



VEHICLE CLUB
Wellington

Cross Country Chronicle April 2017



The Official Magazine of

The Cross Country Vehicle Club (Wellington) Inc

PO Box 38-762, Te Puni 5045, Wellington

www.facebook.com/wellingtonccvc/

The club meets at 7:30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the
Petone Working Men's Club

www.ccvc.org.nz

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WHEN HELP IS NEEDED

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:

Anthony Reid 973 8262 or 027 273 6579 or 021 061 1831

Morris Jury 566 6197 or 027 536 9596

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Vehicle Inspectors



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Shane & Carl

Mendoza Mechanical
34 Goodshed Road, Upper Hutt
Ph. 04 527 7274

NB: Please remember to call and make an appointment before turning up for an inspection!

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 email to newsletter@ccvc.org.nz or post to 34a Hine Rd, Wainuiomata or fax to 04 914 8366.

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.

Upcoming National Events

Apr 07-09: Hereworth 4WD Safari - The Rissington 4WD Run

In response to the State of Emergency declared in Hawke's Bay this week due to the extreme fire risk in the district the event has been postponed to April 7th- 9th 2017. The Hereworth Old Boys' Association 6th bi-annual Hereworth 4WD trip will be based in and around Rissington in the Hawke's Bay crossing private land. Accommodation will be camping in a central location. Numbers are strictly limited so be in quick. Price includes a 2 course meal Friday and Saturday night, 2 full cooked breakfasts, 2 lunches, hot beverages at the campsite, access to private properties on designated 4WD routes, camping at a single campsite (treks will be in a clover-leaf fashion). Event starts from 10.00am onwards on Friday with later arrivals Saturday. All vehicles to have current Warrant of Fitness and a minimum of good condition all terrain or better; have proper tow hooks front and rear (rated for snatch towing) or a tow bar with the tow ball removed (all tow balls must be removed); must carry proper snatch strap (limited number available for sale on registration), spade or shovel, fire extinguisher and first aid kit. Safety belts are to be worn at all times. Pricing \$475 for 1 vehicle (covers 2 persons per vehicle), \$180 for every additional adult in the vehicle and \$80 for a child 12 years and under (maximum of 4 passengers per vehicle). For further information please email James Nilsson at hereworth4wd@gmail.com

Apr 14-17: King of the Palace 2017

Winch challenge event at Possum Palace, Girls High School Road, Omana. Hosted by Norwest OHV Club Inc. A 3 day event with classes for Challenge, Modified and Club vehicles. All drivers and co-drivers must be a member of a club affiliated to the NZFWDA. Entry \$260, for enquiries contact: Ben Blyth 021 047 4318

Apr 22: Whangarei Four Wheel Drive Club Tag-a-long Day

At Tangiteroria. Meet at Meet at the Upper Wairoa War Memorial Park for Registration, leaving 9.00am. This is a tagalong across a farm under the Tangiteroria ranges. Suitable for all grades of 4WD. Bring your own lunch, drinks and sturdy footwear. No alcohol or dogs permitted. \$50 per vehicle with all funds raised going to cancer research. Participants will need to complete the registration form prior to the event and sign an indemnity Form on the day. For a registration form please email tangitrek@gmail.com or for further info phone Geoff 09 434 6955 or 027 293 4208.

Apr 23: NZFWDA National 4x4 Trial - Round 6 FINAL

A National 4x4 Trial is based upon the ability of Competitors to drive their vehicles over difficult terrain, including hill climbs, water courses, mud bogs, up steep hills, over rocks, ruts, along banks and a speed section. Open to the public and spectator friendly, the **NZ National 4x4 Trials Series** comprises of one-day events hosted by NZFWDA affiliated Clubs around the country. This Round is hosted in Manawatu.

Some details in this column appear courtesy of Cathy 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.

Hi Everyone

There's news, events, dates, locations to pass on so rather than hide it all in endless text I'm going to give it to you in bullet points:

1. Club meeting on Wednesday 12th next week is at Boulcott Heritage Farm golf club at the end of Military Road which is off High Street by Lower Hutt Hospital. This is a trial and may be a permanent move as PWMC are making changes which don't favour us. Note that there's no restaurant or bar at the golf club. Normal start time at 7.30pm.
2. Central Zone AGM is on this Saturday in Palmerston North - CCVC needs an NZFWDA rep to attend a few meeting in P. Nth each year. They're looking for a new committee - you could be President, Secretary or Treasurer as well. I'm going up to the AGM on Saturday - you're welcome to join me.
3. CCVC AGM is at our May meeting - more details in the newsletter coming out in a few days. If you think we should be doing different things or doing things differently then how about coming on the Committee! Or nominate someone you believe would contribute - they can't be put on the Committee without their agreement as they need to sign the nomination form for it to be valid (this will be in the newsletter). Please think about this. There are general committee places where you can contribute without official duties - a chance to see what happens at Committee meetings and then decide what's for you. Or you could jump right in at Vice-President.
4. CCVC Awards night is at Boulcott Farm Heritage Golf Club on Friday 7th July. More details will be in the newsletter. Only \$20 each for dinner. Davey Hughes from Swazi Clothing is the guest speaker and it'll be another great night. You'll be able to book and pay through the Members web site shortly.

