

July 2012



## ***SUBARU 4WD NEWS***

Meetings of  
THE SUBARU 4WD CLUB of WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.  
are **normally** held at  
7.30pm on the second Tuesday of each month at the  
**Rotary Hall, 55 Sandgate St., South Perth**

**Subaru 4WD Web Site:** <http://www.subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au>  
**SUBARU 4WD CLUB of WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC**  
**P.O. BOX 434, SOUTH PERTH, W.A. 6951**

## SUBARU 4WD CLUB NEWS

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### 2012 COMMITTEE

|                             |                               |   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>PRESIDENT:</b>           | Tony Richards                 | <b>9386-7705</b><br><a href="mailto:president@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au">president@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au</a>                      |
| <b>SECRETARY:</b>           | Phillip Read                  | <b>0438926274</b><br><a href="mailto:secretary@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au">secretary@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au</a>                     |
| <b>TREASURER:</b>           | Adrian Longwood               | <b>9279-8993</b><br><a href="mailto:treasurer@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au">treasurer@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au</a>                      |
| <b>SOCIAL ORGANISER:</b>    | Keith Wilcox                  | <b>9344-6830</b>  |
| <b>TRIPS CO-ORDINATOR:</b>  | David Peck                    | <b>0402177886</b>   |
| <b>EDITOR:</b>              | Tom Minto                     | <b>9382-4678</b><br><a href="mailto:editor@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au">editor@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au</a>                            |
| <b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</b>   | John Cahill                   | <b>9368-4513</b>  |
|                             | Keith Low                     | <b>9459-3358</b>  |
|                             | Ian Johnson                   | <b>9448-5419</b>  |
|                             | Travis Maskey                 |   |
| <b>MERCHANDISE:</b>         | Tony Richards                 | <b>9386-7705</b>  |
| <b>WEB MASTER:</b>          | Karl Boeing/<br>Rob Griffiths | <b>9341-5087</b><br><b>0411249933</b><br><a href="mailto:webmaster@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au">webmaster@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au</a> |
| <b>4WD ASSOC DELEGATE:</b>  | David Peck/<br>Tony Richards  | <b>0402177886</b><br><b>9386-7705</b>   |
| <b>M'SHIP CO-ORDINATOR:</b> | Keith Low                     | <b>9459-3358</b><br><a href="mailto:membership@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au">membership@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au</a>                    |
| <b>PROPERTY OFFICER:</b>    | Peter Andruszkiw/Simon Newton |   |

**Club member of the year 2011: David Peck**

### LIFE MEMBERS

Fred Offer, Keith Anderson, Jonel Householder, Ray Stewart,  
Ian Johnson, Peter Andruszkiw and Ron Counce.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT July 2012

Fellow Members,

I do hope no members were inconvenienced by the cancellation of the June meeting. Given the very strong winds that were forecast at the time, that might potentially cause property damage, the Committee felt that it would be prudent to cancel the meeting, rather than expect members to come out in the bad weather leaving their properties unattended.

The June meeting door prize, **a copy of Road & Tracks WA 10<sup>th</sup> edition, will now become the door prize at the August meeting.**

In my absence on the Central Circle trip during July, Phil Read has very kindly offered to chair the meeting. Please give him your full support. Additionally, as Phil is chairing the meeting, if anyone is willing to assist as Secretary, please let Phil know.

Those members who attended Cool Collie Capers over the June LWE had a great time, with plenty of tough tracks, climbs and descents to negotiate. There was also plenty of water and mud that made some of the tracks very interesting. Watch out for the trip report and photos!

The Casserole night at Ian and Nina's on Saturday 16 June was a great social event with, as you would expect (in true Subi Club tradition), plenty of food. My thanks to Ian and Nina for their hospitality.

I look forward to catching up with most of you at the August general meeting, after I return from the Central Circle trip.

Tony Richards.

# **CHALLENGE**



A.B.N. 11 009 372 703

1 Burgay Court, Osborne Park, Western Australia 6017

**Telephone (08) 9446 6122 Facsimile (08) 9446 6061**

Email [accounts@challengebatteries.com.au](mailto:accounts@challengebatteries.com.au)

## **TRIP CO-ORDINATORS REPORT July 2012**

*Owing to a range of circumstances, there is no Trip Co-Ordinators report in this edition. However, the calendar and the website are both useful resources to help you plan your participation in Club activities.*

**THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS MAGAZINE ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE HELD BY**

**THE SUBARU 4WD CLUB OF W.A. INC.**

Please send articles and photos to the Editor by the Thursday before the end of the month (earlier is better).

