



VEHICLE CLUB  
Wellington (inc)



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# May 2003

The Official Magazine of

**The Cross Country Vehicle Club (Wellington) Inc**

PO Box 38-762, Te Puni, Wellington

[www.ccvc.org.nz](http://www.ccvc.org.nz)

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VEHICLE CLUB  
Wellington (inc)

**The club meets at 7:30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month  
at the Petone Working Mens Club, Udy Street, Petone.**

### **MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS**

This is your magazine so it can only be as good as the contributions you make!! We need any articles, trip reports, technical items, "How-To's", etc to be in the hands of the editor by the end of each calendar month. Please post to 10 Matariki Grove, Wainuiomata, fax to 04 914 5825 or email to [newsletter@ccvc.org.nz](mailto:newsletter@ccvc.org.nz)

### **SAFETY POLICY**

Should any members fail to return from any outing, four wheel drive or otherwise, whether as a club member or as a private individual, the following person/s should be contacted in the first instance:

**Jim Johnson 04 938 9404 (home) or 021 389 404**  
**Gavin Holden 04 478 4666 (hm) or 04 383 6554 (wk) or 025 249 1959**

### **DISCLAIMER**

*The opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the club, it's executive or committee members. Publication of maintenance techniques or mechanical modifications should be weighed against generally accepted procedures and the Club should not be considered an authority in this area. The mention of products, service procedures or service organisations herein does not constitute endorsement by the Club, the Cross Country Chronicle or it's Editor.*



## Editorial Ramblings

I've just returned from two weeks tiki touring around Queensland and New South Wales (on road not off :- ( unfortunately) but had a great time. As you see over here in NZ, every second or third vehicle on the road over there is a 4WD and, like here, most don't really leave the tarmac either.

But there were a lot of Nissans (GQ and GU mainly) and Toyotas (80's and troopies) and a lot of them were well setup for touring.

A few in the club have been (or are planning to go) 4WDing in Australia, and from what I've seen and heard I think it sounds like a great way to see out of the way places. I think that this has now appeared on my "Too Doo" list for sometime in the future. But in the meantime, I'd better get more practice in NZ as it's been a while since I was out.

Alan...



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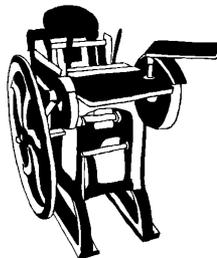
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Cover photo: This month's picture was taken (I think) in St Pats forest, on the hills above Silverstream.

# Cross Country Chronicle

## President's Piece - May 2003

Welcome to the last issue of our Cross Country Chronicle for the club year. With the AGM coming up this month it is time for us to reflect on the year past and look forward to welcoming the new committee as they prepare to lead the club through the coming year.

From my own point of view, this club year has just flown. It's been a busy year and we have achieved a lot in moving the club forward. I'll go through the details in my report at the AGM, suffice it to say for now that we must recognise the commitment and leadership of our club officers as we acknowledge what they have done during the year. This has taken a lot of time and hard work by a number of people, members as well as club officers; this has been a sacrifice for them in terms of leisure time and in some cases personal income, however these people have gladly put their all into doing things that result in the rest of us having access to off-road land and having lots of trips and activities.

Thank you from the whole club, to all those club officers and members. You're pretty special!

The year has not been easy, particularly in the early months as we grappled with issues around our financial affairs, with our first serious foray into a comprehensive set of insurance policies and the associated challenges of working out how we'd pay for everything. We all (members as well as committee) learned a lot about what our fellow members think and how we need to deal with these things in future - the June club night will be a good opportunity to take the next step up the ladder of continuing improvements to the way we run the club.

We're planning to keep the May club night quite short, as is our custom when there is an AGM following. If it looks like we'll have time we will include a short photo session, however that may not happen if there is too much on the agenda. We also expect the AGM to be reasonably short, as we already have nominations for most officer positions.

One item we do plan to have on the agenda is a proposal to change the timing of our financial year. We'll explain it all at the time - it certainly made sense to the committee last week. Incidentally, Jeff has the annual financial statements ready already, these will also be on the agenda.

We're still on track to have our long-awaited discussion on Motorsport and the NZ4WD Association at the June club night. It has been great to see that a logical process has been followed and the details analysed in a consistent manner. This will enable members at the meeting to base their votes on rational factors that look to progressing us into a positive future without the baggage of the past. The decisions we make at the June meeting will also enable us to set our subs and our budget for the year.

Another reminder about land access folks: the "Abuse it and you'll lose it" message is going to be in front of us each month, along with the reminders about safe practices and the need to keep to the trip categories. All of us need to remember that our own actions could lead to the loss of access for everyone. So please take this seriously, be proactive, ask the trip leader for more detailed briefing if anything isn't clear.

Thanks again everyone, for your work, contributions and support during this club year.

As usual, here's to lots of off-roading...

Grant Purdie, Club President, 6 May 2003



## Trip Categories

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The Committee decided in May 2002 that the trip category definitions will be enforced, for safety reasons. The Committee also decided that any *additional* requirements for each trip as detailed on the Trip Information Sheet for the trip will be enforced. The Trip Leader is able to waive a particular requirement for a trip, if the circumstances of the trip permit. This will be shown in the details on the Trip Information Sheet. The Committee requires Trip Leaders to turn away vehicles or drivers that do not comply.

