

Club Magazine

Around the Tracks



December 2014

January 2015

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
9 February, 2015

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



MACKAY AND DISTRICT 4WD CLUB

E-Mail: enquiry@mackay4wdclub.com

Web Site: www.mackay4wdclub.com

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Commitee. Members	Derek Van Kerkhoff ,	Francesca Wolsey,	Alan Lovett & Terry Devery

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MACKAY & DISTRICT 4WD CLUB Inc. ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS (16-06-14)

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 roadworthy 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.
- 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, however, if there are no nominations for a particular office and the member agrees to re-nominate, this will be permissible by majority vote at the AGM.

Management Committee

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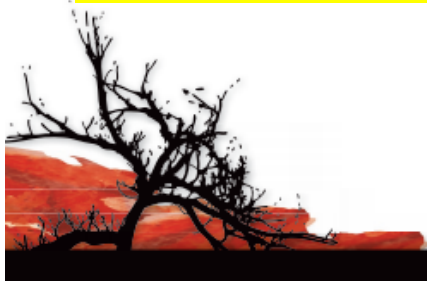
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GENERAL MEETING held at NORTH MACKAY BOWLS CLUB,

Malcomson Street. On 10 / 11 / 2014

MEETING OPENED: - at 7.45pm by Treasurer Des Searle in President Steve Whykes' absence

ATTENDANCE: - As per the Attendance Book.

VISITORS: - Nil

APOLOGIES: - Steve & Michelle Johnson, Steve Whykes, Peter Takagaki, Stuart Wolsey

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: -

Resolved that the minutes of the previous General Meeting on Monday 10 / 11 / 2014 be confirmed as per magazine.

(Kathy Searle & Tery Devery) Carried by all.

SECRETARY Kathy Searle for correspondence:

- For period 10 / 11 / 2014 to 08 / 12 / 2014

Inwards: -

- Mackay Land Rover Club Oct Newsletter
- Burdekin District 4wd club October newsletter and November meeting minutes
- Facebook and email inquiries

Outwards: -

- Nil

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

(Kathy Searle & Joyce McNichol.) Carried.

Business arising: - Nil

TREASURER Des Searle for Report: -

Opening Balance;	\$	10487.08
Total Deposits;	\$	275.00
Accounts Paid / Total Withdrawals.	\$	10.00
Closing Balance;	\$	10752.08

Deposits:

Membership Fees	\$	195.00
Merchandise	\$	5.00
Raffle	\$	75.00

Accounts paid:

Bank Account Fee	\$	10.00
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Accounts passed for payment: Nil

(Moved - Des & Seconded by Leon) Carried by all

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE TREASURERS

REPORT:

- Details of the Treasurer's report are available for viewing at meetings

COMMITTEE MEETING BUSINESS: - The Secretary gave a synopsis of the Committee meeting held on Wednesday.

GENERAL BUSINESS: -

- Kathy would like to post uncollected membership cards to their address on the spreadsheet after the Dec meeting. Email to all members to encourage their attendance to collect their cards. If can't attend, they need to email Kathy to confirm address for postage.
- The move to the Boomerang is still an ongoing issue and is still outstanding.
- Des still to progress the bank issue and google group

DRIVER AWARENESS REPORT: - Nil to report

ACTIVITIES COORDINATORS: - Kelvin Nayler

- Trips as per the list.
- Trip planning meeting went really well and the next year is well planned out. Good selection of trips have been chosen with lots of diversity. Thank you to all who attended.
- Christmas camp at Seaforth was very successful. Thanks to Helena and Francesca and to Santa for showing up. The Seaforth Bowls club food was exceptional again.
- Pine Loop – Leon led – found a new track to explore but back tracked to the main track. Need a few more vehicles to help reece it. Possibility of another trip. On the main track they came across two vehicles and helped out a Patrol.

Future trips:

All listed in the magazine.

- Christmas lights Fri 12 Dec – 7pm at the Botanic Garden Lagoon carpark – near the cafe. Please come earlier with some takeaway to have a picnic on the grass if you like!
- Pizza and pav night in January will be at the Wolseys – 25 Newton St Andergrove.
- Australia day camp at Eungella Dam
- Few limited number trips in the new year so get your name down early for those.
- Please email Bruce and Kelvin for the moment as Kelvin's computer is on the blink.

FINES AND QUOTES:

Pine Loop

- Charlie trying to go up the hill with his handbrake on.

FUTURE TRIPS:

- Trip Schedule will be forwarded as usual. Please contact Kelvin Nayler.