**Email:** [editor@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au](mailto:editor@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au) in Word format or plain text

**Subaru 4WD Club WA Website:**

TRIP PROMOTIONS/INFORMATION

**GREENHEAD**  
**FISHING CHAL-**  
**LENCE**

July 21 & 22



GFC - when times are tough, lets go fishing! It will be a quick cruise up the highway to camp at Greenhead or Sandy Cape, relax, and get stuck into some fishing and socialising! ( **Club Members Only** )

Arrive at Greenhead/Sandy Cape around midday and settle into our camping location. Get the fishing/kayaking gear out for a fun-filled afternoon exploring the nearby bays, beaches and reefs. Once the sun settles we'll do the same and gather round for a small feast and a few drinks.

On the Sunday morning, hoping for some good weather, the eager fishermen and women might get up for a beach fish, and even take a boat or 2 out for some more fishing and exploring. When the bait runs out we'll group up for lunch (cooked fresh fish or the local bakery if results aren't great). While enjoying lunch there'll be some presentations for the winners of the challenge with a few comical prizes up for grabs!! Heading back to Perth after lunch

***Gather around Wanneroo as the meeting point. approx 8.30am***

***Trip Leader : Adrian 9279 8993***

# FOR ALL YOUR FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ACCESSORIES GO TO



# WELSHPOOL

They carry a wide range of accessories to interest most four wheel drivers and campers.

These products include Roof Racks (Rhino and Thule) 12 Volt fridge/freezers, compressors, tyre gauges, tents, recovery gear including Max Trax, driving lights, dash mats, seat covers, Hi-lift jacks, exhaust jacks and many more great products and gifts.



Whether it's a compressor, roofs racks, tow bars, nudge bars or under body protection we will do our very best to help you fit out your four wheel drive no matter what it is.



**08-9358 3688**

143 WELSHPOOL ROAD, WELSHPOOL, WA 6106  
[sales@arbwelshpool.com.au](mailto:sales@arbwelshpool.com.au) [www.arbwelshpool.com.au](http://www.arbwelshpool.com.au)

## **WESTWAYS WILDFLOWERS** – 11-12 August

Westways is a 2000ha wildflower, sheep and tree farm in the Kwon-gon heathlands. Situated just north of Moora it produces a large range of wildflowers which it preserves and exports mainly to Japan. Westways promotes self drive 4WD tours around the property to view the various wildflowers. It also has panoramic views of the Yallalie Meteorite Crater which was only recognised in 1990.

The plan is to travel up Saturday morning and stay overnight in their basic campsite. It has a toilet but no shower, a couple of tables and benches, a firebox for campfires and plenty of trees for shelter. You can take your caravan, camper trailer or tent but there is no powered sites. We will be driving around the property stopping frequently to see the wildflowers and anything else that seems interesting. The 4WDing should be fairly easy with maybe a little soft sand depending on the weather.

**Meet:** Gingers (Gull) Roadhouse, Great Northern Hwy, Upper Swan

**Time:** 9.00am for a 9.15 start

**Bring:** Everything for a bush type camp.  
Full tank of fuel. Drinking water etc.

**Cost:** \$10 per adult, children free

**Contact:** Keith Wilcox 0413 266 245





# The all new XV has arrived and is available to test drive at **SUBARU WANGARA**

**“ Defines a new generation of crossover vehicle, blending exceptional SUV capability with futuristic styling, innovative design and electrifying lines. ”**



**Mention your membership and receive:**

- 10% discount on merchandise and accessories
- 10% discount on service labour costs on any scheduled service\*
- \$250 cash to any member who refers a purchasing customer

**Contact Warren Melvin on 0402 836 756**

**10 Berriman Drive Wangara**

**PO Box 1701, Wangara WA 6947**

**Ph: (08) 9309 7888 Fax: (08) 9309 2261 DL17103**

**info@subaruwangara.com.au**

\*Membership must be mentioned at time of booking



**SUBARU**  
ALL 4 THE DRIVER™

**www.subaruwangara.com.au**



## **RESTAURANT MEAL**

**SATURDAY 18/8, 7 PM.**

**AT: THAI WITH STYLE**



**2/101 Canning Highway, South Perth. (Cnr Salisbury Ave ).**

*Parking and entry is from Salisbury Ave.*

Join fellow club members in a meal out at this excellent Thai restaurant.

