

June 2020



SUBARU 4WD NEWS

Subaru 4WD Web Site: <http://www.subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au/>

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SUBARU 4WD CLUB of WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

P.O. BOX 434, SOUTH PERTH, W. A. 6951

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Contact 'all committee' on comm@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au

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Club member of the Year 2018-2019: Stephan Millett

Life members: Fred Offer, Keith Anderson, Jonel Householder, Ray Stewart,
Ian Johnson, Peter Andruszkiw, Ron Caunce, Jim Wilcox and Tony Richards

Zoom into the general meeting and get ready to go camping again

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello everyone, we are back in action with great trips through June and July and plenty more ahead as regional borders come down and restrictions ease. Hooray!

Firstly, The committee have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure we can go on trips and still comply with all government regulations at the time. It does mean trips won't be as interactive and personal as usual. We have put together detailed requirements you must all be aware of. Each trip will be populated with requirements as appropriate at the time. There is info on where to get the Covid 19 guidelines later in the magazine.

Secondly, the June general meeting will be conducted via Zoom. I will email out a link ahead of time. It will be at 7.30pm, and here are a few guidelines and suggestions. You can join us via a computer with microphone and camera using most browsers (such as Chrome or Internet Explorer). You can use a laptop with mic and cam or a smartphone or tablet with the app (android and ios – please download and test prior)

Courtesy for online meetings is needed: so, mute your mic unless needing to speak. Consider using headphones and mic (like for a phone), finding a quiet room or reducing background noises. Do not eat or snack while your mic is live.

New site in Wandoo forest. Looking ahead we've got a great joint trip opportunity with Chris Moreton from Western 4Wdriver Magazine where he will join us on a day trip on July 5th through Wandoo NP forest and then take us to his family's newly acquired property being setup for camping. It's mainly untouched bushland adjoining the national park boundary with creeks and streams running 

Thanks Jan

Jan Hankinson is no longer Secretary of the WA 4WD Association, having resigned at the end of May after many years in the role. The Club would like to thank Jan for all the work she has done, and wish her and her husband Ray all the very best.

Bruce Brinkley has also left his role as President to concentrate on the many issues facing the national council.

We wish both of these hard-working people all the best.

➤ through. So get your names down for a great weekend!

The Annual Dinner will be down in Nannup held at the local bowling Club with a bonus game of lawn bowls included in the deal! Jo's scoped it all out and got a suitable menu lined up to cater for all tastes and dietary needs. There's no shortage of accommodation options either. The trip's now up on the website so log on, get your name down and pick the accommodation you desire.

Travis has done well coordinating the upcoming trips and trip leaders are often adding new trips so read on in the mag for the latest info. We're also looking for a trip suggestion and trip leader for the 2nd week of the September school holidays. Let any of the committee know about ideas you may have.

Latest changes to gatherings means we can fit more people in the meeting room so we will be able to return to the Mopoke Room in the South Perth Library from July onwards and be able to have a max of 25 attendees (as of June 6th regulations) but likely to be more by the time that date arrives.

Don't forget our Club Sponsors during this time. It's just as hard for them as it is us and we need to make sure we're all in this together.

Safe Subaruing! **The Pres. – Adrian Longwood**

Covid 19 information, medical forms and where to find them

We can drive in much of the state. We can camp. We can socialise. But we still must take all the required precautions to stay safe during the Covid-19 pandemic. We may well be OK again in WA, but that can change with the next plane, ship, or car that crosses our borders.

To read the **Club's guide on Covid** go to the Club website,

- Log in
- go to the **Mag/ Library section** and
- open the **Club Forms** folder.

You will also find there information on how to find a **health service outside the Metro area** and a **medical form**.

Please read these.

Every member should think of having a **filled-in medical form** in their glovebox for each trip.

No-one gets to read this unless you need medical help – when others can use it to help *you*.

We're back in business! TRIPS COORDINATOR

So let's get out there

Hi all

It's almost over! The regions are, for the most part, open. We can move about through most of the state. Some countries are even looking to open their borders. Numbers of infected people are coming down in many countries. Everything is starting to look better.

Keith, Fiona, Katie and I have just come back from an overnighter in the northern wheatbelt. There are loads of

trips on the website and there are more in the planning. If the infection rates remains the same, everything should go ahead. We will have to change the way we do things for now. We still need to practice social distancing, use sanitiser, and a bit of common sense. Have a look at the trips, and they should have a copy of the clubs, Covid plan. See you all out there in a month or two.