OK that's it for now. Hope this drop of rain isn't causing any problems. It'll make driving off-road more interesting for a while!

Neil B
President

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Google Map



Club Clothing

John Vruink on behalf of the club has been investigating club branded clothing for members to purchase. He is working on getting samples and we will get the gear modelled and photographed shortly (and include a form to fill out) but in the meantime here is a list of the new club clothing and prices:



Cap	Navy/White 4014	\$15
Beanie	Navy 3059	\$20
Hoodie	Navy ZHH	\$75
Soft Shell Jacket	Black SJM	\$110
Jacket	GJ Navy/Charcoal	\$100
Polo Shirt	Navy/White	\$40

If interested please contact John directly on john.vruink@gmail.com



Notice of Annual General Meeting

Cross Country Vehicle Club (Wellington) Inc

Notice is hereby given that the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Cross Country Vehicle Club (Wellington) Inc will be held on Wednesday 10th May 2017 at the Petone Workingmans Club, Udy Street, Petone. The AGM will be in association with the May club meeting.

**Paul Sadlier
Club Secretary**

Editorial Ramblings:

1. With the upcoming AGM comes your chance to influence the direction of the club - you can do this by either standing for the committee yourself or by finding someone with similar views and getting them to stand for the committee. The time spent on committee matters is not too much (11 monthly evening meetings) plus anything in between doing whatever tasks you've volunteered for. There is a nomination form in this magazine - if you can't extricate it from the mag then drop me an email and I can send you a copy.
2. The AGM is also the place to put forward the names of anyone you think worthy of honorary life membership of the club - I'm not exactly sure of the criteria for life membership but it involves more than just length of membership, it also involves the contribution made to the club. If you have any ideas talk to a committee member.
3. Where do you want to go? Everyone joins the four wheel drive club to go out and about four wheel driving, eh? Yes we all do but sooner or later you do run out of places to go so we are on the look out for more places to visit - these could be in the Wellington area, the Wairarapa, the Manawatu or further afield, people are happy to drive a distance if the place you are going is worth the visit. So if anyone has any ideas please let the committee know so that plans can be made. In the past we had a lot of places to go but we haven't been to them for ages and have lost the contacts as well so any suggestions, names, etc would be welcomed.

And finally, don't forget that the April club night is not at the Petone Workingman's Club as they are renovating the room we usually have. The April meeting will be at the Boulcott Heritage Farm Golf Club in Lower Hutt.

CCVC 2017 Annual Awards



Military Road Lower Hutt

Cost: \$20 members & partners, \$40 guests
Drinks from 6pm, dinner at 7pm

Guest Speaker: Davey Hughes (founder of Swazi)

He's hunted Caribou in the Arctic Circle, grizzlies in Alaska and buffalo in Tanzania. He's the bane of New Zealand Customs officials' lives, has run the gruelling Coast to Coast adventure race 3 times in the past 4 years, and is the man behind the highly-successful Swazi outdoor clothing label; he's a passionate conservationist and he sure knows how to spin a yarn or two. Davey Hughes – aka the Swazi Man – is many things, but one thing he's most certainly not is conventional.

As a kid growing up in Wainuiomata, he spent the weekends in the hills going after pigs and possums. But there's more to the Swazi Man than hunting and a taste for adventure. He has built an outdoor clothing company on the proudly made-in-New Zealand 'Swazi' brand; and he wants to get more kids into our back-country having the roughing-it adventures that kick-started his remarkable life.

Davey lives life to the full, but what underpins all of this is his absolute love of the great outdoors.



Also drawn on the night will be the Club Champs winner of the weekend away in Martinborough at Brackenridge Estate.



**Bookings can be made via the club Wild Apricot website. For more details contact John Vruink on 567 1142 or 027 443 9981.
Bookings required by June club night.**

South Island Trip: January 2017

Wanaka to Haast

Wanaka was a direct contrast to Alexandra, It was hot and there was no wind and we could actually wear some summer clothes. The camp was undergoing ablution block renovations. It all looked very nice except the showers were poorly designed (or still unfinished), as water flowed out onto the bathroom floor.

We had left Murray and Glennys behind at Alexandra as the truck part Tie-rod extension thingy that was ordered was the wrong one, so it meant they were still waiting around. We were hoping they would make it to Wanaka for our second night there.

4 trucks left Wanaka for a trip past Glendhu Bay, up the Matukituki Valley, which was surrounded by dramatic cliffs, to Mt Aspiring National Park. We did catch a glimpse of Mt Aspiring on the way up, but by the time we came back the mist had come down. There were mini waterfalls coming out of the cliff walls.

"The road leading deep into the Matukituki Valley penetrates a wilderness



where mountains disappear into the clouds and the silence is broken only by rushing streams." (*Explore New Zealand: Over 60 scenic driving tours*. John Cobb, P113)

We passed sign-posted walkways, which looked popular judging by the

number of vehicles in the carpark; and the entrance to the Treble Cone Skifield.