They are a dual Gold Plate Award Winner and very reasonably priced for this quality.

Mains start from around \$16.

B.Y.O. wine and beer only-No corkage charge

They also offer 4 different Banquet options ranging between \$28 to \$36 per person.

( Minimum of 4 people for any of the Banquet options)

We will have our own section of the restaurant.

The cut off day to commit is Friday 10/8 so why not put your name down on the website before that.

**QUESTIONS** ? Call Tom on 93824678

### **PARKERVILLE** **HIKE ( SUNDAY 16/9)**

Come for a casual walk into John Forrest National Park from Parkerville. It is about 4.5 to 5 km along a wide gravel track also used by horse riders and mountain bikers. It passes by the historic Hovea Train Station and the Avon River, including Hovea Falls. The track is suitable for kids with push bikes and prams but the ground is uneven gravel. Allow about 4 hours for return journey, stopping in John Forrest National Park for drinks and nibbles.



I enjoy walking in the rain so only extreme weather will cancel the trip.

Meet at 1.30 pm at car park opposite Parkerville Tavern on Owen Rd for a 1:45 pm start.

#### **What To Bring.**

Good enclosed walking shoes and drinking water  
**(compulsory)**, hat, weather appropriate clothing  
and back pack.

Nibbles to share.

portable gas or spirit stove, or thermos if you want hot  
drinks, mugs. Coles and Woolies sell 100 mls of long  
life milk.

#### **Other tips**

Foot care. Use band aids or coat your feet with vaseline  
(especially between toes) to prevent blisters (you will be  
washing your socks afterwards anyway).

Use layers of clothing. It may be warm in the afternoon but  
cold at dusk.

For those who want to meet us in John Forest, go to the  
end of Park Road and we will be on the Eastern Side on  
the other side of the brook. I will have a hand held radio  
set to channel 16.

For more information contact Philip Read. 0438926274

# FOR SALE

Dear fellow club members,

I am selling my **XS 2004 Forester**, below are the cars main details:-



Price: \$13,500 ono

Immaculate Condition, fully garaged

125,000 kms Odometer

5spd Manual Dual Range

Timing Belts & Water Pump done 2011

Major Service recently performed

Full Service History ( City Subaru 3yrs ) Headlight Protectors Bonet

Protector Run purely on 98 octane fuel & genuine Subaru Motor Oil

Factory Exhaust refitted\* 16" Five Slot Mag Wheels refitted\* 70%

Rubber Highway Tyres Licensed till Nov Runs very strong & reliable








Call Karen Taylor on 0402418871 or email ( [labry-schick@hotmail.com](mailto:labry-schick@hotmail.com) ) with any enquiries. :)

# SUBARU 4WD CLUB NEWS

## CLUB CALENDAR









### July 2012

| S  | M  | T   | W  | T   | F  | S   | <b>Sun 1st to Sun 28th:</b> Central Circle<br>(Trip closed)<br><br><b>Tue 3rd:</b> Committee Meeting<br><b>Tue 10th:</b> General Meeting<br><b>Sat 21-Sun 22:</b> GFC-Greenhead Fishing Challenge p5<br><b>Thur-26th:</b> magazine articles deadline |
|--|----|---|----|---|----|---|--|
| 1  | 2  |  | 4  | 5   | 6  | 7   |  |
| 8  | 9  |  | 11 | 12  | 13 | 14  |  |
| 15   | 16 | 17  | 18 | 19  | 20 |  |  |
|  | 23 | 24  | 25 |  | 27 | 28  |  |
| 29   | 30 | 31  |    |   |    |   |  |
|  |    |   |    |   |    |   |  |