The updated trip category definitions are included towards the end of the Chronicle, with the trip information sheets

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## Equipment Required

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In accordance with club policy, the following equipment is required on all Club trips:

- Front and rear tow hooks
- Shovel
- Fire extinguisher
- First-aid kit
- Basic tool kit
- Kinetic rope or strop
- Roll bar or cage for all open / soft top vehicles

If these items are not present in your vehicle at the beginning of a trip, the trip leader has the authority to exclude you from the trip.

**Cross Country Chronicle**



## Trip / Convoy Rules

1. The trip leader is always in charge. Please recognise their authority follow their instructions and give him / her the respect they deserve
2. No dogs or firearms
3. Guests on a Club outing are the responsibility of the Club member who invited them
4. No drinking and driving
5. Keep the vehicle immediately behind in sight. This is particularly important when you come to a turnoff. There is no excuse for vehicles taking the wrong track because of the driver in front not obeying this rule
6. Keep your position in the convoy i.e. no passing
7. Watch vehicle spacing on public roads to ensure that public vehicles can pass in safety
8. Make sure the vehicle in front has cleared an obstacle before you attempt it
9. If you must leave the convoy, inform someone
10. Respect the environment
11. Expect to provide a write-up and / or photos for the Club newsletter from time to time if you participate in Club trips.

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Ph. 04 472 2020

Mike ???  
Mike Gail 4 Wheel Drive  
3 Happy Valley Road  
Wellington  
Ph. 04 383 6554

Carl Furniss  
tba

## Upcoming Events

**May 31:** Taihape Rotary 4x4 Family Day in Army Training Area, Waiouru. *This trip will include off-road training areas, formed sealed roads, gravel roads and tracks. See Kaimanawa wild horses. Challenging terrain for those who want it. Limited to 120 vehicles. Contact Taihape Rotary Club, PO Box 1, Taihape*

**Aug 9-10:** NZ4WD Magazine Auckland Readers Trip. *Explore the Woodhill Forest, same trip both days. \$95 vehicle and 2 people, discount for magazine subscribers. Phone 09 478 4771, fax 09 478 4779 or email [sam@adrenalin.co.nz](mailto:sam@adrenalin.co.nz)*

**Sep 6-7:** NZ4WD Magazine Rotorua Readers Trip. *Forests in the Rotorua area, different trips each day. \$95 vehicle and 2 people, discount for magazine subscribers. Phone 09 478 4771, fax 09 478 4779 or email [sam@adrenalin.co.nz](mailto:sam@adrenalin.co.nz)*

**Nov 8-9:** NZ4WD Magazine Wellington Readers Trip. *Akatarawa Forest, same trip both days. \$95 vehicle and 2 people, discount for magazine subscribers. Phone 09 478 4771, fax 09 478 4779 or email [sam@adrenalin.co.nz](mailto:sam@adrenalin.co.nz)*

*Details in the column appear courtesy of Sam Parker, publisher of the New Zealand 4WD and Sportvehicles magazine. Potential participants should contact the event organiser; CCVC cannot take responsibility for any changes or inadvertent inaccuracies.*

## WHITEMAN'S WANDER (CLUB 4X4?) TRIP CATEGORY GRIZZLE

After raining steadily for most of the previous day, we were pleasantly surprised to be treated to a fantastic sunny day at Colin James's great property. Approximately 20 trucks signed on for the 'club 4x4' category trip originally to be led by Antony Royal. This responsibility was transferred on to John Walls due to unforeseen circumstances.

Looking about, it was obvious that about 30% of the entries were 'Shiny 4x4's'. It became even more obvious when unnecessary long delays began occurring on a regular basis. Believe me, this was not a hard trip. Yet at the most basic level of 'challenging going', many vehicles were having difficulties. As we were not making good progress, Colin and John began 'tuning down' the outing by avoiding many good challenges. In the circumstances, these were the appropriate decisions.

I'm sure, that to many participants the trip was challenging, but it was not at Club 4x4 level. What were those people doing there given the category designated? Will those people be fronting up at every club 4x4 event from now on?

I know that everybody must learn somehow and somewhere. Given the transition from category to category, should it not be a gradual intake per outing. This ensures that

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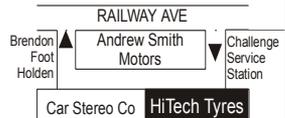
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capable people / trucks far out number those of the newcomers, managing an even placement throughout the convoy. It also enables good progress and promotes learning skills.

Members should have a credible track record and advise trip leaders well in advance their future intentions about moving up a grade. Fronting up on the day puts the trip leader on the spot. He does not want to cause any embarrassment to that person when their pride is at stake, plus the effort they have probably made in getting there. To me, besides the obvious attributes of good company and scenery, 'Club 4x4's' are about 'challenging' outings.

This trip had good company and scenery, but challenges, it did not, due to the above. Anyway, despite my grizzling, any day out 4 wheeling is a great day. I met some neat new people, and I thank Colin, John, Neil as tail end Charlie and everybody for their company, yarns and good times.

Gerald Bull, K153.

## **CCVC 2003** **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the 2003 AGM of the Cross Country Vehicle Club (Wellington) Inc will be held directly after the May monthly club meeting on 14th May at the Petone Workingmans Club.

A nomination form for the club officer positions enclosed with this newsletter.

