



November 2009 Edition

In this edition:
CEO's Column
Michael Coldham
New Board
Incorrect Club Details
Business Plan
Self Funding
Website
Education & Training Unit
Bacchus Marsh Training Complex
Variety 4WD Trek
Travel Companion Booklet
Dob-in-a-Hoon
Club Insurance
Shows
Alpine Advisory Committee
Correct Name of Organisation
Changes to Road Rules
Track Classification
FWDV Calendar for 2010

CEO's Column



It is hard to believe but here we are at the end of another year, and even harder to believe that I am at the end of my first 6 months with FWDV. My how time flies when you're having fun....and yes we are having fun, while also achieving a lot.

We appointed Wayne Hevey to the new position of Shows and Events Manager, and Fred Farrugia to the

position of Education & Training Manager. We have introduced new training courses, and doubled the number of existing Driver Training and Chainsaw Courses all of which will assist us in improving our bottom line. September saw the voting in of a new Board, and Association President in Tony Kregor, while at the AGM a vote of thanks to outgoing President Michael Coldham was made by Mark Stone CEO of Parks Victoria.

Your association is in a strong position financially, and over the next few months we will build on this further. There are new initiatives and programs in the wings, and these coupled with our new 2010 – 2013 Business Plan will see us grow the business, and be able to increase the benefits and services that we provide to you in the clubs.

Our presence at the National 4X4 Show in Melbourne followed by Leisurefest at Sandown, has made the public who are not involved in the club scene a lot more aware of our presence, and our ongoing involvement at these shows, with Victorian 4WD Show at Wandin in February, Caravan, Camping and Touring show at Caulfield in March, and our newly formed FWDV Touring Division's Tours will continue to see us growing your clubs, and filling our courses over the coming year.

I would like to thank all those volunteers who have assisted us during the last twelve months, to the board our thanks for your direction, and to our staff, Suzie Christan, Louise Munk Klint, Wayne Hevey and Fred Farrugia, thank you for putting in a great effort in helping to mould the future for FWDV.

May I finish by saying to you all we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year, and don't forget we are your association and are hear to help, so give us a call with your thoughts or ideas anytime.

Russell Sturzaker
Chief Executive Officer

[Back to the top](#)



[Michael Coldham](#)

The newly elected President of Four Wheel Drive Victoria, Tony Kregor, together with his Board members, have paid a very big compliment to the retiring President Michael Coldham for the enormous amount of work Michael has done during his seven year term as President, together with the work of the various Boards during that time. Tony said that Michael has played a huge part in getting FWDV to the present position it is in today, that of being the leading four wheel drive organisation, not only in Victoria but Australia. FWDV is now considered the key organisation by many groups, authorities and the media for opinions and Policies about most matters pertaining to four wheel driving. Much of this is due to Michael's enormous efforts in leading the whole FWDV team over many years. Whilst Michael has stepped down as President, FWDV is still fortunate to have his expertise still operating as Immediate Past President.

[Back to the top](#)



[New Board](#)

Tony Kregor heads up the recently elected FWDV Board of Management, namely -

John Turbill (Vice President), Matt Warren (Secretary), Ross Wadeson (Treasurer), with Alison McLaughlin, Nigel Beresford, Hari Maragos, Jason Lock, Graeme Walsh and James Watson as Ordinary members on the Board.

They work in conjunction with the Office staff of Russell Sturzaker (Chief Executive Officer), Suzie Christan (Office Manager), Louise Munk Klint (Research/Strategy Officer), Wayne Hevey (Projects & Events Manager), and Fred Farrugia (Education & Training Manager).

[Back to the top](#)

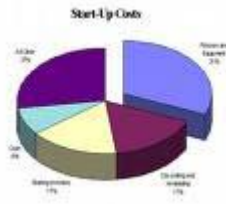


[Incorrect Club Details](#)

