rough Terrain

Check the website for training availability.

Public Officer

RTM are seeking for the Club to have another monthly meeting as soon as possible. There are also other companies such as BCF and Rays that have expressed similar views.

General Business

- Concern was expressed about the upcoming 4wd show in Western Sydney later in the year and if sufficient time had been allowed to fully plan for a successful event.

Action: President to write to the Association to determine whether the Club would be affected financially should the Show run at a loss.

Meeting closed at 8:25pm
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Previous Minutes accepted
Moved: Linda Barthelson
Seconded: Jan Fenton

Positions vacant:
All Committee Positions were declared vacant.
Committee nominations from June were confirmed.
Nominations were called for unfilled positions.

President: Steve Sponberg
Vice President: David Johnson
Secretary (previously nominated): Brian McGlynn
Seconded: Steve Sponberg

Treasurer: Nominated: Richard Wdowik
Seconded: Jan Fenton

Trip Coordinator: Nominated: Greg Tanner
Seconded: Brian McGlynn

Newsletter Editor: Emily Tanner
Seconded: Steve Sponberg

Public Officer to be appointed by the Committee

Positions all elected unopposed

Meeting closed at 8:40pm

Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greg, Diane &amp; Emily Tanner</th>
<th>David &amp; Helen Johnson</th>
<th>Chris &amp; Jan Fenton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peter Marshall</td>
<td>Anthony &amp; Kathleen Quan</td>
<td>Elaine &amp; Richard Wdowik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Milera &amp; Maxine Picker</td>
<td>David, Catherine, Ryan &amp; Tiali Combridge</td>
<td>Steve Sponberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Matthews</td>
<td>Graeme Harmer</td>
<td>Les &amp; Sue Briggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerrad Coombe</td>
<td>Simon &amp; Melissa Bryzenski</td>
<td>Ian Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gavin Neilson</td>
<td>Ralph Stokes</td>
<td>Nick Kous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason &amp; Tegan Taylor</td>
<td>Geoff &amp; Dianne Wood</td>
<td>John &amp; Nadia O'Toole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Stokes</td>
<td>Tony &amp; Linda Barthelson</td>
<td>Graeme Harmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Douglas</td>
<td>Erin &amp; James Slade</td>
<td>John &amp; Cheryl Southwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren &amp; Zac Monsma</td>
<td>M &amp; S Pekarsky</td>
<td>Scott &amp; Marta Crisp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janette &amp; Brian McGlynn</td>
<td>Gavin Neilson</td>
<td>Catherine Matthews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Neiberding</td>
<td>Clem and Lesley Tozer</td>
<td>Brad &amp; Melissa O'Dowd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graeme &amp; Linda Pigram</td>
<td>Jane Deerson &amp; Kieran May</td>
<td>Jody &amp; Denis Coombes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon Reinecker</td>
<td>Klaus Matthaei &amp; Caryl Hill (Visitors)</td>
<td>Brad Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Petkovic (Visitor)</td>
<td>Thomas Hart &amp; Rachel Carte (Visitors)</td>
<td>Mein Bonan (Visitor)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apologies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kathir Subramanian</th>
<th>Bob &amp; Kym Rutten</th>
<th>Richard Synnott</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greg &amp; Tammy Finlay</td>
<td>Leonie Neiberding</td>
<td>Gladys Hilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leesa Southwell</td>
<td>Fiona Green</td>
<td>Mitchell Coombes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy &amp; Greg Murray</td>
<td>Debbie Marshall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Trip Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>Trip Leader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 – 14 September</td>
<td>Jellore State Forest</td>
<td>Greg Tanner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 – 29 September  2014</td>
<td>Mallacoota</td>
<td>Catherine &amp; David Combridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 – 6 October 2014</td>
<td>Tunnels &amp; Caves Blue Mountains</td>
<td>Warren Monsma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 – 5 October 2014</td>
<td>Willowglen Competition</td>
<td>Jason Neiberding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 – 16 November 2014</td>
<td>Adaminaby – Cocktails &amp; Jaffle Irons</td>
<td>Les &amp; Sue Briggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 – 7 December</td>
<td>Club Christmas Party</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb – March 2015</td>
<td>SA &amp; WA South Coasts Inc Esperance to Eyre</td>
<td>Geoff Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Route 66</td>
<td>Chris &amp; Jan Fenton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May – Sep 2016</td>
<td>Gulf, Top End &amp; Kimberleys</td>
<td>Geoff Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May – June 2017</td>
<td>Whitsundays – boat cruise – EoI sought</td>
<td>Geoff Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June or July 2017</td>
<td>4WD self-drive safari – Namibia &amp; Botswana</td>
<td>Geoff Wood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Essential Trip Equipment