*Note that the club awards are now given out at the separate Club Awards night being held on 10th May 2003.*

Hi 4WD Mates ; Today we meet at Jarden Mile -Bottom of Ngaurange Gorge - A couple of us were a bit early so we shot up a side track then when about 50 wagons had there drivers briefing we headed of to Woodridge Farm in Newlands through many gates across to Horokiwi Road - very Quick across the top of the farms across many paddocks onto Everiss Tip / Landfill though more paddocks one with a couple of frisky horses that wanted to get through the gates up to a big area above Tawa where we had morning tea after many hints / calls over the club radio ,then after smoko we come back to the paddock where the horses where waiting at the bottom gate they could have stepped over or jumped over the low fence .Then we went over to Mount Kau Kau / Old Coach Road .Tony lead half of the wagons up Mt Kau Kau while Ian led the other half up Old Coach Rd then we swapped over the tracks then over to Humes Farm over many tracks up the tops for a view then onto an exposed paddock for lunch . After lunch more tracks and some VERY steep / narrow ridge sections of tracks the types you like to get it over with .We went on down to Karori then on over to Makara down pass Terawhiti station to the end of the road through to the south coast down the Karori stream mouth to a NEW fence and lock with no key .Arthur had a key to the gate to the batch area Then we came to sandy beach and there were moments for some getting across but not Rodger , he was flying back and forth then Eric ran out of clutch fluid yours truly had some in that box in the back then it was up to Long Gully up to a high point for the view then we dropped off to a track that lead to Landfill / Happy Valley Road corner . A very enjoyable day trip with great views , tracks I never been on before . A BIG THANK YOU to Tony / Ian and Arthur from every one that came .

Steve 104

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# **Cross Country Chronicle**

**Dicks Yard - Hard Yakka**  
**Saturday 12 Apr 2003**

My first Hard Yakka!

I had no idea of what to expect. Having been only on Shiny trips until now. We met up at Moonshine road, Grant, Roger, Gerald, Susan, Ryan with Layne as support and myself heading off into the unknown (well, for me Anyway!).

Got through the gate into the forest, aired down, we were off! Main thing I noticed so far was the need to be in HI to keep up the pace, great!

I can't give details of where we went, as it all looked the same, but Grant and Roger obviously knew this area better than their own (un-mowed I suspect!) backyards.

Although not a Hard Yakka trip for the trucks, all the guys (and girl) managed to break into a sweet clearing some trees to create a track. I will just like to add here that it was a little scary going off the (blocked) formed track at that point, down a near vertical bank, it looked way worse than it was, still pretty "exciting" though.

We then did a track that I think Grant called Rogers shortcut. This track required 3 of us to winch through a muddy up-hill piece, but the Rogersaurus, as I heard it called, drove up somewhat spectacularly. Rogers's foot never left the floor, even after kissing a tree! Gerald's Suzuki Roller-skate drove it as well, must be those Wrangler tires eh! We then went down to the Wainui stream. The valley claimed 2 victims here, Rogers rear brake hose, and Grants side window. Calling for a medic, Layne stepped in and had Rogers brakes working again (front only), in no time. Didn't slow Roger down at all.

The Wainui stream is a little worse than when I came through last, on Andy's now famous Family Shiny, and it was not too good then, fun nonetheless.

All in all a great day out, gave me a taste of what the Hard Yakka trips are all about. My first one will not be my last one! Thanks to all on the day for the adventure.

Paul Freeman  
V8 FJ40

## Membership Discounts

The following companies in the Wellington are offering very generous discounts to Club Members. A more detailed list will follow, but the companies include:

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BNT	Filters, vehicle parts and accessories
TWL	Vehicle parts and accessories
Pipeline Supplies	Pipe & fittings (for rollcage, etc)
Twiggs	Products
Motex Auto Parts	Second Hand Car Parts
King Toyota	Trade prices on parts & accessories
Diesel & Turbo	Products and Services

Please show your membership card to obtain all discounts.

### Club Member Trades, Services and Supplies

Clare Decorators Ltd - House painting (interior / exterior), wallpapering, water blasting. Will do commercial also. Discount offered to club members. Ph Larry on 567 0902 / 025 538 525

*If you'd like to include your business on our list please contact the editor on 564 3045 or (preferably) email [newsletter@ccvc.org.nz](mailto:newsletter@ccvc.org.nz)*



## King Toyota

King Toyota now offer trade prices on all Toyota Genuine Parts & Accessories on production of your membership card. Also available are new and used vehicles at good rates. Any problems, please contact Andrew Mitchell at work on 920 7770 or home 526 9285.



### Photo Gallery and Video Clips



Have you got that moment of action, stupidity, achievement, damage on film, mpg or video? If its short, to the point and you reckon everyone would enjoy it, get it to Paul Adams at least a week before club night and if there's enough material we will run a picture / video session on club night. Or you could upload it to Andy's website - [www.andic.co.nz](http://www.andic.co.nz)

# Cross Country Chronicle



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## **CLUB CHAMPS - CHANGES FOR 2003**

Two years ago the format of the Club Champs was changed in an attempt to get more members involved in this competition. The changes included providing a BBQ lunch (a pretty basic one I admit), setting up the marquee, providing a port-a-loo at each event and advertising Club Champs events as a Shiny 4x4 category event. It certainly worked - from an event involving perhaps a dozen vehicles we had a minimum of 20 and up to 35 at each event last year - equal to any other regular trip.

Along with these changes we also totally changed the scoring system from the standard 4WD rally system to our own. This change really emphasised the different focus which seemed to be needed to encourage more members to participate in the "new" Club Champs, and it helped. However it meant our scoring system was more complex than, and completely out of step with, all other 4WD competition events. The general consensus is that, as far as possible, we need to bring it back into line for the sake of simplicity and consistency.