One main problem facing FWD Victoria's Administration is with Clubs not providing FWDV with their latest Club President, Secretary and Delegates contact details. Records and enquiries indicate that a large number of Clubs still have previous and out-of-date Club contact details still listed with FWDV. The Administration has come under a lot of complaints of recent times about lack of communication with Clubs. While FWDV accepts that its own communications can always be, and needs to be improved, it can only liaise with the Club contacts as details supplied by Clubs. So Club Committee members and even Club members please ask amongst yourselves - has your Club communicated its very latest contact details back to the FWDV? As emails are now the main form of correspondence these days, over snail mail, Clubs should ensure that all emails, including normal snail mail to a Club, need to go to an actual dedicated club-only email address (such as secretary@a4wdclub.etc.etc) and street address, and not to a member's own personal address. With this way whenever there is a change of a Club Committee person the new Office holder will still receive emails and snail mail regardless of who is in Office within the Club. FWDV has

found that when a personal address is used then the outgoing Club contact Committee person quite often does not forward on the emails or snail mail to the new person. Remember, the email and postal address of the Club and Office holder rarely changes whilst the actual person changes yearly.

[Back to the top](#)



Business Plan

At the November Presidents meeting FWD Victoria's latest and vastly improved Business Plan was presented to Club Presidents. Basically the Plan outlines changes as to how income is received, to improve communications, and how FWDV will operate. The Business Plan is too detailed to be included here, so copies will be mailed to all Clubs soon, that is providing FWDV has Club's correct mailing details! The guys that compiled the Business (Hari Maragos, Nigel Beresford, Ken Robinson, Jason Lock, Daryl Tucker, and Russell Sturzaker) are to be complimented on their hard work covering hundreds of hours.

[Back to the top](#)



Self Funding

One of the many aims of the Board is to work towards FWD Victoria being even more self-funded from outside sources and less reliant on just Club fees. More details in coming months.

[Back to the top](#)



Website Evolving

FWDV's website www.fwdvictoria.org.au will soon have ability for all Clubs to log in to keep up with activities, able to enter on-line Club's latest contact details, and able to download financial reports and other information, once a password is allocated. More details in coming months when it is all set up and running.

[Back to the top](#)



Education & Training Unit

FWDV's Driver Training Unit (DTU) has been renamed the Education & Training Unit (ETU). This is due to the Unit now presenting training other than just driver training, such as chainsaws, towing, first aid, with other types of courses to be announced later. It is liaising more-so everyday with corporate organisations so much so that FWDV is now becoming a part of those organisation's own training programs. FWDV has just won the valuable Melbourne Water driver training contract, and has tendered for quite a few other similar quality contracts.

[Back to the top](#)



[Bacchus Marsh 4WD Education & Training Complex](#)

FWDV's own Education & Training Complex is being developed near Bacchus Marsh. It is a 30 hectare ex-quarry given to FWDV by Parks Victoria. Member Clubs will be given an invite to visit the Training Complex site once it is ready to use. Work is already underway with more still to be done. The plans are to use the site to deliver driver and other training courses by FWDV to club-members and various corporate organisations.

[Back to the top](#)



[Variety 4WD Trek](#)

FWDV has partnered with *Variety - the Children's charity* to assist with marketing and promotion of the *Variety 4WD Trek* being run from 29th April to 8th May 2010. The charity event, to raise money for *Special Needs Children*, will run basically from Mildura to Mansfield via the Birdsville Track. There is an entry fee of \$2,525 per vehicle. As there is a limit on the number of entrants you will need to book soon! As part of this event there will be a muster at the Caulfield Racecourse to see if we can gather more than 1,000 4WD's to set a new Guinness Book World Record. For further information or to receive an Entry Kit call the Variety Office on (03) 8698 3900 or email to janetteconnolly@varietyvic.org.au

[Back to the top](#)



[Travel Companion Booklet](#)

A new edition of FWDV's *Travel Companion* booklet is due out early in 2010. Once more it will be paid for by a grant, plus advertisers so that it is self funded. It will be available free of charge to members of all 4WD clubs as well handed out to potential four wheel drivers at different 4WD Shows and similar.

[Back to the top](#)



[Dob-in-a-Hoon](#)

There is a *Dob-in-a-Hoon* section on FWDV's website which Club-members are encouraged to promote and use within their club. Already several prosecutions have happened due to illegal driving activities in the Wonnangatta Area over the recent Queens Birthday weekend. Alpine National Park Ranger-in-Charge Mike Dower said, "Rangers successfully followed up on information and video evidence supplied by members of the public. This should serve as a timely reminder that Park Rangers do enforce departmental regulations and that substantial penalties can be applied."