### August 2012







| S  | M  | T   | W  | T  | F   | S   | <b>Tue 7th:</b> Committee Meeting<br><b>Sat 11-Sun 12:</b> Westways Wildflower P 5<br><b>Tue 14th:</b> General Meeting<br><b>Sat 18:</b> Restaurant Meal p 9<br><b>Fri 24th:</b> magazine articles deadline |
|--|----|---|----|----|---|---|---|
|  |    |   | 1  | 2  | 3   | 4   |   |
| 5  | 6  |  | 8  | 9  | 10  |  |   |
|  | 13 |  | 15 | 16 | 17  |  |   |
| 19   | 20 | 21  | 22 | 23 |  | 25  |   |
| 26   | 27 | 28  | 29 | 30 | 31  |   |   |
|  |    |   |    |    |   |   |   |

### September 2012








| S  | M   | T   | W  | T  | F  | S   | <b>Tue 4th:</b> Committee Meeting<br><b>Sun 9th:</b> Moore River<br><b>Tue 11th:</b> General Meeting<br><b>Sun 16th:</b> Social Hills Walk p 10<br><b>Mon 24th:</b> magazine articles deadline<br><b>Sun 23rd:</b> Powerline Cleanup p 15<br><b>Sat 29th to Mon 1st October:</b><br>Helena and Aurora Ranges (TBC) |
|--|---|---|----|----|----|---|--|
|  |   |   |    |    |    | 1   |  |
| 2  | 3   |  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8   |  |
|  | 10  |  | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15  |  |
|  | 17  | 18  | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22  |  |
|  |  | 25  | 26 | 27 | 28 |  |  |
|  |   |   |    |    |    |   |  |

## SUBARU 4WD CLUB of W.A. INC

### October 2012

| S  | M   | T   | W  | T  | F   | S   |  |
|--|---|---|----|----|---|---|--|
|  |  |  | 3  | 4  | 5   | 6   | <b>Mon 1:</b> Helena and Aurora (cont.)                            |
| 7  | 8   |  | 10 | 11 | 12  | 13  | <b>Tue 2nd</b> Committee Meeting<br><b>Tue 9th</b> General Meeting |
|  | 15  | 16  | 17 | 18 | 19  |  | <b>Sun 14th:</b> Day Trip (TBA)<br><b>Sat 20th:</b> Quiz Night     |
| 21   | 22  | 23  | 24 | 25 |  | 27  | <b>Fri 26th:</b> magazine articles deadline                        |
| 28   | 29  | 30  | 31 |    |   |   |  |

### November 2012

| S  | M   | T   | W  | T  | F   | S   |   |
|--|---|---|----|----|---|---|---|
|  |   |   |    | 1  | 2   |  | <b>Sat 3:</b> Annual Dinner Yanchep p 16<br><b>Tue 6th:</b> Committee Meeting       |
| 4  |   |  | 7  | 8  |  |  | <b>Tue 13th:</b> A.G.M and General Meeting<br><b>Fri 9th to Sun 11th:</b> 4 WD Show |
|  | 12  |  | 14 | 15 | 16  | 17  | <b>Sun 18th:</b> Lancelin<br><b>Mon 26th:</b> magazine articles deadline            |
| 18   | 19  | 20  | 21 | 22 | 23  | 24  |   |
| 25   |  | 27  | 28 | 29 | 30  |   |   |

### SCHOOL AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

**School Holidays:** Jul 7-23, Sept 29-Oct 14, Dec 19-

**Public holidays:** Oct 1

**Potential members are most welcome to come along on any Club activities before joining. Please phone the Trip Leader for further information.**

**Register with the trip leader if you are wanting to join a trip or social. Also contact the trip leader if you have to cancel, as we don't want to wait for someone who does not turn up!**

**Some trips are ideas only and may be subject to change. Some of the later trips need trip leaders – volunteers please.**

# Introducing the All New XV to Subaru Osborne Park



Available in 3 variants  
6 speed manual OR  
Auto CVT paddle shift



*Overseas model shown for illustration purposes only*

**The All New Subaru XV defines a new generation of cross over vehicle.  
Standard features include:**

- All-Wheel Drive
- 17" Alloy Wheels
- Bluetooth & USB
- Rear Vision Camera
- Roof Rails
- Front Fog lights
- Advanced Display screen
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[www.subaruosbornepark.com.au](http://www.subaruosbornepark.com.au)



# *POWERLINE TRACK CLEANUP*

## *SEPTEMBER 23*

Details to follow but now is a good time to mark this in your diary. This cleanup is being co-ordinated by DEC and the 4WD Association has been asked to provide volunteers. It is in the Club's (our) interest to assist DEC with this cleanup. Hopefully, it will lead to greater access to DEC estate. There is a DEC provided BBQ at the end of the cleanup.