Although we haven't had the AGM yet and I may not be the Competition Officer for the next year, I need to get this into the newsletter prior to Round 1 of the 2003 Club Champs which are on the 18th of May at Hume's Farm.

These are the basic Competition Rules (they may be refined slightly prior to the event if they're not quite accurate):

1. The Competition events will be run as a Shiny 4x4 trip.
2. Only CCVC members will be eligible for prizes.
3. Each competing vehicle must have a driver and navigator for safety and recovery purposes.
4. Each obstacle consists of a course marked out by stakes/pegs. The start and finish points are designated by blue stakes, red stakes indicate the right limit of the obstacle, yellow the left.
5. Vehicles start the obstacle from a stopped position with the leading axle aligned between the blue start pegs.
6. The objective is to drive the obstacle without stopping. Any halt in forward progress is the end of the attempt except where stopping/reversing is part of the obstacle. (Andy R – rolling over is now equivalent to stopping).
7. Vehicles must have at least one wheel inside the obstacle at all times.
8. The obstacle is successfully completed when the centre of the leading hub crosses the line between the finish stakes.

### Scoring for Each Event

1. Drivers will receive a score for all obstacles, whether they are driven or not.
2. Some obstacles will have penalty points added for short wheel base vehicles (wheelbase less than 2.77m), and for vehicles with diff locks and fiddle brakes (whether these are used or not). This is a CCVC variation to encourage owners of all vehicle type to compete.
3. Aside from the penalty points in 3, each driver will start each obstacle with 100 points. If the obstacle is driven without any penalties, the score for that obstacle will be zero.
4. Knocking over a peg will incur penalty points (25 I think - TBC).
5. Where an obstacle is graded, if the driver does not complete the obstacle, or knocks down a peg, the driver is awarded the score of the last graded peg the vehicle successfully passed (ie got it's leading front hub passed).
6. Scoring method for any timed obstacles is to be confirmed.
7. The winning score is the lowest score.

There are four competition events each year, the best three event totals for each driver will be counted in the finally tally to determine the winner of the Club Champs. Hope this all makes sense.

There's normally a small group of volunteers who assist with the set up for each event, this year I want to formalise this a little and have a small team more involved in the actual planning and development. Each person would have responsibility for a small component of each event – maybe just bringing the sausages or printing the score cards. If you're willing to assist with this please give me a call.

Neil Blackie  
K177

### Fire Extinguishers

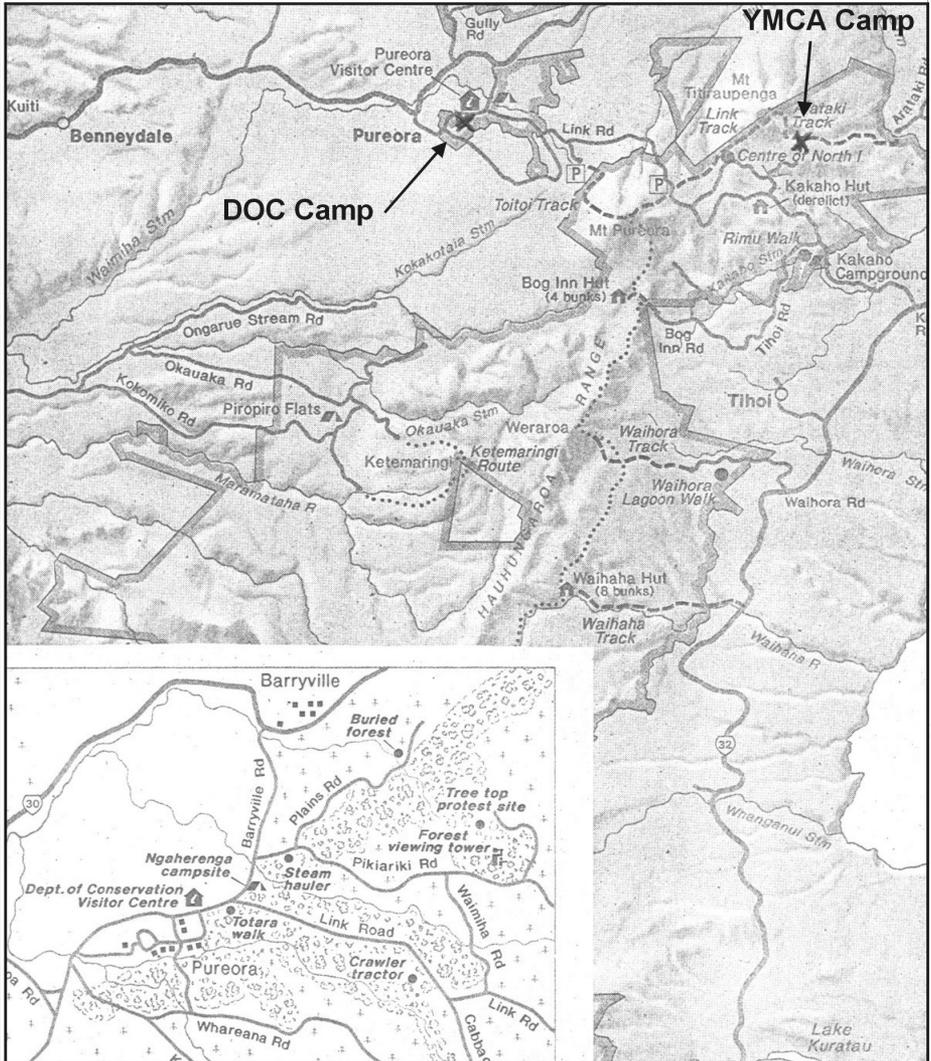
A reminder from our Safety Officer that the Club's fire extinguisher specification has a minimum size required of 0.9 kg dry powder or 1 litre foam.