[Back to the top](#)



[Club Insurance](#)

FWDV reminds all Clubs holding events, whether on private property or not, to ensure that proper insurance is taken out BEFORE the event is even promoted. If you are unsure about details talk to the experts direct at Affinity Insurance. There is a lot to consider these days when running a Club, and Affinity is very good at helping you solve your Club insurance problems.

[Back to the top](#)



[Shows](#)

Plans are in hand for FWDV to have a prominent stand at the *Victorian 4WD Show* at Wandin on 21st February 2010, at the *Caravan & Camping Show* at Caulfield Racecourse from Tuesday 9th to Sunday 14th March 2010, plus other Shows during the year. Affinity and Parks Victoria will also be partnering FWDV at these Shows. For these Shows there is a need to assemble over 5,000 show-bags and we will be asking Clubs to provide volunteers to do so in the weeks leading up to these Shows. If your Club would like to assist please contact Wayne Hevey at FWDV Office at events@fwdvictoria.org.au or (03) 9857 5209 to register your Clubs offer. Clubs can also supply their own inserts if required.

[Back to the top](#)



[Alpine Advisory Committee](#)

The new Alpine Advisory Committee was announced by the Environment and Climate Change Minister Gavin Jennings on 13th October. "The AAC will set management direction of the greater Alpine National Parks for the next decade and beyond. The 16 members of the AAC have the skills and experience in park preservation and protection, cattle grazing and commercial tourism, as well as local government" Mr Jennings said. ***Included on the AAC is our very experienced Michael Coldham.*** The members of the committee are: Richard Pickering (Chairman), Anne Casey, Graeme Dear, Philip Ingamells, Ernie Innes, Eileen Clark, Deirdre Slattery, Michael Coldham, Jarrod Paine, Glenn Tempest, Philip Weigall, Will Flamsteed, Charles Lovick, Simon Turner, Trudy Anderson and Gregg Cook. We congratulate Michael on being selected to be part of this committee.

[Back to the top](#)



[Correct Name of Organisation](#)

The name of our organisation is spoken and written in different ways by many people causing some confusion. Just to remind everyone that the correct name of this organisation is "Four Wheel Drive Victoria". I can also be abbreviated to "FWDV". The use of "4WD Victoria" or "4WDVIC" is incorrect. The use of "Association" or "VAFWDC" or variations of those is also incorrect and no longer used. The Victorian Association of Four

Wheel Drive Clubs is the registered name of the organisation and trades under the registered name of "Four Wheel Drive Victoria". Everyone is requested to please note the correct name and adjust your records.

[Back to the top](#)



[Changes to Road Rules](#)

New VicRoads changes to road rules became effective 9th November 2009. There are specific mentions of the use of hand held radios, GPS and navigation units, and the second relates to vehicle lift.

The LAW on mobile phones is contacted in Part 18 of the Miscellaneous Road Rules Victoria section 300 which reads as follows:

300 - Use of mobile phones

(1) The driver of a vehicle who is not a learner driver or the holder of a P1 probationary driver licence must not use a mobile phone while the vehicle is moving, or is stationary but not parked, unless—

(a) the phone is being used—

(i) to make or receive a phone call (other than a text message, video message, email or similar communication); or

(ii) to perform an audio playing function—
and the body of the phone—

(iii) is secured in a mounting affixed to the vehicle while being so used; or

(iv) is not being held by the driver, and the use of the phone does not require the driver, at any time while using it, to press any thing on the body of the phone or to otherwise manipulate any part of the body of the phone; or

(b) the phone is being used to perform a navigational or intelligent highway and vehicle system function in a vehicle that is not a motor bike and the body of the phone is secured in a mounting affixed to the vehicle while being used; or

(c) the phone is being used to perform a navigational or intelligent highway vehicle system function on a motor bike; or

(d) the vehicle is an emergency vehicle or a police vehicle.

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

Note:

Emergency vehicle, motor bike, park and police vehicle are defined in the dictionary. **Learner Driver** and **P1 Probationary Driver Licence** are defined in the Road Safety (Drivers) Regulations 2009.