Travis Maskey

Great food, great location and great company

Our **Annual Camp Oven Cookout** is on so join us for a fabulous feast and night under the stars around the fire. Good company, good food to share and, of course, conversation and conviviality – all are part of our camp oven cookout.

So dust off

and season your camp ovens and

and get your other campfire cooking gear help to cook up a treat.

This year we are at the Back to Nature Caravan Park in Cowalla Road, Wanerie (inland from Guilderton). This park has great toilet and shower



Handwashing hygiene for Katie, Trav, Fiona and Keith



June 26-27

FORTHCOMING TRIPS

► facilities and campfires are welcome. It's – close enough to the city that you could drive home after the cookout if you needed to.

To make sure we get a great menu to share, let the organisers know what you plan to cook entrees, mains and desserts are all needed – and it may not be as much fun if we get lots of the same main dishes and no dessert!. To camp overnight you will need to book with and pay directly to Back to Nature. All details are in the trip info on the Club website.

We will be camping in a bush setting. Please bring all camping gear required for one night. The cost is \$30 for the night for 2 people.

Don't have a camp oven? Don't worry, you can cook in foil or pots and pans or even prepare a salad. Simply do your best to come along and get involved. AND CAN YOU PLEASE BRING SOME WOOD. Some wood is available at the park, but some good camp oven "cooking wood" would be appreciated.

There are no planned activities for Sunday, so please feel free to make your own way home in your own time, taking in whatever sights interest you. Physical distancing guidelines will still need to be observed – but we can make that work with a little creativity.

FORTHCOMING TRIPS

Rocks, caves, camping and the stars at night

Woodlines, big rocks and Cave Hill Road

5 July – 11 July

Come camping in the Great Western Woodlands in an around Victoria Rock and Cave Hill Road. This is self-sufficient camping where you will spend two nights at each camping spot, with side trips to the rocks and other sights in the area. **Trip leaders: Leanne Ensly and Nick Evans.**



Weowanie weaving

19 July- 25 July

New tracks to explore, the very best bush camping, starry nights, and surrounded by nature in the Great Western Woodlands with occasional interjected history. Enjoy nature's pristine flora, fauna, geology and scenery; and historical interjections.

This trip is being led by **Ian Johnson** and **Nina McLaren**, who really know how to cook in the bush. The trip is full at the moment, but put your name down on a waiting list and hope you become one of the lucky ones. This trip is in the Great Western Woodlands in an area north-east of Southern Cross.



Mt Augustus and Kennedy Ranges

15th August - 23rd August

The first day of this trip ends with us camping near Cue, then on to Mount Augustus caravan park before heading to the Kennedy Ranges for two nights under the stars. Then there are two nights at Wooleen Station before heading to Coalseam national park before heading home. **Leader: Ross Mead**

General meetings, in person, start in July

We hope to be able to hold our first face-to-face general meeting in July. This, of course, depends on the State still being out of lockdown and the rules on gatherings allowing us to meet. The Committee will continue to hold most of its meetings by video conference, using a Zoom account that the Club has opened. These video meetings are proving to be a great way to get the Club's business done, while reducing travel time and fuel costs.

Lancelin sand dunes

26 July - day trip

We're off to bound around the Lancelin sand dunes for the day. Join us to see how your Subaru negotiates these magnificent soft, rolling, white sand dunes



We will split into groups depending on experience and start off easy, progressing to something more challenging. It is a fun day in a safe area, with experienced members who will give you advice on all facets of driving on sand, including tyre pressures, choosing the right gear ratios and how to get out after getting stuck in the sand.

This is suitable for all model 4WD Subarus (except unlifted Libertys or Imprezas). Outbacks have had a few front clearance problems in the past, so if these owners have any concerns please contact the trip leader. Also it pays to remove the plastic splash tray under the engine if it has not already been replaced with a sump guard. **Leader: Adrian Longwood**

Come for lunch in Yanchep National Park

2 August

We've planned a lovely day out at Yanchep National Park, with the added bonus of lunch at the Yanchep Inn overlooking the bush.

We will be having lunch from 12 at the Inn. So, turn up just for lunch, or make a day of it and spend the morning or afternoon walking around the park.



You will need to pay park entry to get into the Inn so if you have your annual parks pass don't forget to bring that. If you haven't purchased a parks pass yet and you are an RAC member you can get them at 50% off. Non concession entry is \$15 per car. **Leader: Jo Norton**

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To receive offers members must mention they are Westcycle members at time of bookings or prior to negotiations. Offer excludes Impreza.