### **What are DEC providing ?**

Caged trailers and other hand tools

Skip bins to be located at West Talbot Road, Flynn Road and Gorrie Road (junctions with the Power Line Track)

BBQ at the end of the cleanup.

### **What does DEC want from us ?**

Three teams of helpers that will commence at either West Talbot Road, Flynn Road or Gorrie Road and proceed down the track towards the water tanks at the Mundaring end.

The track is a reasonable distance to try and cover in one day so DEC needs 20+ vehicles to knock it off in one day.

Further information on what to bring will be confirmed once we have numbers of starters from the clubs.

### **YOU MUST WEAR ENCLOSED SHOES/BOOTS. AND BRING GLOVES.**

Meeting point and time TBA

Trip Leader: David Peck



# Club Annual Dinner – Saturday 3rd November, 2012

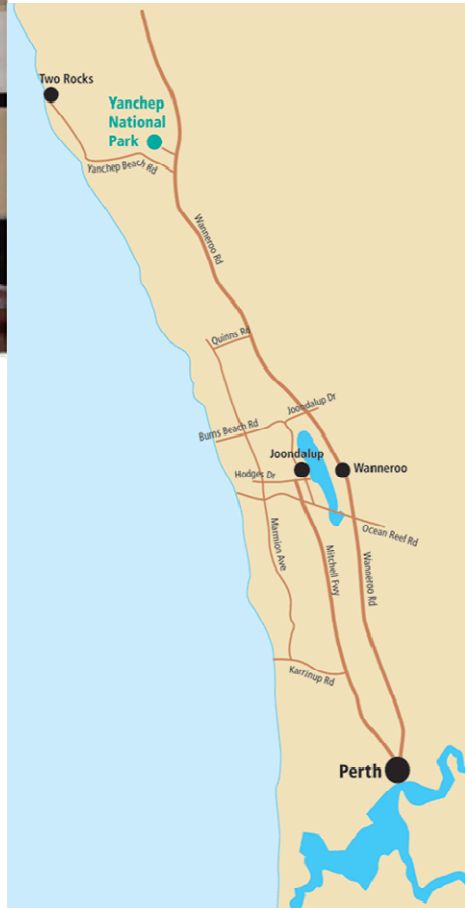
## *Yanchep Inn, Yanchep National Park, Yanchep, WA*

*The lovely Banquet Room at Yanchep Inn where we will enjoy our Annual Dinner*



The historic Yanchep Inn within the surroundings of Yanchep National Park is a pretty, historical venue, perfect for our Annual Dinner. Combining first class cuisine and service with the serene and tranquil surroundings of the Park, located just 45 minutes from Perth it is the second time the Club has visited here for the Annual Dinner.

Built in 1936, from locally sourced jarrah and limestone the Inn has had an interesting history. The RAAF took it over in 1943 during World War Two as a rehabilitation centre for servicemen. After the war, the Inn returned to private hands. The Inn became known as the



“Honeymoon Hotel” as numbers of people marrying and enjoying their honeymoon in beautiful settings rapidly increased. There is still a military link, as there is a picture on the wall where the 10<sup>th</sup> Light Horse are portrayed charging the enemy and the local RSL club hold Anzac day memorial there as well as regular meetings.

The Inn today is a heritage listed building and remains as a proud reminder of our history in the spectacular Yanchep National Park. Nearby are the caves and other attractions in the national park.

The dinner will be buffet style, at a cost of \$39.50 per person. The menu is as follows:

*Entrée* – Leak & Potato soup.

*Main:* Continental Meat Platter (including various cured meats, cheeses & continental variety) plus:

Leg of Pork with crackling & apple sauce;

Baked Barramundi Fillets with lemon & herbs;

Lasagne; and

South-West Beef slowly braised with onions, button mushrooms & red wine.

*Potato Selection:* Jacket potatoes.

*Vegetable dishes:* Mixed seasonal greens and Baked Pumpkin.