The following items are the minimum items of safety and recovery equipment required for club trips:

- UHF Radio
- 2 Rated Shackles
- Leather Gloves
- Snatch Strap
- Shovel
- Damper (two, to put over winch cable/ snatch strap)
- Recovery Pack (straps, shackles, chain, etc)

More information can be found in the Member’s Handbook.

## Trip Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Easy trip. Little or no 4WD required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Easy 4WD trip. Some 4WD, no recovery expected. Suitable for beginners with limited 4WD experience. Basic 4WD skills required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Moderate 4WD trip. Possibly some recovery/winching/water crossings. Good level of 4WD skills and experience required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Difficult 4WD trip. Expect hard recovery/winching/water crossings. Drivers must be experienced at travelling over difficult terrain and have a high level of 4WD skills</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**JELLORE STATE FOREST**

**Date:** 13-14 September 2014  
**Trip Leader:** Greg Tanner  
**Trip Grading:** 2-3  
**Fuel:** Full Tank

Bordering the Nattai National Park near Mittagong, Jellore is a 1500ha maze of 4WD tracks, ranging from easy fire trails right through to extreme rocky climbs. Departing 8am from Eaglehawk on Federal Highway. Overnight bush camping. No camper trailers.

Contact: dtanner@tpg.com.au

**WILLOWGLEN COMPETITION**

**Date:** 4-5 October  
**Trip Leader:** Jason Neiberding  
**Trip Grading:** 1 (for spectators)

For more information go to [www.tlcc.com.au](http://www.tlcc.com.au)

**MALLACOOTA**

**Date:** 27-29 September 2014  
**Trip Leaders:** David & Catherine Combridge  
**Trip Grading:** 1

This is a social trip (fishing, kayaking, relaxing), staying at Mallacoota Foreshore Caravan Park. Trip is 306km (3hrs 30mins) from Williamsdale to Mallacoota. We’ll stop for breakfast at Cooma McDonalds then continue on to Bombala, Cann River and Mallacoota. Please phone Mallacoota Foreshore Caravan Park on 03 5158 0300 to book – refer to the website for sites 32-40 and mention you are with the ACT 4WD Club.

Contact: dcrtcombo@gmail.com

**COCKTAILS AND JAFFLE IRONS**

**Date:** 15-16 November 2014  
**Trip Leaders:** Les & Sue Briggs  
**Trip Grading:** 2+ (plus a very rough night)  
**Fuel:** Full Tank. Fuel available at Adaminaby

Destination is Adaminaby. Dress code is cocktail affair black tie. Further details will be provided. Battle it out for the Best Jaffle Iron Chef and Best Cocktail! Departure Fri 3:30pm Ranger Station, Namadgi Info Office

Contact: Les 6260 1888 or sb@absolutefilters.com.au

**Christmas Party**

**Date:** 6-7 December 2014  
**Trip Grading:** 1

Annual club Christmas party. Dinner, entertainment and games provided. Overnight camping available with breakfast provided. Cost $10 for adults, children 12 and under free. Payment to be made by November meeting (Nov. 11) to confirm numbers.

Contact: questions to dtanner@tpg.com.au  
Payment to bank account
ROUTE 66

Date: 2016
Trip Leaders: Chris & Jan Fenton
Trip Grading: 1-2

Details to be provided.