*And also, members should have their fire extinguishers checked yearly, and Wormalds in Cuba St Pe-tone will do this service free of charge.*



## PUREORA FOREST Mid-Winter Trip

Queens Birthday Weekend Friday 30th May - Mon 2nd June 2003



The winter trip to Pureora has been arranged again for Queens Birthday weekend this year. Pureora Forest (78,000 hectares) is west of Lake Taupo and east of Te Kuiti. It is a hidden wonderland of tall trees, clear rivers, and rare wildlife. Little known yet easily accessible for those prepared to make the short diversion off State Highways 4, 30 or 32.

# Cross Country Chronicle

It is worth starting your visit to Pureora Forest Park with a trip to the Field Centre Office. They have information on the park which will help you decide where to go and what to do. Within 10 minutes drive of the office there are a number of sites of special scientific and historic interest.

The area at Piropiro Flats is strongly recommended for visiting 4WD as there are no restrictions and there are many tracks to explore also Gorge Rd and Bogg Inn Rd which is accessible off Link Rd, with many more tracks off Link Rd which can also be explored. The area is suitable for Shiny 4x4, Club 4x4 and Hard Yakka trips.

Accommodation has been booked at both the YMCA and DOC Camps.

**YMCA Camp.** Take SH32 (Western Lake Taupo Rd), turn off at Kakaho Rd (also known as Link Rd). Follow for 10kms, turn right into Waimoana Rd sign posted YMCA Camp, follow for 2kms then turn right into Arataki Rd, follow for 4kms to intersection and turn left, Camp is about 200m along road on the left in the native bush.

The accommodation consists of two A frame huts which sleep up to 50 people, also a lodge which has a kitchen with a wood range which includes a wetback hot water system & a three ring gas cooker. The ablution block has showers in both mens and womens facilities with hot water provided by a large wood burner. Lighting is provided in all facilities by a petrol generator.

**What to bring.** Bedding or sleeping bags, kitchen utensils -pots, pans, knives, forks plates, etc. Food and refreshments, Extra gas cookers and gas lights if you have them

**Price.** \$5.00 per person per night.

**DOC Camp.** Directions as for YMCA Camp but follow Kakaho Rd (Link Rd) to "Y" intersection after about 25 kms. Turn left on to Barryville Rd (towards DOC information centre) about 1km, with cabins on left 200m down side road.

**Accommodation.** Fully contain cabins which sleep up to 6 or 7 per cabin, includes all kitchen utensils and fridge.

**What to bring.** Bedding or sleeping bags, Food and refreshments

**Price.** \$10.00 per person per night

**Bookings.** Beds are still available - please contact John Vruink on club night, or on phone 56701142 or 025 439 981

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## **LEVIN FOOTHILLS WEEKEND, 14-16 MARCH 2003**

### **Friday evening and day one**

If you know someone who wants to be talked into 4WD as an enjoyable outdoor pursuit, invite them along on one of these weekends. What could be better, than after 'a week of it', rushing home on a Friday night, throwing some essential food items, water bottles, retrieval gear and sleeping bag in the vehicle, kissing the cat and depositing the house key in the neighbour's letterbox and letting rip for the hills? The foothills of Levin for instance? Arriving on Friday night, the lit glass front of the Makahika Outdoor Camp building was like a beaming smile in the dark. Happy campers sat and talked, joked and drank and drifted off to bunks in anticipation of a weekend of driving and exploring.

Saturday was beautiful, already sunny with blue skies when we readied up with lunches and vehicle checks and set off. A smallish group made it even more enjoyable as you can all feel 'a part of it' and friendships are made and cemented in close proximity and stops for fun and scenic views. With kids included you know it will be good family fun.

With little to test the hard yakka drivers than a couple of steep hills to attack as side events and the odd bit of mud, the day was a weaving up and over the rolling hills. Starting off at the foot of a stand of native forest, fantails swooped and glided around us with their accompanying peep, peep. Spearmint was strong in my nostrils and spiderweb nets in the grass held tiny droplets of dew. Cattle and sheep would stand and stare as we passed, interrupted from grazing. Amongst the dried grasses of the golden hills were tiny clutches of cabbage trees, pungas, pine, gum, manuka, willows and poplars providing contrasts of damp forest aroma and dry, hot grass.

The lunch stop provided a panoramic view over a farmland atop the lower foothills spread like a blanket and the coastal plain beyond with Levin and northern towns indistinct in the haze. Back to camp in the late afternoon sunlight we had time to sit lazily and indulgently with chosen beverages while the camp manager made a simple but ample BBQ dinner. Nothing like the quiet and solace of the open spaces of the country.

The success of a trip like this is a combination of things, from the smooth running of the whole event by an old timer of the area, John Vruink, well resourced facilities and the desire of the group to get on together, have fun and do what needs to be done. A truly great weekend.

Annette Bridgen.

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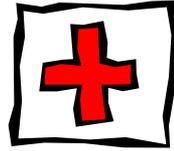
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## Cross Country Chronicle



Don't forget that the club has four comprehensive first aid kits that are available for trip leaders to carry on any trips they lead.

They are a backup emergency kit that is supplementary to those kits carried by individual trip members.

Contact Wayne (025 467 935) to arrange collec-

### **Special Olympics Fundraiser Run 06/04/2003**

Hmmm where do I start on the trip report when nominated by my husband...  
Good on Ya Mate!