NEW MEMBERS: - Nil

GUEST SPEAKER: - Nil

RAFFLE: - Special Christmas raffle – Lots of prizes shared!

Next GENERAL MEETING: - 09 / 02 / 2015 at North Mackay Bowls Club

Next COMMITTEE MEETING: - 28 / 01 / 2015 at Searle residence

MEETING CLOSED: - 8.10 pm

Des Searle for Steve Whykes

Treasurer President



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FEBRUARY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 04 / 02 / 2015

at Searle's residence.

MEETING OPENED:- at 7.50 pm by President Steve Whykes

ATTENDANCE:- Terry Devery, Steve Whykes, Des Searle, Kelvin Nayler, Kathy Searle, Francesca Wolsey, Ian McDonald, Steve Johnson, Bruce Wolsey.

APOLOGIES:- Alan Lovett, Tim Shultz.
Kristine Maiorana.

CORRESPONDENCE:-

For period; 26 / 11 / 2014 to 04 / 02 / 2015

Inwards

- Mackay Land Rover Club Nov & Dec Newsletter
- Burdekin District 4wd club November & December newsletter and December meeting minutes
- Four Wheel Drive Queensland Dec Representatives Meeting minutes
- Commonwealth Bank Statements from Nov & Dec
- NQBE invoice
- 4Wheel Cruisin' November/December 2014 Landcruiser Club Journal
- Request to update 406MHz Distress Beacon Registration
- Sporting Wheelies Summer 2014 Quarterly
- Flyers from Arthur J Gallagher Insurance
- 2 advertising brochures from Stripping Solutions in Archerfield and Fleximake in Dandenong.
- Email inquiries from Andrew Mogg & James Saunders

Outwards

- Nil

GENERAL BUSINESS:-

- Need to renew EPIRB registration and name two nominees who will know where the club is on a trip but may not be on the trip. Decision made to list Terry Devery, Kelvin Nayler & Steve Whykes.
- Sporting wheelies – could we host them at Ellaroo? Bus could drive to the front gate. Proposal to investigate and put to the club.
- Presidents meeting of Four Wheel Drive Queensland – Presidents of Northern clubs were invited at Four Wheel Drive Queensland's expense and were well represented including Charters

Towers, Gladstone, Rockhampton, Burdekin, Mackay Landrover etc.

- Steve Whykes' summary of President's meeting:
 - o *A lot of the clubs are struggling to get people for overnight trips but one day runs are really popular. Day trips to explore the areas are being promoted.*
 - o *Charters Towers have got a grant to put in an expensive motor park facility outside town.*
 - o *Clubs are encouraged to try to get club member numbers up to try and increase our bargaining power with main roads, government etc.*
 - o *Some of the clubs are accepting SUVs for easier trips.*
 - o *Adopt a track with Forestry's to help keep tracks open and maintain them. Brisbane will do a plan up and forward to us. Could combine forces with Mackay Landrover club to clean tracks. Would need chainsaw licenses. Something we should look at.*
 - o *Rockhampton is keen to do a joint trip with us – maybe somewhere in between?*
- Club needs to apply for access to track beyond Captains Crossing through the DERM Rangers in town.
- Membership involvement – need to up our ante. Need to find more trips. Breakfast first and then a day drive, more trips to Ellaroo, day trip involving a pub lunch? Trip planning meeting tried to organize/refresh trips. To be discussed further at the club meeting on Monday night.
- Terry appreciated the get well gift basket the club gave him. Thank you.
- Our club insurance was through TCIS who was purchased by OAMPS in Jan 14. Arthur J Gallagher & Co acquired OAMPS in June and from 1 Dec 14 the name changed to Arthur J Gallagher Australia. So we assume that our insurance renewal will come through from Arthur J Gallagher later this year. They sent through information brochures as also do Four Wheel Drive, Camper Trailer/Caravan and Camping gear insurance.

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR TRIP REPORT:

- Pizza and Pav night was a great night with over thirty attending.

DRIVER AWARENESS: Nil to report.

MEMBERSHIP: Nil

MEETING CLOSED:- at 9.30 pm.

NEXT MEETING: 4 March 2015.

Christmas Lights tour *12 December 2014*

It was a stormy night when the club got together at the Botanic Garden to take the annual Christmas light's tour. The Searle's met Kurt at the Visitor Information Centre and were soon joined by the Peaches and the rest of the group eating takeaway in the dusk. The emerging stars soon turned to clouds and the rain started to drizzle. We thought about cancelling but decided to go ahead anyway and see if the rain eased.

