

Welcome to our Newsletter.

This month our trip was to the Murray Mouth. The trip report is on the website. It was very enjoyable.

Geoff has organised a weekend to Bushy's for the 14-15 February09. I hope that they have a great weekend, and I am sure there will be some stories to tell.

The devastating bushfires in Victoria have dominated the news this past week. Although we personally don't know anybody who has been affected by this tragedy, I still feel sorrow for the families trying to survive the aftermath, the affects which will be felt for many years to come. We have made a donation to the bushfire appeal, and the Red Cross website is a safe mode for all donations, which guarantee that the money will go to where it is needed most. Our thoughts go to all people affected.

Attached to this newsletter is an information flyer regarding Ngarkat Conservation Park Interclub Working Bee, received from Ken P.

Upcoming Trips

March 7-9 York Peninsula – beach driving and camping (to be confirmed)

Meetings

Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at Cavan. March09 meeting is scheduled for the 4th.

Useless Information

One human hair can support 3 kg (6 lb).

Thanks Carolyn



Sex

A little old lady was running up and down the halls in a nursing home. As she walked, she would flip up the hem of her nightgown and say "Supersex." She walked up to an elderly man in a wheelchair. Flipping her gown at him, she said, "Supersex." He sat silently for a moment or two and finally answered, "I'll take the soup." Thanks Ken P. (never too old!!)

Here are a few simple ways to save fuel:

Accelerate smoothly

Accelerating hard and using high engine speeds will make the engine consume more fuel. This is because under high loads, and high speeds, the engine is not operating very efficiently. Accelerating more steadily to the desired speed will reduce fuel consumption and emissions.

Reducing the use of air conditioning

The air conditioning unit contains a compressor pump driven by your engine. When air conditioning is used the compressor uses power from the engine, increasing the work it has to do. This requires more fuel and produces increased emissions.

Correct tyre pressure

Under inflated tyres are not only dangerous, but they also increase the rolling resistance between the vehicle's tyres and the roads. To overcome this extra drag, the engine will have to work harder and therefore consume more fuel. By having your tyres at the correct pressure you can be more efficient in your fuel use and help in keeping emissions down.

Thanks Deb R

Something Of Interest For People That Tow Trailers / Caravans / Campers.

Protrusion

A protrusion as any object or fitting, not technically essential to the vehicle, which protrudes from any part of the vehicle so that it is likely to increase the risk of bodily injury to any person.

Any object fitted to a vehicle must be designed, built and fitted to the vehicle in a way that minimizes injury. This means fishing rod holders, spot light/s (depending on the placement), aerials etc. it may also mean tow bars.

See Vehicle Standards 30 and Australian Design Rule 42/00

Thanks Ken P.



Member Profile

Every month, we will profile one of our members and their vehicles. Starting with our committee and moving on to our regular members. This month it is Deb, our Secretary.

I was born in the UK and emigrated to Australia with my family at the grand old age of 15 months. I grew up in Elizabeth before moving to Gawler in the 1980's. I'm the proud mum of Luke, who is now 16 years old and in his last year of school.

I think my love of driving began at a very early age. Every year at Christmas, we used to visit my cousins at Portsea in Victoria. There was always an air of excitement when Dad started packing the old Holden Kingswood with the suitcases, the esky and the picnic basket (I never did figure out how he secretly managed to get all the Christmas presents in there too!) This was back in the days before air conditioning, and to escape the heat of the day, we often used to travel overnight. I loved being allowed to stay awake if I wanted to, and driving through the country in the middle of the night trying to spot kangaroos and rabbits was always exciting. We used to go on lots of camping trips as well. It used to take ages to put up our steel poled, 3 roomed tent – I'm surprised it didn't put me off camping for good!

I am the owner of a Rav 4 – it's just the basic model but has all the comforts I need. Before I purchased it, I really wanted to have proper 4 wheel drive but couldn't afford one so I "settled" on a Rav as it seemed to have quite good reviews and was always quoted as being "reliable". I've been extremely pleased with my choice and now realize I didn't need the big 4 wheel drive to do the things I wanted to do. The reliable tag has proved very true, and it has never given me cause for worry throughout our 130,000km's together. I've been very impressed by what my little car can do, and never would have envisioned going up, down and through some of the places we've been. Being part of the club has provided lots of opportunity to do things I wouldn't have done on my own - not only with off

road driving, but being able to experience the majesty and spirit of this beautiful country in the company of like minded companions. I look forward to many more happy experiences with the club (and I can't wait to do the Birdesville trip!!)



Engine management systems

The engine management system (computer) of modern vehicles is an integral part of the emission control system. Recalibrating the engine management system by changing the chip or reprogramming or replacing the unit with an after market computer, may result in non-compliance with the emission control Australian Design Rule (ARD) applicable to the vehicle.

Turbo timers are not to be fitted to vehicles manufactured on or after 1st January 1972. Australian Design Rule 25 requires that the normal function of the engine only occurs when the ignition lock is in the engine "on" position.

Any alteration to the manufactures boost valve and/or the induction system, including blow off valves, to passenger vehicles manufactured on or after 1st July 1976 will not be granted approval, compliance with emission control ADR's cannot be ensured.

(sourced from Traffic Information Page 14 SAPOL)

Thanks Ken

Disclaimer: For the humour challenged, only the safety aspects of the following should be taken without a grain of sand. The rest is a humorous and irreverent look at some aspects of 4wding that I believe that many take far too seriously. From Geoff (Barra) with thanks.

4WD.

This sounds like all 4 wheels are driving the car, which is true until you get stuck. However you still have to steer the thing even if they are driving. If some of your wheels come unglued you won't go anywhere.

Hubs

The funny bits that poke out of the middle of your wheels.