I think it would be best to start with a huge big thank you to John Walls for organizing the trip, Ron Wadham for leading, Barry Rozenberg and Dave Jones for being tail end Charlie's. It takes a lot of work to put something like this together of which I'm sure everyone on the trip was hugely grateful - thanks from all of us.

The trip started at the gates at Eastbourne and attracted a crowd of about 49 vehicles, raising approx \$1,750 for the Special Olympics. The invitation to the trip went out not only to the club but to the general public notably some of the vehicles have never seen four wheel drive and a couple of camper wagons turned that didn't even have 4 wheel drive. In the best Chinese anyone could muster they were advised they couldn't get to Masterton by taking this road. After a nineteen point turn they took the road most travelled while the rest of us opted for the alternative.

We drove through the gates on our big adventure, the day was overcast but the sprits were high, nothing was going to stop the boys with their toys. We travelled this road to the end past the lighthouse and the rusty boat; usually this can only be achieved by cycle or by foot. I thought yahoo for 4x4ing as I would do neither of the other options and therefore would have never seen past the car park. We drove to the end till we could go no further as the track was closed, so now what? We drove back. On the way back there was a seal playing in the surf, with the new ferry in the back ground chug-

ging its way into the harbour, it was so nice to see wildlife so close to civilization.

The next leg of the journey would take us over to Wainuiomata to Cattle Ridge by this stage it was still undecided whether we would be able to go over the ridge or just up to the landing strip. Going up the hill was proving to be a tad difficult for some vehicles as the grass and the track was quite slip-



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pery. Unfortunately once up the top the outstanding view was only word of mouth as the cloud was low and the fog was starting to come in. Ron and John whistled on ahead and checked out the track down to Orongaronga Station, Yep all good so off we went. This I think would have been one of the most challenging sections of the trip, the tracks were good but again it was a tad slippery. Now I know a lot of you would have travelled Cattle Ridge many a time but on your first day out? For some strange reason the water ruts didn't appear to be as scary as they did on my first trip over so I imagine a lot of the newbees would have been sitting a couple of inches higher in their seats by the time they got to the bottom. It was said the guys had big huge beaming smiles while their wives held on for grim death on the white-knuckle ride down the hill.

We stopped at the Orongoronga Station at Ron's usual place to dine and grabbed a bit to eat then headed off to Ocean Beach. There were loads of huge muddy puddles to plough through and dirty vehicles to be had. At one

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point we had to stop as the track needed repairing but that didn't hold us up for long. We followed this around to Ocean beach the trip around was very different from the farmland in the fact that it kind of looked like the moon with its big boulders and slips and not a lot of greenery. At the end it was time to decide if you wanted to go back the way you had come or did you want to go out the gate and take the road over the hill back to town? Of course we chose to go back the way we come.... Was this the correct decision?

As I mention earlier sprits were high and now we had a huge mud bog (yep you know the one!), put these together and what have you got? A SWB Nissan Patrol broke a tie rod. Apparently he ploughed through the bog with great gusto and hit a submerged log which flicked up and snapped his tie rod clean off. What does this mean? No steering and a vehicle that looks pigeon toed. What to do? After a gathering of minds and a bit of kiwi ingenuity the blokes managed to make running repairs to get the vehicle back on the Road. This actually worked a dream as he was still giving it death on the way back and it was holding together. So a Big whoop (black hawk down) to the blokes - you know who you are.

We then enjoyed a pleasant twilight trip back to Wainui making reflection on the day and thinking.... Where are we gonna get air!!!

C Ya On Da Road  
Ssshhhkkkk K230 Ovah (Adrienne Walker-Regan)

## Cross Country Chronicle



# CCVC Tyre Discounts

**Firestone**

**BRIDGESTONE**

For those of us in the market for one or a set of tyres, Marcus has arranged a great discount for club members. The discount covers both Firestone and Bridgestone tyre brands.

For further details, contact Marcus on 021 439 183.

The following is the highlights from the 4 hour 8 minute April Committee Meeting

1. 60k Committee. Work still progressing with further possibilities to be investigated before reporting back to the club.
2. Accounts Officer. Jeff Simpson officially welcomed as Accounts Officer providing accounting assistance to Roger.
3. Club Assets. Club is to be asked if they know the whereabouts of the various items on the official club asset list.
4. Financial Reports. Draft financial reports tabled and scrutinised. Jeff has also just located an auditor for the annual accounts.
5. Land Access. Walking trip planned to Johnson's Rd and access to eastern firebreaks looking positive.
6. Safety. Two new vehicle inspectors about to become available to club members.
7. Financial Year. Our financial guru's have suggested a change to the club's financial year - more plus a vote at club night.
8. Club Survey. Due to the longer than expected meeting, the committee have deferred analysis of the results to the incoming committee.
9. Club Officer Duties. Some minor shifting of duties of club officers discussed and will be recommended to the incoming committee.



## NEW MEMBERS

The following person, subject to trip sheet and vehicle equipment checks will be welcomed to the Cross Country Vehicle Club (Wellington) Inc this month as a new member:

Peter Murton - Nissan Patrol  
Ray Harkness - Kia Sportage  
Giles Sullivan - Nissan Patrol



# A Public Apology

It don't happen often, but here it is.

I would like to publicly apologise to all those who so vehemently opposed our admission into Motorsport New Zealand.

There is a long list, and please forgive me for omitting any names here. But to Andrew Mitchell, Peter (Pedro) Osborne, Dwayne Mead and Dave Hilliard especially, my sincere apology for not heading your advice to remain wary of the promises made by Motorsport.