Unfortunately it didn't ease. Whilst it wasn't the perfect night, the 6 vehicles did get to see many of the lights the Searle's reced with only one place in the deep north of Andergrove who was in darkness after the long trek. The Slade Point entrant had their garage stuffed full of Christmas toys and were waiting for our arrival before they closed due to the wet. We generously gave our small change to their RSPCA

donation box and many walked away with lollypops to sustain us on our tour.

The outstanding winners of the night was Central Queensland Production and Engineering who again had a light and music show and the popular favourite of Bradman Drive where many houses were lit up and there was even an ice-cream truck. A walk in the drizzling rain was obligatory to examine the detailed light work and snow storm.

The night ended at the shrine of the Golden Arches but their soft serve machine was out of action so the kids filled up on multi-coloured frozen lemonade at 9.30pm. Fun for all parents. Hot chocolate and snacks for some rounded out the evening and another fun club trip. Thanks to all who attended!

by Kathy Searle



Elaroo Adventure Park Day trip

1 February 2015



Nine vehicles left the meeting place on time and cruised up the highway to the turnoff. About 3km off the highway along a dirt road and we found the entrance to the Adventure Park. Through the gate and past some signs we came to a nicely mowed grassed area that would be great for camping.

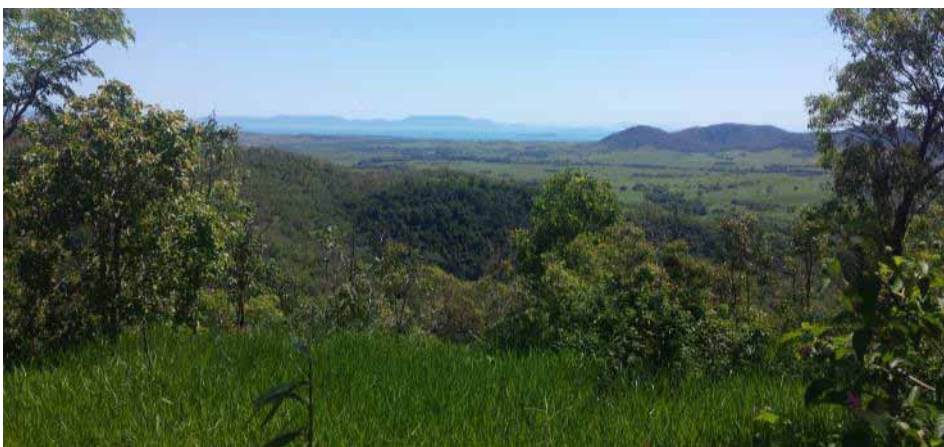
We waited around for a while hoping the owner would turn up, but he was out on the tracks himself.

Those signs we passed had some instructions on them, so back we went and found some paperwork that needed to be completed. All done. After talking to a few regulars on motor bikes we decided to head up towards the lookout and make a decision on which tracks we would take from there.



This track to the lookout would be the most used track on the property, so the lantana growth wasn't too bad.

The view from the top was well worth the drive. You could see right out to Brampton Island in one direction and across to Cape Conway in the other direction.



Neil got his gyro copter out and videoed us all on the top. He has put this video up on the facebook page if you care to have a look at it.

From here we decided to go down the mountain again via another loop road and back to the main camp area. By then the owner may have returned from his ride.

A few more stops to clear just a little of the overgrown track and we came to a bank where we had to get around a tree without slide down and sideways towards it.

The more vehicles that went through the closer each one got to the tree, until finally Bruce slide into it. Reverse, forward, reverse, forward, and some language that was not too clear “@@##\$#@!”. The result was a tear in his canopy. Bugger!

From the next intersection we turned back to the mowed camp area for lunch.



It was 35°C so we parked all the 4WD's in the shade of the trees.

Guess where we sat for lunch..... in the sun!!..... how bright are we.

The owner was back and had a chat, asking for feedback on his park.

Overall the tracks were good, but there needs to be a lot of work on the overgrown lantana. For bikes it would be ok, but for the average 4WDer we

ended up with a few scratches on the paintwork that would need to be polished out.

Some of the group called it a day after lunch, while other went out again to find more challengers.

A good area to try out your 4WD skills, but it needs a lot of developing yet to be a really good park. The more you use the park the more money they will have to work on it. It certainly has the potential for a great park.