The corrugations on the road were rough and we reminded the other vehicles that in Australia we minimised the effect by keeping the vehicle in 4 wheel drive and going a little faster. Of course that meant more dust so we had to keep further apart.

We chuckled about a sign on a bridge that said "Give Way" and the next sign straight after said "Cows 10km". Did the cows have right of way on the bridge we wondered.

We stopped for a walk across a swing bridge which was the start of other walkways into the Mt Aspiring National Park and then continued to the end of the road to Raspberry Carpark which was the main access to the National Park for tramping and day walks.

On our way back down the valley we stopped for a walk to the Wishbone Falls and then drove up to the Treble Cone Skifield. 1250 metres above sea level at the car park. Each

corner was given a name and the one that amused us was called "Cow-Poo Corner." We had lunch at the top and had a magnificent view right up Lake Wanaka and to the surrounding mountains. It was really a Wow moment! Did I mention



that the views were simply stunning! Who needs a scenic flight when you can see the same views by vehicle.

After lunch we drove back through Wanaka and then went up the right hand side of Lake Hawea to Dingleburn Station. By this time we were down to 3 trucks. Some people had opted to visit the Wanaka Warbirds Museum and/or the Transport Museum while they had the chance. Wanaka also has Puzzling World but we all gave that one a miss...it looked crowded.

Dingleburn Station was pretty barren, sparse in vegetation and with winds off Lake Hawea; we didn't actually see any animals except rabbits, hares and the occasional wild goat. We got to the end of the public road and took photos of the travelling mascots climbing out of rabbit burrows.

Glennys and Murray had made it to Wanaka by the time we arrived back at camp that afternoon; their truck was repaired with the correct part.



We decided that night that we would have our nightly meeting at an outside table at a pub on the waterfront. It was a lovely get-together/ farewell as the Rabbits were leaving us the next morning.

The next morning we watched paragliders and bi-planes flying over the camp and after we packed up we said goodbye to Ashley and Gillian who were heading towards Invercargill to visit relatives.

As we left Wanaka to go to Haast we travelled up Meads Rd, Hunter Valley, which is on the top side of Lake Hawea and the vegetation was green and lush in comparison to the vegetation just across the lake.

At the end of the valley we were stopped by a sign that said that it was a private road and only Landrovers could proceed beyond that point. As we didn't qualify and didn't want to incur the wrath of Land Rover owners we turned around and went back to the Kidds Bush Conservation Area for morning tea. We all decided that this Doc camp



would have to be a stop-over on another trip. It had lovely views down Lake Hawea with shady tenting sites and proper toilets, not long drops.

We then carried on towards Haast and stopped at the Gates Of Haast Bridge and aptly- named Thunder Creek Falls to take photos of the vast amount of water powering across the boulders and flowing down the narrow gorges.

Murray told us of a river flat that veered off to the right from the main Haast Pass Highway. It followed the Landsborough River for 15 km until it met up with the Clarke River bluffs. It was a lovely flat diversion from the dense native vegetation along the Highway and we had lunch there.



When we arrived at Haast Motor Camp it was obvious that the sites were very wet so we chose the driest, sheltered places (or so we thought) to put up our tents. The meeting that night was held in the kitchen/lounge area.

Linda Millard

Team Grasshopper

Hi everyone

Expressions of interest are sort for those wishing to attend a CCVC Shiny 4x4 trip to the South Island mid winter.

Time Frame: Saturday 8th July 2017 to Saturday 15th July

Brief outline, all subject to access, weather and whatever happens

Saturday	Travel accommodation Nelson Lakes (homestay?)
Sunday	Rainbow Valley and(?) Maling Pass
Monday	Leatham valley
Tuesday	Porika Road, and valley (Reefton) motel ?
Wednesday	Big River, visit to Wiautu ?
Thursday	Nepoleon Hills start and end of Chasm Track
Friday	Spare day if weather delay...
Saturday	Head Home

Would those interested please contact:

Murray Taylor

Email trucks@truckonline.co.nz subject Winter South Island Trip...

By the 15th April.

Cheers, Murray

Round	Date	Where	Host
One	Sat 12 Nov 2016	Northern Zone	Waikato 4x4 Club, Hamilton
Two	Sat 10 Dec 2016	Northern Zone	Bay of Plenty
Three	Sat 21 Jan 2017	Northern Zone	South Waikato (Okoroire)
Four	11-12 Feb 2017	Central Zone	Valley
Five	Sat 11 Mar 2017	Central Zone	Mt Egmont
Six	Sat 22 Apr 2017	Central Zone	Manawatu



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Hokianga 4x4 Safari: March 2017-03-26

Linda Millard: Team Grasshopper

We were invited by Stewart with "Daise" to join the Hokianga 4x4 Safari, providing funds for Northland Rescue Helicopter. Sounded good we thought; we could spend a few extra days in Northland either side of the Safari. So, on a round-about camping trip in Grasshopper, which included Ninety Mile Beach, Cape Reinga and Coopers Beach we arrived at the base camp at Waiotemarama Sports Complex/Rugby grounds near Opononi (Hokianga Harbour) on the Friday just after lunch. We were so keen that we were the third truck in to register and be scrutineered. We set up the tent and as the afternoon wore on we could see that Oz Tents were the norm with a few campers and camper vans towing tuff trucks thrown in for good measure. We called our area "Oz Tent Alley".