ESPERANCE TO EYRE
SOUTH EAST COAST WA

Date: Mid-Feb - Mar 2015
Trip Leaders: Geoff & Dianne Wood
Trip Grading: 1, 2, 3 and 4 (mostly sand)

Meet at Fowlers Bay, SA for a week of fishing. Across the Nullarbor, down to Esperance, then the fun begins. Into Cape Le Grand, along the coast, all the way to Eyre, then up to Eucla. This is an adventure rarely experienced. Fish and swim where few will ever go...

Contact: ggwood@bigpond.com.au

WHITSUNDAYS - BOAT CRUISE

Date: May/June 2017
Trip Leaders: Geoff & Dianne Wood
Departure: tbc
Trip Grading: 1

Hire of a self-drive (bare) motor boat (probably a 40' catamaran), up to 6 weeks on board wandering around the Whitsundays, in your own double cabin/stateroom to explore the islands, swim, fish, hike, access resorts, relax. Also included: fuel, food (cook ourselves, shared), bedding, linen, fridge, cooking utensils, stove, water, radio & recovery gear (floaties). Approximately $6K/person, plus flights. The plan is to hire 2 boats, with up to 4 couples per boat. Blocks of 3 (or 2) weeks, will be considered.

Contact: ggwood@bigpond.com.au

GULF, TOP END AND KIMBERLEYS

Date: May-Sep 2016
Trip Leaders: Geoff & Dianne Wood
Departure: tbc
Trip Grading: 1-3

Cameron Cnr, Innamincka, Haddon Cnr, Birdsville Mt Isa, Lawn Hill, Burketown, Savannah Way, The Gulf, Borroloola, Lorella Springs, Lost City, Roper Bay to Nhulunbuy through Arnhem Land (if we can get local guide). Across to Galiwinku, Maningrida, Cobourg Beach. Down to Jabiru (Kakadu), Jim Jim, Cooinda, then Darwin, for a week's rest.

Return, Katherine, Victoria Rvr, Timber Crk, Gregory NP, Limestone Gorge, Wave Hill, Lajamanu, Tenant Creek, Binns Track, MacDonnell Range, Uluru, Olgas, Alice Springs, down the Old Ghan line, Finke, Oodnadatta, William Creek, Maree, Leigh Creek, Broken Hill

Contact: ggwood@bigpond.com.au

4WD SELF DRIVE SAFARI
BOTSWANA & NAMIBIA

Date: June/July 2017
Trip Leaders: Geoff & Dianne Wood
Departure: tbc
Trip Grading: 1-3

About 30 days, Self-drive, 4WD and camping. Includes 4WD hire, recovery equipment, tent, fuel, food (cook yourself), a local guide/leader. Also includes: bedding, linen, towels, fridge, water, radio, 12v lighting, paper maps and most camping fees. Approximately $10K per person, plus flights

The plan is to make up groups of 6 cars, so different dates may be available.

Contact: ggwood@bigpond.com.au
Convoy Procedure

A convoy comprises of a group of vehicles including the trip leader, a ‘tail-end-Charlie’ at the end of the group and any number of vehicles between the two. The Club utilises the following convoy procedures on all club trips for safety and group cohesion:

- The trip leader will appoint a ‘tail-end-Charlie’ for each day of the trip.
- The convoy will utilise the normal club channel, which is channel 20, unless decided otherwise.
- At the start of a trip, the trip leader shall check that radio communication is working effectively for all vehicles in the convoy. This will generally be a simple on-air radio check.

- The trip leader will call directions at each intersection. These are to be acknowledged by the vehicle at the tail of the convoy (‘tail-end-Charlie’) vehicles in mid convoy need not acknowledge.

- Where the intended route may not be obvious, each driver is to wait at the intersection until satisfied that the following driver had identified the proper route. The trip leader will determine which intersections to wait at. Tail-end-Charlie is to radio the trip leader once he/she has cleared the intersection.