Everything these gentlemen and others said came so alarmingly true when we found ourselves abandoned by Motorsport when one by one that organisation welched on its promises of benefits of membership. I am not aware of that organisation delivering on a single one of its promises – the same promises it is now making again – at an increased fee of course – but the same promises.

So, I now join these distinguished players having learned the hard way the Motorsport is not to be trusted – and indeed should be avoided at all costs.

It may also be that the decision for CCVC to remain inside Motorsport, led in part to the formation of the Valley 4WD Club. To some that may be a benefit – if that is the case, it's the only benefit that anyone has ever received as a result of our sorry involvement with Motorsport New Zealand.

Andy

*Rumour has it that a certain country-wide four wheel drive equipment and services supplier is setting up shop in the Hutt Valley, and a certain well-known mechanically-minded person is to work there as well!!!!*

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## CCVC Sub-Committees

The Committee of CCVC has set up several sub-committees over the last few years, as a way of reducing the length of the monthly committee meetings and of providing a forum for a focus on particular topics.

The sub-committees (or "project teams") are each set up for a specific reason and are attended by members interested in the topic and willing to help the club with the activities necessary to achieve success.

The club welcomes any extra club members at these sub-committees; you do not have to be a club officer to attend. Not only is it your opportunity to contribute towards the progress of the club; if the topic is of particular interest to you it is also your opportunity to influence what we do.

- Sub-Committees:
- Safety \*
  - Motorsport \*
  - NZ4WD Association \*
  - Search and Rescue
  - 60K
  - Land Access Management
  - Trip Leaders' Forum
  - Deadwood (from time to time)

\* These three sub-committees run as one, due to the inter-relationship between the topics

Representatives from the club also attend meetings held by other organisa-

# Cross Country Chronicle

tions. Although our representatives are usually club officers, we are also keen to include other members as appropriate.

- Other Organisations
- Akatarawa Recreational Access Committee (ARAC)
  - Foxton Beach Coast Care (FBCC)
  - Public Access New Zealand

Meetings of these sub-committees and organisations are shown in the club calendar, as best as we can achieve, also the website diary.

If you would like to be involved, just contact the Club President. In the new club year we will publish contact details for each group, assuming these might change as a result of elections at the coming AGM.

## Foxton Beach Coast Care

### Annual Subscriptions now due

New members welcome – payment of the sub can accompany your application. See Grant Purdie for the application form.

CCVC Members who joined FBCC last year can pay their sub via Grant Purdie – make sure he gets a note of your

Sub for 2003-2004:

**\$2 per person**

- unchanged from previous years

### Reminiscing on Old Aberdeen

Item ex Aberdeen newspaper:

At the height of the gale, the harbourmaster radioed a coastguard on the spot and asked him to estimate the wind speed. He replied that he was sorry, but he didn't have a gauge. However, if it was any help, the wind had just blown his Land Rover off the cliff.

Ship sinking:

The Aberdeen Press & Journal is reputed to have reported the sinking of the Titanic under the headline ***Aberdeen man drowned***

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**Cross Country Chronicle**

Insert Trip Information Sheet 1 here

Insert Trip Information Sheet 2 here

Insert Trip Information Sheet 3 here

Insert Trip Information Sheet 4 here

Insert Trip Information Sheet 5 here



# Trip Categories (01/06/02)

---

## Family Shiny:

Description: Family trip. These trips will be straightforward and will usually include some degree of guidance in driving techniques as necessary.

Drivers: Particularly suited to family outings and drivers new to off-road driving, this category is also open to anybody who enjoys this style of trip.

Members: Anybody is welcome, especially prospective new members.

Vehicles: An important objective is minimal challenge and minimal risk to vehicles. Club safety equipment is mandatory for club members; it is not mandatory for non-members although it is recommended for vehicles once their drivers have participated in one or two trips. All open or soft-top vehicles must have a roll bar or roll cage.

## Shiny 4x4:

Description: More difficult family trips, for shiny wagons and drivers *with some experience* who want more challenge and don't mind minor bush marks etc on their vehicles.

Drivers: Must have some experience, preferably from the driver training provided by the club. Particularly important are experience in stropping, failed hill climbs, steep descents and sidlings.

Members: These trips are for members only. Prospective members and visitors are welcome if they can demonstrate to the Trip Leader they are members of another club and have adequate experience.

Vehicles: Vehicles must have mud tyres, tow hooks and all the required equipment per the club's document "Vehicle Safety & Equipment Inspections". This applies to all vehicles on the trip. All open or soft-top vehicles must have a roll bar or roll cage.

## Club 4x4:

Description: Challenging trips, for experienced drivers. There will be steep and challenging terrain, modestly deep water and mud, likelihood of bush marks.

Drivers: Must have experience beyond that required for Shiny 4x4 trips, including water crossings and vehicle recovery.

Members: These trips are for members only. Prospective members and visitors are welcome if they can demonstrate to the Trip Leader they are members of another club and have adequate experience.

Vehicles: Must have mud tyres, tow hooks and all the required equipment per the club's document "Vehicle Safety & Equipment Inspections". This applies to all vehicles on the trip. Accessories such as high-lift jacks, externally mounted spare tyre, bush bars and multiple jacking points are of advantage. Winches are often particularly useful. Generally a short wheelbase vehicle is better suited for the tight tracks. All open or soft-top vehicles must have a roll bar or roll cage.

## Hard Yakka:

Description: Difficult trips with very challenging terrain and surfaces, where winching, digging, and vehicle damage are all a possibility!