The next morning started off cold enough for people to be wearing woolly hats and thick jackets. At the 8.00 briefing we were told that we would go across farmland, up and down hills, through river crossings, into muddy bogs and be shown



some spectacular views as well as differing vegetation. We were told that we would arrive back at camp around 5.00pm. All good! The Tuff trucks left earlier then it was time for the "Shiny" trucks to leave.

There were about 70 trucks all together. Everyone left the camp in groups and the expectation was that we would stay within our groups. Four trucks lined up behind our leaders, Chris and Leanne from the Kauri Coast 4WD club, in their purple truck and thereafter became known as "Team Purple". We stayed together and played together all weekend; unlike other trucks that seemed to be in different groups at different times.

Our leaders promised us a few tougher challenges and deviations thrown into the Shiny tracks. We chose the shiny tracks; we still had to get home at the end.

The first 9km took nearly 2 hours as people and trucks adapted to the farmland conditions. We had one couple in our group that had never taken their Jeep Wrangler off road so we were all very conscious of the driver's learning curve. By the end of the weekend he was tackling everything confidently. At an early gate there were deepish ruts

leading up to it with a gentler diversion; our choice!



After the first long bog paddock we lost our tailing vehicles (the next group) and waited for them to turn up for 20 minutes. Where they had gone we don't know, they had been behind us all the way; they must have taken a wrong route. All the routes were clearly signposted with arrows, orange

ribbons and little signs on gates. There were some interesting stream crossings and a part where Daise took an alternative diversion down to a stream.

We then went through a pine forest which had some slippery parts on the track. Grasshopper slipped off the track into a ditch almost resting against the pine tree. We powered out of there and managed to get back onto the track. The Wrangler behind us wasn't quite so lucky and needed to be winched backwards to have another go and with guidance he managed to keep to the other side of the narrow track and proceed through the forest.





We came then to a slippery downhill track. There were Marshalls guiding trucks on two really slippery corners on

the downhill. (It was amazing how many people called "Marshall" there were; they seemed to be everywhere in their orange vests and "Marshall" was always being called on the radio.) The shiny trucks were stopped while the Tuff trucks came down a rutted track on the



other side of the hill meeting at the same creek crossing at the bottom. Apart from the articulation that these trucks were undertaking, they seemed to have the less slippery option. We commented on a shiny Nissan twin cab ute that was in the Tuff truck class. We heard later that it had suffered not just panel damage but structural damage as well. "Ouch....expensive!" The shiny downhill track was getting more and more slippery and we were just about to move on when we heard that a vehicle had got sideways across the track. It had to be pulled around from behind so it's front lined up with the track.



Three of our group were nicknamed "the moving road cones" (our leader's orange vest and shirts to match Daise's orange paint work) and were photographed whenever we stopped. It became quite a joke! Daise was also nicknamed "the safety vest!"

We had lunch on a lovely river flat and were told that the weekend before, when all the

flooding was happening in Northland, the river flats were waist deep in water.

The section after lunch gave our vehicles an under-belly massage/ cleanse as we passed through the fragrant kanuka brush. We stopped on the top of a hill and could see sea on both sides. Coming off that hill or another, a Pajero in front of our group slipped into a ditch at the side of the track and dug it up so it looked like porridge. The track was wide enough to avoid the ditch and not particularly slippery at that point. We put his ditch

digging and porridge- making down to tiredness and a long day. The vehicle in front of the Pajero tried to pull him out but it wasn't heavy enough as he was really stuck in the mud, so our leader pulled him out. Next thing Chris and Leanne's vehicle was creeping downhill without a driver. As Leanne said, after they managed to scramble to the driver's seat, "Did you see



our remote controlled truck... you just call it and it comes to you?" (But only on the downhill!)

We polished a rock with our diff as we slid onto it going across a "flat" plain and apparently Stewart polished it some more. Maybe that was where we dented our transmission armour plate, which made us notice that we were losing transmission oil a few days later. We had one final stream crossing that was catching some trucks on the ascent and they had to be winched or towed out. Both CCVC trucks made it through that crossing but we "nearly took out" Ashley Lucas who was taking photos for NZ 4WD Magazine.

We travelled alongside the Waimamaku River and arrived back at camp at 5.10, right on schedule but there were other vehicles behind us who probably didn't make it back to camp until after 6.00. We were close enough to the Waimamaku Bar and Grill and people

could eat there or get fish and chips from Opononi or Omaere, but we cooked our meal at the Waioitemarama Complex Camp area on site.