- When negotiating hazards such as steep grades, maintain sufficient convoy spacing so as not to endanger yourself or the vehicle in front. In particularly hazardous terrain, wait until the vehicle in front has negotiated the hazard before proceeding.

- The trip leader will generally reply on the regular radio acknowledgements from “Charlie” to ensure that the convoy retain radio contact. In larger convoys and particularly in dusty conditions, when vehicle separation distances are likely to increase, radio relay through the convoy may be necessary to maintain contact.

- After negotiating a hazard, wait at a safe distance to ensure that the following vehicle has also negotiated the hazard and if necessary, provide assistance.

- At the start of the journey, or at any time after stopping, tail-end-Charlie is to identify himself/herself to the trip leader and advise once underway.

- The trip leader will advise by radio of any hazards.

- The trip leader will advise by radio of any oncoming vehicles, when travelling on single lane roads and tracks.

- Leave gates as you find them. The lead driver (generally the trip leader) is to report gates as either open or closed as they are encountered, if gates were identified as being closed a member of the convoy should remain at the gate to prevent the movement of stock through the open gate. Unless directed otherwise, tail-end-Charlie has responsibility for any necessary gates closures.

- Any driver leaving the convoy must notify the trip leader.
SO YOU WANT TO RUN A CLUB TRIP...

How do you decide where to run a trip? By gazing at the empty spots on a map and wondering what’s there – and is there a track through it? In the days of the internet and Google Earth, it’s a whole lot easier to spot tracks through the wilderness – but ½ of the adventure is getting out there and having a look! You may go wrong, you may be ‘geographically misplaced’, the track could be blocked by trees, massive holes or the worst kind of obstacle – a locked gate, but the fun is in finding out.

Be prepared to change your plans on the fly, the weather, trees and gates can all change your ultimate destination – and don’t forget, travelling with a group takes a lot longer than travelling solo! Day trips and weekenders – so many, so close to home!

The Brindabellas – Blue Range Road, Two Sticks Rd, Mt Coree, Bag Range, Webbs Ridge, Flea Creek. Some tracks around Bendoran dam are open and Mt Franklin can be easily accessed when dry. There are some tracks out towards Wee Jasper in the northern Brindabellas, but ‘The Folly’ can only be accessed with permission from the owners.

On the other side of the Brindabella valley there is a multitude of tracks. The Powerline (Boundary rd), Bramina road and Barnetts road lead into Kosciusko national park and onto Long Plain and Blue Waterholes – good camping there (closed for winter). There are state forests and pine plantations extending to Tumut and Wee Jasper.

Heading east are Tallaganda forest out of Hoskinson and Captains Flat. Lowden forest and the historic waterwheel is worth a visit. Tracks extend across to the Cooma-Braidwood road (Snowball rd) and from there you can access Badja, Wadbilliga and Bendethra. Several tracks and roads run down the scarp, with varying difficulty. Tuross falls can be accessed off Snowball and there is a back access into Tuross falls off the Wadbilliga road, but it’s a bit tricky to find and has a walk to the base of the falls. Razorback trail is marked as dropping off the scarp near Numeralla/Wadbilliga, but cannot be accessed as it crosses private property.

Monga National park, just past Braidwood – some relatively easy driving through scenic rainforest. Well worth a look, but many of the tracks are blocked and there is no access off the scarp and down onto the Corn Trail. The maps show a track, known as The Turtle fire trail - this is not just blocked, but dug up and buried. There is still one track that exits Monga to the south and joins the Araluen road, but I’ve not been on this one. Fire Break trail down to Quart Pot is blocked by a substantial gate each end.

Further east, there is some easy driving on the north side of the King’s Hwy, along the Western Distributor out towards Yadbro and Sheepyard flats (good camping) and access to the Pigeon House and Castle walking tracks. You can exit to the north across Shallow Crossing and Monkey Mountain. There is a good privately run campground at Shallow Crossing – the crossing itself can become deep and impassable at high tide, particularly after heavy rain.
South of the Kings Hwy is the Corn Trail and No-Name trails that join Quart Pot (lots of creek crossings) and you can access the Araluen road and further south. Bendethra can also be accessed from Moruya, via Hanging Mountain. The access is steep at the end, but an easier track than the western/Minuma mountain access.