A good day out.

by Nita and Geoff Moreland



Trip Contact: Kelvin Nayler - 0488 549 351 (ring or text)
If no reply, leave a message on the voicemail, clearly stating your name and trip. If you cannot make it, or are changing your departure time, let the Trip Leader and Activities Coordinator know ASAP.
Email: kelvinnayler@bigpond.com (preferred)

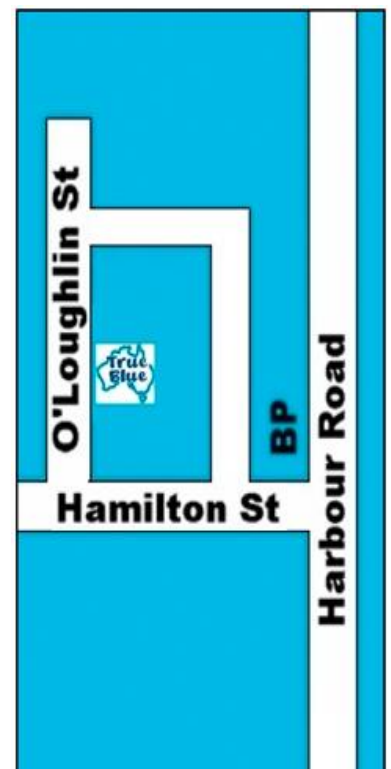
All trips require the following:
Full tank of fuel, basic recovery gear, first aid kit, fitted, operating 5w UHF radio with external mounted antenna
Note: Thursday evening (10pm) is the final notice to attend a trip.
Names in trip book for all activities please.



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Activities Calendar

Stringys Camp

Dates: Saturday & Sunday 14 - 15 Feb 2015
 Grade: 2-3 Trip Leader: TBA
 Location: This is a bush camp approx 1 ¼ hours from Mackay in Crediton State Forest.
 Type of Event: Bush Camp. Set up camp on a grassed area beside a flowing creek.
 Meeting Place: Wests Car Park, Branscombe Road, Walkerston 8.00 for 8.15am departure
 Requirements: Camping gear
 Trip distance: 200-250km
 Drinking Water: BYO
 Showers/toilets: BYO. Get water from creek.
 Comments: Suitable for trailers. This was once the site of a logging camp of a local Eungella family but has since been overgrown. Ok for day trip when others are camping

Night Drive

Dates: Saturday 21 February 2015
 Grade: 3-4
 Location: Diggings.
 Type of Event: Night drive – added adventure driving rough tracks in the dark
 Meeting Place: TBA
 Requirements: Basic recovery gear.
 Trip distance: 200km
 Drinking Water: BYO
 Comments: Convene early evening for a pub meal, then participate in the drive. Home late.

Sandy Shores Camp

Dates: Saturday 28 February & Sunday 1 March 2015.
 Grade: 2-3
 Location: A cattle property south-west of Mackay
 Type of Event: Magnificent waterhole for swimming, kayaking, fishing. Bush walking. Can drive on tracks around the property and experience superb views of the local terrain
 Meeting Place: Mac's Truck Stop 8.00 for 8.15am departure
 Requirements: Camping gear & Basic recovery gear
 Trip distance: 300-400km
 Drinking Water: BYO
 Showers/toilets: BYO Shower/BYO Toilet. Get water from creek.
 Comments: Suitable for trailers.

Pine Loop Day Trip

Dates: Sunday 8 March 2015
 Grade: 3-4
 Location: Mia Mia State Forest
 Type of Event: Day trip, rugged track
 Meeting Place: Wests Car Park, Branscombe Road, Walkerston 8.00 for 8.15am departure
 Requirements: Full recovery gear may assist. Picnic lunch.
 Trip distance: 200km
 Drinking Water: BYO
 Comments: Side tracks may offer grade 4-5



Chopper Creek Camp

Dates: Saturday & Sunday 14-15 March 2015
 Grade: 2-3



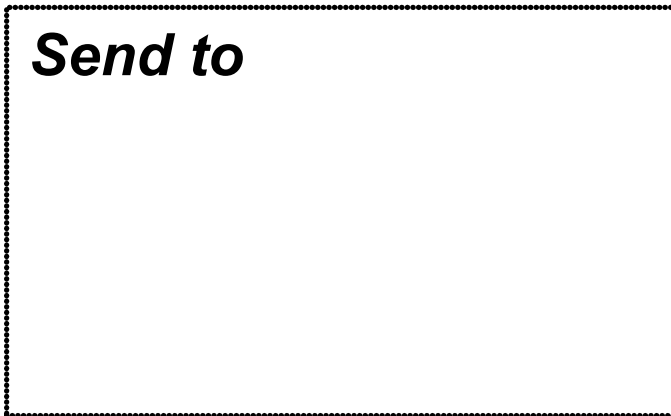
From:

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

E-mail: enquiries@mackay4wdclub.com



Send to



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