Day 2:

We started at 9.00 and drove straight along a river bank towards the beach. The Tuff trucks were with us all that day. The first 100 metres off-road were quite technical; boulder hopping towards sand. The organisers wanted to take us a short distance across the beach and then out via a stream. The participants had other ideas and eventually we took off at a great speed along the beach to it's end. It was actually really beautiful, with sand and rocks. The rocks revealed rock pools teeming with water creatures. The rock pools were deep enough to drop a tyre into as one vehicle found. After we left the beach we were bush bashing through the gorse and at the top of a hill saw a sea view similar to the Airstrip view on Orongorongo Station.

We could always tell when we had encountered an obstacle; trucks were banked up and parked, people were out of their vehicles standing around watching and taking photos. This was a 2 way-drop down a clay bank. The Tuff trucks and those wanting a bigger challenge took the route down the steeper bank while others were directed down a less but still challenging drop. From observation it looked as if those trucks that could pivot (pirouette) on their back tyre on the simpler track could avoid getting their back bumpers rearranged



but we heard a lot of loud bangs as trucks came off the rock face. Stewart chose the tougher route but Graeme was directed to the lesser slide down and made it look easy.

Another uphill and another hold-up as trucks had to turn and reverse through a gateway so they were pointing in the right direction. We heard of a few vehicles which came close enough to scrape their mirrors on gate posts.

We came down towards a second beach and blasted along to the end. The silica in the sand was actually squealing under tyres. This beach had 2 big naturally formed caves; one with a ledge that opened to the sea. I would imagine that the sea would pound through the cave



and "window" in high tide.

As we left that beach we travelled through a Conservation area which hadn't seen vehicles for 10 years as they wanted to re-establish the vegetation.

We travelled towards a hill which overlooked the Hokianga Harbour for a group photo and then came

out via a driveway and then down towards the camp. We arrived back about 12.30, had lunch and dismantled our tents to head in our homeward directions. In our case we went about 65 kms to Dargaville and put the tent up again for a couple of nights.

The Hokianga Safari is certainly a great trip, we had fun and it was worth spending a few days either side to be able to attend. It was well organised and covered at least 10 different farms, had lots of stream crossings, beach runs, hills, views and enough challenge to keep it interesting for experienced drivers in capable trucks on good off-road tyres. It was relatively dry when we went and could be really challenging in wet conditions.

Thank you to the Kauri Coast 4X4 Club for the excellent organisation and special thanks to our "Team Purple" leaders; Chris and Leanne.

G. Guy Motors

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7th January 2017 - From Alexandra Holiday Park

The group left Alexandra Holiday Park at 8.30am on an overcast and windy day. All the vehicles were ready to go and were shiny after being cleaned the day before. The group consisted of Grasshopper (Graeme and Linda), Dozer (Greg and Vanessa), Rabbit (Ashley and Gillian), Tomcat (Howard) and Runner (John and Helen). No Dark Knight (Glennys and Murray) as the vehicle had an issue and a new part had to be ordered. Grasshopper lead and Dozer tail.

Today's trip was a loop involving sealed roads, dusty gravel roads and muddy slippery rutted tracks. We drove to the end of Upper Manorburn Road and then stopped for about 20 minutes at Manorburn dam for morning tea. We returned the same way as it was out and back and then continued on the Old Dunstan Road, very dusty and the trucks had to back off and were probably stretched out over a distance of about a kilometre. The landscape was very brown and red with a few scrawny trees and tussock. The sheep were tainted with a brown tinge from the dust.

There were some interesting rock formations, some looked very like animals and birds. Team Rabbit took photos as one rock formation looked just like a rabbit posing. There was also a rabbit fence but that did not keep our Rabbits out. We went into Aston Road and then into Old Dunstan Road and arrived at a small lake called Pool Burn. Lots of little fishing cottages surrounded the lake. The island in Poolburn Reservoir was the setting for the city of Rohan in The Lord of the Rings film trilogy. As we travelled there were quite a few gates and the wonderful gate girls Linda and Vanessa did a great job of opening and closing them.

We headed off up the Long Valley Ridge Road onto Serpentine Road and stopped for lunch at the old Serpentine Church, the highest church in New Zealand. Very interesting with old artifacts. There were already some motor cyclists at the church when we arrived and other four wheel drives arrived. Rocks attached to roof to hold it down. We left and continued on our journey. The track was now boggy and rutted and there were a number of track options. Dozer now in the lead got stuck as he attempted to go from a lower track to a higher track. Tomcat(Howard) tried to pull him out but no luck, a heavier vehicle was required so Runner volunteered. A bit of digging was required and finally Dozer was pulled out.

We continued on to Lake Onslow and the weather deteriorated, it was now raining and foggy. There were a few vehicles going in the opposite direction. One in particular asked for directions as he had no maps and decided after speaking to one of our group to go back the way he had come. 3.20pm we arrived in Roxburgh and the vehicles made their own way back to Alexandra arriving about 4.30pm.

We covered approximately 220 kilometres on this trip. The weather had deteriorated when we got back to the motorcamp, it was cold and windy so the usual 8.15pm meeting was held in Runners cabin.

Wooden Spoon – Greg
Star – John

Interesting day with a variety of tracks and terrain.