SUBARU 4WD CLUB NEWSLETTER

CLUB CALENDAR

JUNE 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Tues 2. Committee
Tues 9. Zoom general meeting
Sun 7-Sat 13. Hyden Hideouts
Sat 27-Sun 28. Camp Oven cookout

JULY 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Tues 7. Committee
Tues 14. General meeting
Sun 5- Sat 11. Woodlines Rock visits
Sun 19-Sat 25. Weowanie Weaving
Sun 26. Lancelin sand dunes

AUGUST 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Tues 4. Committee
Tues 11. General meeting
Sun 2. Yanchep NP. Social.
Sat 15-Sun 23. Mt Augustus and Kennedy Ranges
Sat 29. Wariin Spring Wander
Sat 29-Sept 5. Lakes East of Boulder.

CLUB CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Tues
Tues
Aug 29-Sept 05 Lakes East of Boulder.
Sat 12-Sun 13. Dryandra overnight.
Sat 26-Mon 28. Porongurup Posing

OCTOBER 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Tues 6. Committee
Tues 13. General meeting
Sat 24-Sun 25. Annual Dinner.
Nannup.

Hooray!

We can go back to the bush and start exploring, camping and looking at the wonderful stars at night again!



Porongurup posing

26th September - 28th September

Take a trip down Albany Highway to the Porongurup Tourist Park. From there we can explore the area. Some wildflowers should be around but a walk up to Castle Rock Granite Skywalk makes for great viewing for those who dare.

We'll also be running a competition for the photo of the best(safe!) pose in a location on this trip.

Non powered sites for 8 vehicles have been booke at Porongurup Range Tourist Park. If you are wanting to have a powered site you will need to book directly with them. Get in fast as their spots will fill fast.

<https://poronguruprangetouristpark.com.au/>.

We will spend the weekend moseying around the area. If anyone has a specific request for places to go please let me know. If anyone is good with wildflowers and has some suggestions to see them, again please let me know. Bring all your camping gear and food for the weekend. We will stop at a bakery or two on the way through.

Cost for an unpowered site is \$30 per site per night for up to 2 people. Any additional adults are \$10 per person and children up to 16 are \$6 per person. There is other non-camping accommodation in the area if you want to join us but don't want to camp. **Trip leader, Jo Norton**



Granite Skywalk. Image: Wikipedia

FORTHCOMING TRIPS

Wanted: ideas for a trip taking off from this one

The week following the Porongurup trip is school holidays and we need ideas – and a trip leader – to carry on camping in the Great Southern. There are some great locations, plus places to taste the best produce from this area. Send ideas to one of the Club committee members please. If you are unsure about leading a trip then you can be buddied up with someone who knows a thing or two about how to do it.

do more of the
fun stuff



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Drinks and nibbles at Sid's Camp

A winding, wonderful way to Northcliffe

25 January 2020: Day 1

It was already quite a warm morning when the group met at Aldi in Byford for our departure south. Ross gave us all a briefing prior to leaving. As it was the usual mass exodus by many travellers for the Australia Day long weekend Ross advised he would take us through the back roads as much as possible to see more scenery and not have to deal with the traffic.

Ross has a great knowledge of the area we passed through. If you asked me take you on the route he guided us through, well, that would be impossible! I can tell you we wove our way through lovely farmland with many cattle and, at times, beautifully vegetated wetlands some of which are designated 

▶ nature reserves. At one point we passed one of the original Browne's Dairies that was a collection point for milk deliveries.

The temperature had gone up a bit by the time we reached Brunswick Junction for the morning tea stop. We had a cool spot under the trees by the Brunswick River across from the caravan park. People from the caravan park were swimming and playing in the pool above the weir which was running. The caravan park looked very pleasant and I made a note of this for future trips.

After morning tea Ross took us across country heading for Balingup and we entered forest country.

'There was word that the shower water was somewhat 'whiffy' with it being drawn from nearby dams! On the up side there were flushing toilets!'

It was hot in Balingup when we stopped for lunch but we found a shady tree in the park that gave some respite

from the hot sun. Balingup is as charming as ever but I resisted a visit to the craft shops!

From Balingup we did take the South West Highway through Bridgetown and Manjimup and on to Northcliffe.