*Salad Dishes:* Greek and Pasta.

*Dessert:* Apple & Blueberry Crumble.

We should be able to cater for any vegetarians

Accommodation at the Inn is available at various tariffs, depending on whether you choose to stay at upmarket motel units or in the historic old Inn itself. The old hotel rooms are \$105 a night for room plus buffet breakfast included the next day. The rooms are clean and open onto private verandahs overlooking parklands. There are some 21 rooms available in the old Inn itself, some with extra beds for family groups. Members wishing to stay should contact the Inn direct on 9561 1001.

Other accommodation options include units with spas and modern facilities.

Members should contact the Inn for details, or if camping, the Capricorn resort, nearby is an option. The Inn is clean and comfortable but basic, with bathrooms at both ends. With open fires, weather permitting, and the charm of leadlight windows, the beautiful *Banquet Room* overlooking the gardens should be a lovely place to spend some time together. Put your name on the trip list online with any special dietary requirements.

### TRIP & SOCIAL REPORTS

#### **Fiddles & Nibbles – Sunday 20 May 2012**

Sunday was a beautiful, sunny day, ideal for fiddling with your car's whatever and for nibbling biscuits, cheese, dips and a bit of lunch. And, of course, Jim & Christine's home was the perfect place for both these exercises! I had also taken the opportunity to call a meeting of the Central Circle Trippers while we were there, as most trippers were expected to be there.

Twenty+ Club members attended with their vehicles. Fiddles & Nibbles is always popular! Proposed jobs included:

Travis and Katie MASKEY  
Keith and Fiona WILCOX  
Josan MOSS

Timing Belt and rocker cover gasket  
Rear King Springs  
Possibly put roof basket on and take  
back seat out, check auxiliary battery  
set up

Nick/Leanne EVANS/ENSLY Remove plastic sumpguard, replace  
with metal

Karl BOEING Install a tail light

All of these jobs were completed, the first two being the most labour intensive.

Whilst changing his timing belt, Travis got whacked on the nose, resulting in the need for some first aid. Thankfully, it wasn't serious.



This job also resulted in Jim and Ian devising and making a tool for holding the front crankshaft timing pulley, whilst removing the very large and very high torque centre bolt. The pulley is a multi-piece 'harmonic' type pulley. They expect that the tool can be



used on all Foresters and possibly earlier Subarus with that pulley. It proved essential for Travis to change the timing belt. Well done guys!

As Keith was coming on the Central Circle trip, he decided that he would install new King springs at the rear of his car. The adjacent photos show the difference between the Subaru standard spring (black) and the King spring (yellow). The king spring is shorter but stronger.

At 2.00, we held a meeting of the Central Circle trippers to discuss a number of items, including bringing the start date forward to Saturday 30 June, the proposed itinerary, camping at caravan parks, meal rostering and the amount of fuel, water and spares required to be carried. It was a successful meeting, with all participants looking forward to the trip.

My thanks to Jim and Christine for their hospitality and to Jim for the use of his well equipped workshop and general assistance on the day.

Tony Richards.

### Day 1 – Cool Collie Capers - June 2

It was a fairly leisurely start for a Subi trip 9:15 – 9:30 start where we all assembled at the Nara Inn at the pioneer village on Albany highway – with a bit of smoke in the air. After a bit of mix up on the who was coming we head off about 10:00 -not down southwest highway as expected to Collie – but down Albany Highway towards Bannister where just after we turn down Boddington Road and go past the Boddington Gold Mine and into the hub bub of Boddington with - about Ten cars in the street. Resisting the temptation to stop, we travel through onto the Lower Hotham Road which meanders along the river through the hills with deep valleys, lots of green pasture and pass Blue Wren farm which had lots of low scrub which would be perfect for them.

We keep going and run into the T at Quindanning- Harvey Road which had a sign post to Collie. Tony surprised us yet again as, instead of turning towards Collie, we turn the other way onto Boundary Road which takes us into the forest, which seems very happy with the recent rain, and down through the escarpment where we meet the Williams Collie Road on which, this time, we turn towards Collie. Many of the party, including myself, confessed to having been in Collie for the first time. Maybe it has just dropped out of memory.