(Continued on page 22)



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8th January 2017 - Alexandra to Wanaka

The group consisted of Grasshopper (Graeme and Linda), Dozer (Greg and Vanessa), Rabbit (Ashley and Gillian), Tomcat (Howard) and Runner (John and Helen). Unfortunately Dark Knight (Glennys and Murray) were unable to join us as a part for their Nissan had been ordered, but the wrong one arrived! We met at 9am, the weather was overcast and warmish. Grasshopper lead with Dozer taking up the job of being tail.

We drove to Omakau, then off the main road into Harvey Street, onto Thompson Gorge Road. The road we were on was a popular mountain bike track so care had to be taken in case a kamikaze biker met our lead vehicle on a blind corner! It was a dusty and gnarly uphill. When we reached the highest point we regrouped and aired down. In hindsight it would have been a better idea to deflate before we started our climb. From the top we could see a deep chasm down to the gorge below. On the decent we meet a group of four wheel drive vehicles going in the opposite direction.

We detoured past an old cottage and stopped for a quick look. It was very old and rickety with a dirt floor. Attached to the eaves of the roof was a wire with a rock attached to hold roof down in rough weather. We continued on the track and came across five mountain bikers on the hill. I wonder if they had any idea what was ahead of them. The landscape was covered in blue flowers, not sure of the name of them. We came across two more bikers and slowed down to try and prevent them from being covered in dust from our vehicles.



We stopped to have a look at the `Come In Time` battery and stamper, we had a short walk down a hill to have a look. This is an impressive piece of machinery. The noise created by this is hard to imagine. I wonder if the people that operated it had any type of ear muffs! Some of us explored the tunnels which were many metres long and we did wonder how far it was until the end. The temperature was very pleasant with a cool breeze, a bit of cloud and sun. As we continued on our travels we had a quick look at Bendigo and Ikamatua and then stopped at Welsh Town.

Welsh Town was a gold mining village which was established around 1875. There are many old cottages in ruins. We all had a bit of a wander and potted around taking photos and thinking about how life must have been back then. The weather had become

quite warm and sunny. There were quite a few tourists having a look around also. The next stop was Tarras where we had a quick look at the shops. At this point some of our group wanted to head back to Wanaka. The Rabbits and Dozer headed back which left three vehicles.

The three did a loop road which involved big dust clouds and very long following distances which brought us back to Tarras. We then headed for Wanaka in convoy and arrived at Wanaka Top 10 about 3pm. Great weather for setting up the tents and relaxing. Glennys and Murray had arrived from Alexandra and everyone was in good spirits. Great couple of days.

John Wadham and Helen Sutherland

Cross Country Vehicle Club (Wellington) Inc



2017 CLUB OFFICER NOMINATION FORM

I wish to nominate the person below for one of the following officer positions of the Cross Country Vehicle Club (Wellington) Incorporated.

Tick one only

Club Officers	
<input type="checkbox"/>	President
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vice President
<input type="checkbox"/>	Immediate Past President
<input type="checkbox"/>	Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/>	Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Club Captain
<input type="checkbox"/>	
General Committee Members	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Competitions Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Driver Training Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Entertainment Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	General Committee Member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Membership Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter Editor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Publicity Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Safety Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Media Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trip Coordinator

	Name (print)	Signature	Date
Person Nominated:/...../.....
Proposed By:/...../.....
Seconded By:/...../.....

Please complete this form **legibly** and return to the secretary (or committee member) so that it is in the secretary's hands by the time the AGM starts. You may post it to **CCVC, P.O. Box 38 762, Te Puni** or email to **secretary@ccvc.org.nz**; please ensure that it is posted in time for our final mail clearance on the day before the AGM. It would be preferred if it could be returned earlier if possible.

This month's Sunday Akatarawa family shiny trip was a trip with a difference. For a start off it had been raining heavily all weekend so the rivers were up, and secondly, and not surprisingly, all the visitors had cancelled.

We left from Totara Park in steady rain and made our way to McGhies Bridge via Woolshed Rd. Although the track wasn't too flooded, McGhies bridge showed a very high, muddy torrent. Third crossing was definitely jet boats only so we headed up Deadwood ridge. The flow in Cederholm Creek was up quite a bit but not too deep and clear - at least for the first vehicle. Just before the helipad we had our first incident when the Pajero in front of me stopped with "something" loose and banging. The "something" turned out to be a sway bar link that partly come undone. This was easily, although muddily, removed and the convoy was soon on the move. We stopped under the trees at the helipad for morning tea, although with ever-increasing rain almost everyone stayed in their vehicles. Continuing to the Rock Garden car park, it had nearly stopped raining but with it being too early for lunch we returned to Third Crossing for lunch, once again in torrential rain.