Free wheeling hubs

Nothing to do with wind in the hair and riding motorbikes. These little suckers actually disconnect the front axle from the drive train. This means the front bits wear a bit more slowly.

They are also a great source of tourists being bogged. Always turn them to the on position before running over smart cars or going anywhere that doesn't have tar.



Some bush cooking tips from Barra's family – thanks Geoff.

Fry up the onions and mushrooms in some butter, then whack in some Horseradish and mix it all up. Enjoy with your bangers or on steak sanga... Beautiful

We throw a stew together,
Lamb or pork or beef, (your choice) garlic, onion, potato, sweet potato, carrots, spicy BBQ seasoning, In the dutch oven, cover with water, cook for 2 beers, enjoy with some bread.

Cook your chops and bacon (garlic) in a deep fry pan, until nice and brown, add in a sliced onion and sliced mini potatoes from a tin.
When it is all starting to get a bit of colour, then add in a Tetra pack of long life cream.
Simmer slowly and it is ready to serve
Simple fast and easy...and all in one pan.

Or a damper, this is a favourite with my kids
Self raising flour, sultana's and a can of lemonade
We buy the little boxes of sultana's so they can eat them whilst travelling as well.
mix ingredients, we all know how to make damper then sprinkle with flour and cover with two lots of aluminium foil, and cook in coals.

Then for a dessert:
Hold a banana lengthways in your hand and cut it through end to end, but don't cut the bottom skin so you form a cup. Wedge it open with pieces of chocolate, spaced apart, then fill the voids with marshmallow. Fill it with rum and then slowly cook it in an oven or over the coals, then top with canned whipped cream.

Another ripper is to cut a banana in chunks, wrap it in raw bacon, and fry it up - doesn't sound particularly flash - but very nice!!

Or a green apple cut in quarters, put in some butter, sugar and cinnamon, and sultana's (optional) wrap in aluminium foil and in the coals for a few minutes.

Peppers slices for egg rings, save some room in the pan always works well.
Also tastes good, with some cracked pepper, and some HP sauce.

Help

Our webmaster, Deb would like to encourage people to upload some photos to the gallery page of the website

We could do with a few pictures for each of these
December 2008 Club Xmas Picnic

October 2008 - Blanchetown Country Music Campout

October 2008 - Gawler Ranges Trip

September 2008 - Bushys Coonalpyn

July 2008 - Xmas in July

June 2008 - Morgan Quarry

April 2008 - Bushys Coonalpyn

March 2008 - Bush Camping at Naracoorte

February 2008 - The Rocks

1/ The easiest way to do it is send them to me
OR

2/ upload them yourself in this way.

address an email to times43have@photos.flickr.com

In the subject area of the email have the photos description (like as above so it matches with trip reports) eg

October 2008 - Blanchetown Country Music Campout

attach the photo

make sure the rest of the email is blank (no signature files or text in the body of the email) send.

photo uploaded

Thank you

Contributions

Members are encouraged to contribute to our Newsletter. Any clean jokes, recipes, handy hints or tips, and of course please feel free to email me your profile. I try to get the newsletter out by the 15th of each month. My email address is helentaylor@adam.com.au

I am receiving more contributions – thank you to everyone. Try and not send giant articles. Whatever you are sending is greatly appreciated. Most of this newsletter is made up from club member contributions, not mine. Thanks. .

Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle

Cheers everyone til next time!!!

Ngarkat Conservation Park Interclub Working Bee

April 18 – 20th 2009

A Word From the DEH District Ranger

Doesn't time fly? It seems like only yesterday we were out on the Border Track installing fences and moving rubble! But time has marched on, and the Ngarkat April Working Bee is nearly upon us again.

This year it will be held from the 18th to 20th April. Please be aware this is not a long weekend, which makes getting away from work and home all that more difficult, but we would appreciate any time you can spare. Pine Hut Soak will be "home" for the working bee, which, as the past attendees will attest, is a beautiful campground with basic toilet facilities.

The task list will once again be varied and challenging! We will be installing more post and rail fencing across closed sections (last year's efforts have done extremely well in controlling that "1%" who do the most damage!), rubble carting, sand drift controlling, installing new concrete barriers and cabling (once again, for that pesky 1%!), as well as a myriad of other tasks too! As past attendees can tell you, the weekend is always lots of fun, with plenty of laughter and good times, so we encourage anybody who has previously thought of joining us to come down and have a go! We promise not to work you too hard...

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Donna Nussio and the Murray Mallee staff

A Word From the

Border Track Committee

Meet at Pine Hut Soak campsite:

35° 25.375' S 140° 52.702' E :

UTM zone 54 488957E 6080048N

Saturday 18th 9:00 a.m. or set up camp on

Friday afternoon / evening

Directions: From Tailem Bend, follow the Mallee Highway; 5km west of Pinnaroo turn right on to Rosy Pine Lane (Ngarkat Park sign at this point, see RAA map 'Upper South East ref:J2); continue south for approximately 17 km.

Campsite: is situated just inside the Park entrance when approached from Pinnaroo.

It has one toilet.

Camper trailer – yes; caravan – yes

Bring: strong gloves, handsaw, pruners, crowbar, shovel, post-hole shovel, rake, hand tools, etc.

Trailers: some would be useful.

Other vehicles may be on the Border Track:

If anyone possesses high visibility vests or clothing, it would be appreciated if you could bring them along and possibly share them with your fellow workers.

Registration:

Please let me know in advance

When you plan to arrive?

No. people & vehicles in party?

If you are bringing a trailer?

Contact: Sue

(08) 8269 2883

suzy@internode.on.net

Border Track Committee (a sub-committee of NARU of 4 Wheel Drive S.A.)