Drivers: Experienced drivers only.

Members: These trips are for members only. Prospective members and visitors are welcome if they can demonstrate to the Trip Leader they are members of another club and have adequate experience.

Vehicles: As per the Club 4x4 category. In addition, a roll-bar or roll-cage is recommended for all vehicles on Hard Yakka trips. All open or soft-top vehicles must have a roll bar or roll cage. Often a winch is mandatory on a Hard Yakka trip; this will be specified on the Trip Information Sheet.

# Trip Database

Frank 1/5/2003 To 31/7/2003

Trip Start Date	Days	Trip Name	Trip Category	Trip Place	Trip Organiser	Trip Leader	Status	Trip Notes	Trip ID
Sat 03/05/03	1	Whiteman's Wander	Club 4X4	Whitemans Valley	Antony Royal	John Wallis	H	Was 26/4.	809
Wed 07/05/03	1	Theory 1	Training	Pelone Working Mens Club 7:30pm	Andy Cockroft	Andy Cockroft	C		817
Sat 10/05/03	1	Trophy & Cup Presentation Night	Special	Pelone Working Mens Club	John Yruink		C	Details in newsletter.	824
Sun 11/05/03	1	Training Module 1	Training	Cannon's Point, Akatarawa Forest	Andy Cockroft	Andy Cockroft	C		845
Wed 14/05/03	1	Club Night and AGM	Meetings	Pelone Working Mens Club	Neil Blackie	Grant Purdie	C	7:30pm	830
Sun 18/05/03	1	Round 1	Club Champs	Humes Farm	Neil Blackie	Neil Blackie	C		869
Sun 18/05/03	1	FBCC Committee	Meetings				P		881
Sat 24/05/03	1	Deadwood Ridge	Family Shiny	Akatarawa Forest	Ron Wadham	Ron Wadham	C		873
Sat 24/05/03	1	Scratchy Shiny Trip	Shiny 4X4	Akatarawa Forest	Grant Purdie	Grant Purdie	C		874
Sun 25/05/03	1	Round 1: Rain-Off Date	Club Champs	Humes Farm	Neil Blackie	Neil Blackie	P		877
Mon 26/05/03	1	Safety, Motorsport & NZ4WDA Committee	Meetings	Purdie Residence	Grant Purdie	Grant Purdie	C	7:30pm	896
Wed 28/05/03	1	Committee Meeting	Meetings	Pelone Working Mens Club	-lba-	-lba-	C	8:00pm	837
Fri 30/05/03	4	Pureora Camp-Over	Shiny 4X4	Pureora Forest	John Yruink	John Yruink	C		870
Fri 30/05/03	4	Pureora Camp-Over	Club 4X4	Pureora Forest	John Yruink	John Yruink	C		871
Fri 30/05/03	4	Pureora Camp-Over	Hard Yakka	Pureora Forest	John Yruink	John Yruink	C		872
Wed 04/06/03	1	Theory 2	Training	Pelone Working Mens Club 7:30pm	Andy Cockroft	Andy Cockroft	C		818
Sun 08/06/03	1	Training Module 2	Training	Cannon's Point, Akatarawa Forest	Andy Cockroft	Andy Cockroft	C		846
Wed 11/06/03	1	Club Night	Meetings	Pelone Working Mens Club	-lba-	-lba-	C	7:30pm	831

Trip Start Date	Days	Trip Name	Trip Category	Trip Place	Trip Organiser	Trip Leader	Status	Trip Notes	Trip ID
Sun 15/06/03	1	-ba-	Family Shiny	-ba-	-ba-	-ba-	T		878
Sun 15/06/03	1	Cave Bay Trip	Shiny 4X4	Wellington South Coast	Roger Seymour	Roger Seymour	C	Low tide is 11am.	879
Sat 21/06/03	1	FBCC Recce	Shiny 4X4	Horowhenua Area	Grant Purdie	-ba-	T	Date to be confirmed.	884
Sun 22/06/03	1	-ba-	Club 4X4	-ba-	-ba-	-ba-	T		880
Wed 25/06/03	1	Committee Meeting	Meetings	Petone Working Mens Club	-ba-	-ba-	C	8:00pm	838
Wed 02/07/03	1	Theory 1	Training	Petone Working Mens Club 7:30pm	Andy Cockroft	Andy Cockroft	C		819
Sun 06/07/03	1	Training Module 1	Training	Cannon's Point, Akatarawa Forest	Andy Cockroft	Andy Cockroft	C		847
Wed 09/07/03	1	Club Night	Meetings	Petone Working Mens Club	-ba-	-ba-	C	7:30pm	832
Sun 13/07/03	1	-ba-	Family Shiny	-ba-	-ba-	-ba-	T		885
Sun 13/07/03	1	-ba-	Shiny 4X4	-ba-	-ba-	-ba-	T		886
Mon 14/07/03	1	AFRAC Committee	Meetings				P		859
Sat 19/07/03	1	-ba-	Hard Yakka	-ba-	-ba-	-ba-	T		887
Sun 20/07/03	1	-ba-	Club 4X4	-ba-	-ba-	-ba-	T		888
Mon 28/07/03	1	AFRAC/WRC Liaison Meeting	Meetings				P		861
Wed 30/07/03	1	Committee Meeting	Meetings	Petone Working Mens Club	-ba-	-ba-	C	8:00pm	839



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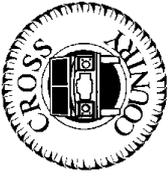
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