With few opportunities for exploring, Graham suggested we visit some of the forestry roads off Valley View. Firstly we explored Kilometre Rd, off Lindsay's Rd then took a run along Boiler Gully Rd, exploring a few side track that typically didn't go anywhere. At this point I started getting a bit lost (why hadn't I turned on the GPS tracker?) but Graham took us on a track that was supposed to loop back to Boiler Gulley. This would have been a good and reasonably easy track in summer, but after all the rain it was soft and cut up. At one point Graham suggested we turned back but that was probably harder than carrying on so we kept going. Before long we got to the last muddy climb out, which the first two vehicles made but cut the track up to the point I had winch the last bit. From there everyone except one 80 Series TOYOTA had to winch or be towed. It took an hour but finally everyone was up, and the rain had even eased off.



We were heading back to Lindsay's Rd when Graham suggested I might like to lead a run up Clarkes Creek for those interested, while he took those not wanting another challenge back up Valley View. In the end everyone wanted to come, so Graham got the enjoy being the tail instead of the leader. Apart from one very narrow section where the creek has washed out the track, the first section down from Lindsay's to the valley floor was a lot better that I expected thanks to Grant Purdie's trip to trim back the vegetation. However, once down and across the creek, the foliage was almost totally covering the track. I really needed a

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navigator just to tell me if I was still following the wheel ruts. Eventually I made it to the last section where the track crossed the creek then crossed again for the climb up to Valley View. This was a bit interesting because the left hand wheel rut at the crossing was now the river bed. I managed to form a new track and was soon on the final climb up when I heard a scream over the radio followed by urgent calls to stop. We waited for a while and gradually pieced together that someone had dropped a wheel off the track and the vehicle was threatening to go further when they tried to pull it backwards. Winching was then tried, which pulled down the anchor tree before some resetting finally got the vehicle back on solid ground and the fallen tree cleared. While all this was going on I took the front half of the convoy up to Valley View Rd so that if there were any more hazards at least we could get some vehicles through before the rest arrived. With no more problems we were soon back at Valley View Rd and even had time to pump up the tyres before the rest of the convoy arrived.

Overall the day was a great adventure. Thanks to the team of Graham and Frank who seemed to be sharing leader duties for taking what could have been a total wash-out and making a great day of it.

David Coxon
K247



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Cross Country Vehicle Club

Roll of Honour

THE ROLL OF HONOUR CELEBRATES LIFE MEMBERS OF THE CLUB
WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

Bob Jeffery
George Bean
Peter Boniface
Ron Oliver
Vern Lill
Steve O'Callaghan
Ron Wadham
Owen Farqhar
Ron Johnson

Member Information:

Name	Joined	Life Member	Brief History	Deceased
Bob Jeffery	1971	1981	Meeting to form CCVC held at Bob's house Steward 1982	1998
George Bean	1971	2004	Treasurer 1972, 73, 74, 81, 82, 84 Steward 1976	
Peter Boniface	1971	2006	Not listed as a committee member	2006
Ron Oliver	1971	1979	Initial President in 1971 President 1972, 73, 74	
Vern Lill	1971	1981	Committee 1974, 76, Steward 1975 Delegate 1977, 78, Vice President 1979, 80	2014
Steve O'Callaghan	1994	2015	New Members Officer 1999 till 2015	2015
Ron Wadham	1993	2004	Safety Officer 1997, 98, led many CCVC trips	2015
Owen Farqhar	1971?	2006	Vice President 1978, 79, 86, 87 Delegate 1996	2016
Ron Johnson	1980	2006	One of our founding members, Competitions Officer 1984, Committee member 1983, 85	2017

CCVC Life Members

Tom Adams	Graham Barr	Leith Bean	Stuart Brown	Andy Cockroft
Mike Gall	John Hughes	Heather Jeffery	Steve Lacey	Colin Landy
Phil Lewton	Bruce Mulhare	Raynor Mulhare	Peter Osborne	Ross Perkins
Grant Purdie	Tony Street			

CLUB RADIO CALL SIGNS

The Club uses a series of radio call signs in the Kxxx series to meet our licence requirements. Once you get on a trip you soon know what call sign is tail end charlie etc for the day. But basically if you don't yet have a Call Sign you are not authorised to use the Club radio licence.

Call signs are available to financial members on request to database@ccvc.org.nz

So if you have purchased a suitable radio for CCVC use, make sure you get a call sign allocated.

Trip Categories

The following trip category definitions, plus any *additional* requirements specified on individual Trip Information Sheets, will be enforced, for safety reasons. Trip Leaders will turn away vehicles or drivers that do not comply. The vehicle and driver requirements given here are a summary of the full requirements listed on the club website. Please refer to www.cvc.org.nz for a definitive list of requirements.

For all Categories: All open or soft-top vehicles must have a roll bar or roll cage.

All Categories **other than Family 4X4** 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.

Family 4X4:

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, particularly important are experience in stopping, failed hill climbs, steep descents and sidelings. Club members must have completed CCVC Driver Training and participated in at least 2 Family 4X4 trips after becoming a member.

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.

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. Club members must have participated in at least 2 Shiny 4X4 trips.

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.

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, must have approval of Trip Leader. Club members must have participated in at least 3 Club 4X4 trips.