Keep heading south and you can access Wolumna, Peak Alone, Lake Creek, Wadbilliga campground (another excellent private site) and keep going towards Bermagui and Tathra (Gillards Beach) and heaps of other coastal campsites.

Just south of Canberra (around Michalago) is access to the Tinderrys. I’ve never explored this area, but intend to shortly. East of Bungendore, through Tarago and Nerriga is access to Morton National park.

This is the location of the infamous Monkey Gum and 6 Stages tracks – serious hardcore 4 wheeling. Rock ledges, mud and inconveniently placed trees, but there are some other less demanding tracks in the area and plentiful access to walking trails in the park, with good camping at Danjerra Dam. There are numerous tracks to the south of Turpentine road that access the forests around Ulladulla, with many good campsites on the coast.

A lot of these areas are an easy day drive or a good weekender from Canberra. Next month I’ll look further afield for a long weekend (or a long long weekend!)

There is a wealth of experience in the club, on places to go, what to take, what to see, how to prepare – so if you want to lead a trip, ask around and someone is sure to have been there and willing to lend a hand.

Photos by Greg Tanner, Simon Bryzenski, and Gavin Neilson

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**CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**

Umbrellas – large blue and white with club logo printed $40 each
Baseball caps, navy with club logo embroidered $15 each

Club shirts as follows:
1 x blue long sleeve size 10 with words ACT 4WD CLUB embroidered $43 each
1 x blue short sleeve size medium with club logo embroidered
1 x pink long sleeve size 12 with words ACT 4WD CLUB embroidered
1 x pink long sleeve size 16 with words ACT 4WD CLUB embroidered

If members want to purchase any of the above, make payment to the club bank account or at the club meeting and get in touch with Richard Wdowik (treasurer@act4wdclub.org.au) to collect.

It is suggested you check that the shirts are still available before making payment.
Training Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Type of Training</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Sept 2014</td>
<td>Camper Trailer Towing</td>
<td>Ulmurra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Oct 2014</td>
<td>Sand/Water Crossing</td>
<td>Charleyong, Stewarts Crossing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9 Nov 2014</td>
<td>Rocks &amp; Rough Terrain</td>
<td>“Lara” Dalgety</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** This training is only available to ACT 4WD Club members

All members participate in club training at their own risk. As a condition of participation, members agree that they will not hold the ACT 4WD Club, the club committee, or the Trip Leader responsible for any damage, injury or loss of life. The decision and responsibility on whether to attempt a particular track or obstacle rests with the driver of the vehicle at all times.

Only book onto Driver Training trips if you definitely intend to participate. If you are unable to attend, contact the Driver Training Coordinators ASAP.

A listing of essential equipment can be found under general trip information. You will be advised by the training coordinator if you are required to bring anything extra. Ensure you have a full tank of petrol.

**CAMPER TRAILER TOWING TRAINING**

6 September 2014  
Starting time: 9:00am  
Location: Ulmurra, Brindabellas

We will be running a camper trailer towing course covering all aspects of towing/reversing/safety. This training is for camper trailers and not box trailers. You will need to attend an evening session on the theory side prior, this date will be confirmed closer to the date of the training.

Contact: cheryl.southwell@act.gov.au

**CLUB SUPPORTERS**

Please support those who support us

PO BOX 867 FYSHWICK ACT 2609  
[www.act4wdclub.org.au]  
UHF Channel 20
SAND DRIVING & WATER CROSSINGS TRAINING

18 October 2014  
Starting time: 8:00am  
Trip Grading: 2-3  
Location: Charleyong Crossing

Members can make their own way out on Friday evening and camp at Charleyong Crossing. Bring your own everything. Fuel available at Braidwood.