(1A) Despite anything to the contrary in rule 299(2), the driver of a vehicle who is a learner driver or the holder of a P1 probationary driver licence must not use a mobile phone, including using the phone to perform a navigational or intelligent highway and vehicle system function or an audio

playing function, while the vehicle is moving, or is stationary but not parked.

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

(2) For the purposes of this rule, a mobile phone is secured in a mounting affixed to the vehicle if, and only if—

(a) the mounting is commercially designed and manufactured for that purpose; and

(b) the mobile phone is secured in the mounting, and the mounting is affixed to the vehicle, in the manner intended by the manufacturer.

(3) For the purposes of this rule, a driver does not use a phone to receive a text message, video message, email or similar communication if—

(a) the communication is received automatically by the phone; and

(b) on and after receipt, the communication itself (rather than any indication that the communication has been received) does not become automatically visible on the screen of the phone.

(4) In this rule—

affixed to, in relation to a vehicle, includes forming part of the vehicle;

body, in relation to a mobile phone, means the part of the phone that contains the majority of the phone's mechanisms;

held includes held by, or resting on, any part of the driver's body, but does not include held in a pocket of the driver's clothing or in a pouch worn by the driver;

mobile phone does not include a CB radio or any other two way radio;

use, in relation to a mobile phone, includes any of the following actions by a driver—

(a) holding the body of the phone in her or his hand (whether or not engaged in a phone call), except while in the process of giving the body of the phone to a passenger in the vehicle;

(b) entering or placing, other than by the use of voice, anything into the phone, or sending or looking at anything that is in the phone;

(c) turning the phone on or off;

(d) operating any other function of the phone.

Please note the commentary that excludes CB from the LAW (see highlighted section in yellow). Please note the wording used for the use of gps etc. Of particular interest will be the law as it affects computers fixed inside the car for navigation, emails, and office work. It will be important for members to carry a copy of this section in the glove box just to settle any overzealous officer.

VSB14

The second issue relates to VSB14 where VicRoads have now created primary legislation to limit vehicle lift to 50mm without an engineering certificate. This law applies to everyone save

that our members will be pleased to note that Government has recognised the efforts of your Association and an exemption presently applies to 4X4 vehicles.

For those of you would like to know what the definition of a 4X4 is, please look up classification AC and MC. Your Association is working with industry, AAAA. and the VACC to secure an agreed approach with respect to the management of vehicle lift in 4x4 vehicles.

Stays tuned to eNews for further information, or visit the Association web site at www.fwdvictoria.org.au

More info in *Trackwatch* and at:
www.roadrules.vicroads.vic.gov.au/summary.php

[Back to the top](#)



[Track Classification](#)

The Track Classification program will start up again early in 2010. Clubs will be given at least six weeks notice. Classifications need to follow set guidelines. Parks Victoria is again happy to support this program financially. Tracks are classified to suit soft-roaders in dry weather. More information in coming months.

[Back to the top](#)

January 2010						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

[FWDV Calendar for 2010](#)

The FWDV Calendar for 2010 is will be viewable from the 1st Dec on the website at www.fwdvictoria.org.au

[Back to the top](#)

	Four Wheel Drive Victoria
	RSL Hall, Centreway, Balwyn North VIC 3104 Australia PO Box 1015G, Balwyn North, VIC 3104 Australia Tel: 03 9857 5209 Fax: 03 9857 5260 Email: office@fwdvictoria.org.au Web: www.fwdvictoria.org.au

If you wish to stop receiving information from us you can click here to [unsubscribe](#). All future messages will include the facility to unsubscribe as well. Any such request will be removed from our email list. If you do not unsubscribe your email address will remain active on our mailing list, and this will be taken as implied consent to receive email. We advise that we are committed to complying with Anti Spam Act. We do not send any unsolicited email. Anyone on our database is there because we have done, or are doing, business with you, or you have made enquiries with us. We believe that you are a willing recipient of our communications. We respect your privacy and only use your email address to contact you about our products or services that may be of interest to you.

The authorising sender of this email is:

Four Wheel Drive Victoria (FWDV) RSL Hall, Centreway, Balwyn North, VIC 3104 Australia

PO Box 1015G, Balwyn North, VIC 3104 Australia Telephone: 61 3 9857 5209 Facsimile: 61 3 9857 5260

Email: office@fwdvictoria.org.au Web: www.fwdvictoria.org.au