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

Date	Name	Organiser	Category	Place
March 2017				
Wednesday 1st	Te Kopahau evening trip with Barry - Bookings Please	Barry Insull	Shiny 4X4	Te Kopahou Reserve
Saturday 4th	CCVC Training Day for Prospective Members - Bookings CLOSED	Morris Jury	Training (Unknown)	
Saturday 4th	Overnight Touring trip - Wanganui - Taihape area Book with David (david.gsi@icloud.com)	David Coxon	Family Shiny	-tba-
Saturday 4th	Wellington City Council Parks Week event - Members of the Public need to book through Wellington City Council	David Sole	Shiny 4X4	Te Kopahou Reserve
Tuesday 7th	Upper Hutt City Council Parks Week event - (Club Member Vehicles only) - Seats required - Members of the Public need to book with Upper Hutt City Council	Graeme Millard	Shiny 4X4	Akatarawa Forest
Wednesday 8th	CCVC Club Night - 7:30pm Upstairs at the Petone Working Mens Club (Games Room), Udy St Petone - All welcome	Neil Blackie	Meeting - 19:30	-tba-
Saturday 11th	Wellington City Council Special - Limited Numbers - Available only to members who have participated in WCC events. (Book by email)	David Sole	Shiny 4X4	Wellington Western & Southern Hills
Sunday 12th	Akas with Graeme - Book with Graeme (04 5267636 - 029 2001700)	Graeme Millard	Family Shiny	Akatarawa Forest
Saturday 18th	GWRC Summer Program Akatarawa Tag-a-long - Members of the public must book through the council	Graeme Millard	Shiny 4X4	Akatarawa Forest
Saturday 18th	March Madness	Neil Blackie	Club 4X4 / Hard Yakka	
Saturday 18th	NZFWDA Central Zone Club Truck Challenge - Round 5	NZFWDA Central Zone	Shiny 4X4	see notes section
Saturday 25th	GWRC Event - Belmont Sunset Trip - Seats Required.- Members of the public must book with GWRC	John Parfitt	Shiny 4X4	Belmont Regional Park
Saturday 25th	Orongorongo Monthly Trip - Book with Morris (04) 566 - 6197	Morris Jury	Family Shiny	Orongorongo area
Wednesday 29th	CCVC Committee Meeting	Neil Blackie	Meeting - 19:30	-tba-
April 2017				
Saturday 1st	Akatarawa Photography Trip with DC - Bookings Please	David Coxon	Shiny 4X4	Akatarawa Forest
Saturday 1st	Terewhiti Clean Up - All details to come	Barry Insull	Shiny 4X4	
Saturday 8th	Akatarawa with Ian G - Book with Ian (ipgroom@xtra.co.nz)	Ian Groom	Family Shiny	Akatarawa Forest
Saturday 8th	NZFWDA Central Zone AGM	NZFWDA Central Zone	Meeting - 19:30	-tba-
Wednesday 12th	CCVC Club Night - 7:30pm Upstairs at the Petone Working Mens Club, Udy St Petone - All welcome	Neil Blackie	Meeting - 19:30	-tba-
Friday 14th	Recce for Easter	Grant Purdie	Hard Yakka	Foxton Beach - McKenzie Trail
Friday 14th	Sutherlands Revisited	Stewart Burrell	Shiny 4X4	Sutherland's Track
Saturday 15th	Easter Bunnies No.1	Ian Dixon	Club 4X4	Foxton Beach - McKenzie Trail
Saturday 15th	Stu's Akers Day Out - Bookings Required (Winch & winch person essential)	Stewart Burrell	Club 4X4	Akatarawa Forest Akatarawa Forest - Slippery Forest & Ruts
Sunday 16th	Easter Bunnies No.2	Grant Purdie	Shiny 4X4 / Club 4X4	Foxton Beach - McKenzie Trail
Wednesday 26th	CCVC Committee Meeting	-tba-	Meeting - 19:30	-tba-
Sunday 30th	Orongorongo Monthly Trip - All welcome - Book with Phil 04 970 3126 (philgreen2964@gmail.com)	Phil Green	Family Shiny	Orongorongo area
May 2017				
Sunday 7th	CCVC Training Day for Prospective Members - Book with Morris (04) 566 - 6197	Morris Jury	Training (Unknown)	
Wednesday 10th	CCVC AGM - In association with Club Night	Neil Blackie	Meeting - 19:30	-tba-
Wednesday 10th	CCVC Club Night - 7:30pm Upstairs at the Petone Working Mens Club, Udy St Petone - All welcome	Neil Blackie	Meeting - 19:30	-tba-
Sunday 14th	Alatarawa Forest - Book with Frank (email preferred) francis.a@clear.net.nz 0275456586	Frank Allan	Family Shiny	Akatarawa Forest
Saturday 20th	NZFWDA Conference and AGM - Auckland	NZFWDA Association	Event	-tba-
Saturday 27th	Orongorongo Monthly Trip - All welcome - Book with Phil 04 970 3126 (philgreen2964@gmail.com)	Phil Green	Family Shiny	Orongorongo area
Wednesday 31st	CCVC Committee Meeting	Neil Blackie	Meeting - 19:30	-tba-