Contact: cheryl.southwell@act.gov.au

ROCK & ROUGH TERRAIN TRAINING

8-9 November 2014  
Starting time: 8:00am Saturday morning  
Trip Grading: 2-3  
Location: Lara, Dalgety (our hosts Jason & Leonie’s property)

We will depart from Cooma Macca’s and travel to “Lara” set up camp and start training. Bring your own everything. Fuel available at Berridale.

Contact: cheryl.southwell@act.gov.au

Training photos by Kerry Stevens and Steve Sponberg
Snow and Mud Training

*Trip report by Brian McGlynn*

On Janette's birthday (9 August), 12 vehicles met at the Conder Macca's. We, living the closest, were appropriately the last to arrive and therefore the authors of this report. The convoy then headed south over the category 2 climb of Fitzs Hill on the way to Adaminaby.

We stopped at Brayshaws Hut for a brief look and meet and greet and then continued along our dusty track, thru to Shannon Flat to Adaminaby where we stopped for a quick cuppa.

We then headed through the Selwyn Snowfields on the way to Dry Dam, where John Southwell conducted the snow and mud theory lesson with all trainees having the opportunity to install snow chains. We had lunch at the Dry Dam snow shelter.

Straight after lunch the group stopped briefly at O'Hares (Sue City). We then turned onto Boundary Rd were the real adventure began, and where we could start to put into place the theory that we had just learnt from John.

Heading down the greasy slope of red clay was a real adventure for those fortunate enough to be steering, there was significant sideways action. I did remark to John that I was glad that we didn’t have to go back up that hill!

Anyway, after we progressed along the track for about 5 kilometres, we discovered a mighty big tree across the road. We did a group 180 degree and headed back to the hill of red clay. What a lot of fun! Into 2nd low and off we went. Sideways left, sideways right! We then got back on the black top and headed into Tumbarumba. Thirst soon took over and we met up at the historic Tumbarumba Hotel for a few pre dinner drinks before heading to the Nest cafe for a delicious feed of rustic pizzas.

On Sunday morning we set off at around 9am with the words echoing from John that we could get lost. We headed into Bago State forest onto Paddy River Road and then down Hardys Road towards Paddys River dam. We had a quick break at Paddys River dam which was just beautiful.
The group then proceeded through the ever increasing snow covered country in a northerly direction. We drove down Bullongra Rd towards the helipad. After stopping for a photo opportunity with 4 Brumbies, we then turned right along Snubba Rd towards Blowering Dam. As promised this morning by John, we got lost somewhere on the south eastern side of Blowering Dam so we ended up heading into Batlow and onto Tumut.

We stopped at Tumut railway station for a quick lunch before heading to Canberra. The group dropped our intrepid tour guides off to their property just before Brindabella with a smaller group heading to the Flea Creek turnoff. A group of 7 vehicles formed to add a bit more to the trip so we decided to head to Flea Creek, Webbs Range and then the Powerline Trail. That's where the afternoon fun began, but that's another story...

Thanks must go to the Southwells for a seamlessly arranged and orchestrated weekend. Nothing was too much for them and the group had a lot of fun, but also learned plenty, with a good blend of theory and practical.

Thanks
Brian & Janette

Photos from Gavin Neilson, Simon Bryzenski and Mitchell Coombes

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Mud Run August 2014

It was a nippy and drizzly 8:30am start outside of Uriarra Homestead where two 200 series Landcruisers, one Prado, one Jeep Wrangler, one 60 series Landcruiser, one VW Amarok, two Landrover Defenders and two Nissan Patrols from the ACT 4WD Club had gathered. Tyre pressures were let down, and after a brief meeting, Greg Tanner – our navigator for the day – set course towards Tumut on the Brindabella road. After crossing the Goodradigbee River, we drove for a few more kilometres before turning off on Boundary Road and heading down to where it intersects with the Powerline Track. Here we had some morning tea and started to get a feel for slippery conditions we were about to navigate.