Sid's camp is not too far out of Northcliffe. We arrived to meet Fiona, Keith, the Edwards family and Tony who had travelled down the day before. Our camping area had been sign posted for us. The park was very busy with a large number of vehicles from the Landrover 4WD club. The ablutions were dotted about the bush setting. There was word that the shower water was somewhat 'whiffy' with it being drawn from nearby dams! On the up side there were flushing toilets! For those of us who can remember, it was a trip down memory lane as one toilet had a chain pull and overhead cistern! For those not familiar with this type of mechanism there were printed instructions on how to use it! We all found a suitable spot to pitch our tents and swags and gathered together for drinks and nibbles and reflect on the day. It was a lovely location and it soothed the soul to be back in the bush.

Deb Thyne



Moon's Crossing, Warren River

Down to Northcliffe

27 January: Day 3

Unfortunately, for most of us it was time to pack up and head for home today. After enjoying sharing breakfast with the resident Blue Wren family it was into packing all the gear back into the Forester.

When everyone was ready, we had a short group meeting to get the latest news from Deb and Joy about Stuart's injuries from the previous day. It looked as though he had no broken bones. The Doctor at Manjimup had decided to keep Stu in overnight, mainly because of the difficulty he would have had getting in and out of his swag. We collected up Stu's gear and loaded it all into his Outback. In the process, it was identified that it takes two people to roll up a two person swag and load it onto the roof rack. ➡

People were off to do a variety of things. Keith and Fiona plus the Edwards family were staying another day whilst Tony decided to head over to the Stirling Range Retreat to continue his bird spotting activities. Jason and Julia and the kids were heading straight home, Rob and Wendy were heading direct to Pemberton whilst Tom and Jenni intended to check out the Northcliffe Sculpture Walk before heading home. Deb (driving Stu's car) and Joy headed off to Manjimup to pick up Stu and take him home. Mark, the Edwards and I decided to head for Pemberton via Moons Crossing to visit the Fine Woodcraft

Moon's Crossing is a natural stone path across the Warren River. It was originally used by local people as a short cut into Pemberton

Gallery and have morning tea at the Crossing Bakery.

From Northcliffe, we headed north up the

very pretty Wheatley Coast Road to Moon's Crossing Road. Moon's Crossing is a natural stone path across the Warren River. It was originally used by local people to get from Quinninup and farms to the east as a short cut into Pemberton. Concrete was later used to upgrade the crossing and make it trafficable for vehicles except during the peak of winter floods. We did not have that problem as the river was not running.

After a look around the Crossing, it was on to Pemberton via Moons Crossing, Spring Gully and Burma Roads coming into Pemberton at the Gloucester Tree. As we got out of our cars at the Gallery, we met Rob and Wendy coming out. It was agreed that the Gallery had many wonderful items made from timber. These included a large Grandfather clock made entirely from timber. There was not a single metal piece anywhere in it.

From the Gallery, it was off to the Crossing Bakery for morning tea. The bakery is situated on the main road in what was previously the saw mill office. It is now stocked with a good selection of cakes, pastries and other fattening items. They make a good coffee too.

After lingering over our cakes and coffees, it was time to say goodbye and hit the road home. **Ross Mead**

First scientific snapshot of the Hill Inlet

Subaru club members took part in the first scientific study of the Hill River as part of a club trip in June last year. Some braved kayaking in the estuary and others helped a bird survey. Now the results are in.



It gives a quantitative snapshot of the fish and bottom-dwelling macroinvertebrate fauna of Hill Inlet. When the survey was done, water levels were very high due to recent heavy rainfall and the bar at the mouth of the estuary was still in place.

There was oxygen in the water near the surface, but not much as the water got deeper – making it more hostile for living things.

The high water level stopped normal netting proceeding near the shore, so only two fish species were recorded, *i.e.* Black Bream (*Acanthopagrus butcheri*) and Bluespot Goby (*Pseudogobius olorum*), both of which complete their life-cycle within the estuary. The researchers think that their sample is an underestimate of what is there because of the unique rain event before they got there and because the bar had not been open and ocean species were absent.

Ten species of bottom-dwelling macroinvertebrates were collected - mainly bristle worms, molluscs and crustaceans, which is typical for inlets.

The scientists recommend that further studies be done when the water level is lower and the bar across the river is, or has just been, open.

Thanks Club members. We were part of the first scientific measurement of the health of the Hill Inlet – and maybe we could be part of the next one, too, especially as the researchers from Murdoch University owe us a favour for digging them out of the sand dune near the river mouth! But, then, maybe they will remember that we also made a bit of fun of them for that. **Stephan Millett**

Based on: James R. Tweedley, Ayme Sama, Brian Poh & Neil R. Lonergan. (2019, October). *Snapshot survey of the fish and invertebrate fauna of Hill Inlet*. Murdoch University.

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