We stay in Collie for a little provisioning and head off to Wellington national Park and Honey Moon pool which is set on the Collie River. We arrived there to find it Choca block with people and thought oh no we may have to change plans. However our newest member Andy had come up from Bunbury for the day and had beaten off all comers to secure us a perfect spot for five tents around a fire ring.

By mid-afternoon our intrepid guide Tony had us heading off again along Wellington Road and around the Dam itself. Along the way we found a few flooded tracks with some deeper pools on the road which we all probe to check depth – memories of suba – marine held in mind, and pick our way around.



All the Foresters get through unscathed but Andy's Brumby, with the lower front and simple electrics, does the plunge and comes out sputtering to a halt. Some initial anxiety as we clean it out and still no start until we disconnect the coil and give it a blow out and ways we go again.

We managed to get down some pretty tricky tracks down onto the foreshore where we kicked up some sand and collected some firewood for the night to come. Fortunately we had Andy's brumby ute along so simply filled it up. Unfortunately one of the logs had been the home of a black bull ants nest so the whole back started moving before our eyes. Having removed the offending log, we headed back off again.



Tony was navigating from some high resolution maps which showed lots of tracks and had us heading off to join the Wellington road via an alternative route. We headed further and further into the dark wilds of the forest as the scrub closed in closer to the side and top when we find ourselves at a silted up pump out dam at the bottom of a field. We do a bit of a recce and climbing over the dam and checking whether we could get up to the continuation track. However, with the time coming up to 4:40pm and an early sunset not far away, we decide discretion is the better part of valour and beat a controlled retreat.



Just to be sure of our return for the Brumby we tarp it up as we drive through the pool this time with no worries – what was the fuss all about! We arrive back to camp about 5:30 pm and set up for beer o'clock starting a hearty hot fire with the jarrah we had collected along the way.

An excellent first day with some significant challenges! Little did we know what challenges still lay ahead! Great Day one Tony - well done.

### Cool Collie Capers – Day 3 – Monday 4 June 2012

After yesterday's tracks, the group was keen to see (and experience) what I had in store for them on our way home. We were going to do the last section of the "Down Around the Coalfields" trip out of the book "4WD days Out of Perth". The book describes parts of this section as "extreme". After completing the section, I think that's a fair description.

As the actual 4WD trip section was only expected to take 2-3 hours, departure time from camp was a leisurely 10.00. That gave Andy plenty of time to go for a final paddle on the Collie.

After leaving camp, we travelled about 25kms on the black top before hitting the gravel and the beginning of the "4WD" section.

Some easier tracks were followed by a power line track that was



steep in parts. But, at the end of the power line track, we turned left and it was then that things began to get interesting! This was the part described in the book as "extreme".

The first climb was steep, with deep wheel ruts that had to be straddled and some large rocks that had to be avoided. And herein lay



the challenge. After starting left and keeping hard left around a large rock in the centre of the track, you then had to cross over to the other side of the track to avoid an even bigger rock. Thankfully,



I succeeded on my first attempt (with some scrambling) and with the advantage of having already made the climb on the pre-trip with Simon.

Adrian was next. Unfortunately, although he had a GT, it was a manual with no low range and trouble with the air flow meter meant that he did not have full power. And, of course, we were all fully loaded. So, while he had done very well all weekend, on this occasion he got caught at the “crossover”. After a couple of attempts to progress further (and mounting concern about possibly burning out his clutch – because he had to ride it), I towed him through the crossover and he finished the climb under his own steam.

Carl, Andy and Joy then also subsequently ground to a halt at (or shortly after) the crossover but, after repositioning their vehicles, were then able to successfully complete the climb. John who was last (also in an auto XT (but not lifted)) also completed the climb successfully at his first attempt. Well done!

At the top of the climb we had lunch. It was 12.15. After lunch we proceeded on, up another equally steep slope but, thankfully, with no large rocks to avoid, we all completed the climb without any trouble. From there, although we had a number of further steep climbs and descents (some rocky) to complete, they weren't particularly difficult and we progressed steadily on until reaching Logue Road and finally South Western Highway. Then on to Harvey where we stopped for fuel and refreshments. We left Harvey at 2.00 for an easy run home.

My thanks to Joy, Adrian, John, Andy and Carl for attending and helping to make the trip a memorable one.

Tony Richards.



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