The adventurous Landrovers decided they would tackle the short cut which joined the Powerline track, whilst the rest of us drove up the 500m to where it intersected. We waited on top but it soon became clear the shortcut was too ambitious and they shortly turned around and followed us up the main track. Driving a little further on, we got to our first challenge, a moderate slope with a muddy ditch before the approach. With 4WD locked in, and with a little speed, Greg led the way up and reached the top without incident. We all subsequently followed with similar results, which I think partly surprised us all.

A little further on we came to another moderate slippery slope and again Greg showed the way with the Prado’s tail wagging to the top. Tim followed in his Patrol, but came stuck at the last rise before the top, so Greg came along with a snatch strap to help him out. Whilst Greg was doing the recovery, I was also working at freeing myself as the Landcruiser had slipped to the side of the track. Backing down a bit, engaging low range, a bit of throttle to keep the tyres spinning to clear the mud and with a grin on my son’s face we made it to the top, followed by the rest of the group.

The Powerline track from here on was fairly uneventful, as we crossed Barnetts road to Micalong road, but we did get to see a small waterfall as we crossed a now full creek. Following the Micalong road, we headed to Micalong swamp and the Hume and Hovell track and our destination for lunch. The sun made a short appearance and the drizzle died off, but getting off the track so we could have lunch made it an amusing challenge. The slippery track with wheel ruts only a few inches high, saw several of us taking a few attempts just to get out of them so we could park off the track and have our lunch!

Micalong swamp was certainly that with the recent rain and is a pretty little oasis in the middle of the bush. So with our bellies filled we continued along the Hume and Hovell track. Two of our party left us at the Brindabella road intersection, and the rest of us now headed for Wee Jasper, taking the Micalong track. The track follows the Micalong creek and the track was hard and was very slippery in patches so it paid to keep an eye on your speed.

The track crossed the creek a couple of times, with one crossing requiring a little reconnaissance, as the track didn’t look to be well used and the creek crossing had a couple of large rocks in it. Greg assisted us by guiding us around...
the large rock in the creek and we followed this stretch of the track without further incident. The creek in this section is quite pretty and the camp spots that are along it look tempting, if you interested in a weekend getaway.

The track departs the creek and takes you back into the Pine plantation and it was here that I momentarily got stuck. A deep but small bog hole in the middle of a hill descent was crossed easily by Greg and Tim but I was a little too cautious with my speed and as my drivers wheels straddled the hump in the middle I couldn't get traction to pop out the other side. Strange feeling to be stuck while you are looking down hill, but with a little rocking back a forth the mighty Cruiser pulled itself free of the yellow clay pit. Nobody else seemed to suffer the same fate, so I presume they learnt from my lesson.

The Micalong Track comes out on the Wee Jasper road and then we turned right on the Yass Road as we headed into Wee Jasper. There was a promise of a beer which unfortunately turned to nought, as the pub was closed, so the only alternative was to air back up and head back to Canberra.

It was a great day with some fun challenges which all the vehicles and drivers managed with relative ease, which was a little surprising, considering the weather threats that had been published for that day. It also highlights how competent modern day vehicles are, as we had a fair range of vehicles and tyres, and all performed equally well.....not that we are going to openly admit that!

Trip report by Simon Reinecker, photos by Simon Reinecker and Greg Tanner
Fraser Island

Due to late withdrawals the 2 vehicles headed off on Thursday as planned, and spent the first sleep in Cowra. We headed off and stayed at Lightning Ridge then Kingaroy. The next day saw us in Gympie for supplies for our planned 5 nights on Fraser Island. We stayed at Rainbow beach on Sunday night and caught an early barge to Fraser Island. We had a mixed bag of weather, with rain wind and sun filling a very enjoyable 5 days camping, in a spot that would be hard to find better.

We came off the island on Saturday as planned and continued on to Bundaberg for a few days, before heading to the Gold coast and then home.
Christmas in July

On the 19th of July, a number of people attended Christmas in July at the Nerriga pub. A "mystery trip" was run via Bungonia during the day before ending up at the pub for the Christmas party in Nerriga.

Photos by Catherine Matthews and Elaine Wdowik