



SEPTEMBER 2024
This issue:

Rocking the Boys

Tom Minto

A small (possibly elite) group assembled at the Karragullen meeting point at 0900 hrs on Saturday 10 August 2024 for our trip to explore Boyagarring and Boyagin Rocks. Three vehicles were involved plus four people. Ross led the trip, Samantha and Steve were in their black Crosstrek plus myself in my Forester.

Dividing up roles was simple- I had a wired in 2-way radio rather than a hand held and Steve had just done a trip report. Tail end and trip reporting were therefore pretty much self-selecting for me.

Ross provided a briefing then we took off east down Brookton Highway. First stop was Christmas Tree Well. The amount of rain over the last few months meant there was actually visible water quite near the surface level. There are some very large Christmas Trees around the well and nearby waterhole. They would be spectacular when in flower.

See inside for more details

- LAKE KEPWARI
- LANCELIN DUNES
- THERE BE GIANTS THERE II
- HOW TO: CAMPER TRAILER BUILD PART V
- UPCOMING TRIPS & MORE!





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Acting President's Report

Ross Mead



Whilst sitting out on my patio this evening enjoying a well-earned Gin and Tonic plus nibbles, I got to thinking about the Subaru 4WD Club and what it means to me. Having a Gin and Tonic tends to put me in a contemplative mood.

It all started back in 2017 when I mentioned to my wife that I was contemplating retirement in the not-too-distant future. This brought a very rapid response of “you can’t retire till you get a hobby. I don’t want you underfoot in my workspace”.

After nearly 50 years of living and working in the bush, I had ended up spending most of my time in an office not in the bush. So, I thought my hobby in retirement would be to get back out into the bush. That is all well and good, but how? For that a 4WD is needed.

As part of my investigations, some lengthy chats were had with a work colleague and friend who is a long-term Subaru 4WD Club member. After listening to him, the decision was made to buy a Subaru Forester and join the Subaru 4WD Club. That was back in 2017. Joining the Club has proven to be a good decision as it provides opportunities to make new friends and “go bush” whilst contributing to maintaining marital harmony.

You have no doubt seen the advertisements for “Act, Commit Belong” on TV sponsored by the WA Government. They are worthy of your consideration. Being an active Club member contributes significantly to your mental and physical wellbeing. Being part of the Subaru 4WD Club provides the support to visit places which you always wanted to visit but weren’t sure about doing so alone. Other Club members provide information and opportunities to see and experience lots of places previously unknown. Being in the club also provides the opportunity to gain a whole lot of new friends to share thoughts, feelings and experiences with.

The Club’s August trips have provided opportunities to experience and enjoy a number of nature’s moods with friends. Traversing the Lancelin Dunes is great fun and always a good way of getting your adrenaline dose increased. Climbing granite rocks to look out over the varied landscape covered in bright yellow fields of Canola or tall forests of Wandoo. Camping out under a clear starry night whilst enjoying the warmth of a campfire and good conversation with your travelling companions. Alternatively, camping in the rain watching the horizon fade together through the rain into shades of blue, green and grey. Breath in the clear, crisp, cool air. It almost feels like you are drinking not breathing. Feel the rain mist on your face. Snuggle into your nice warm sleeping bag. Lay there listening to the rain pattering on the outside of your tent before falling asleep. Aside from all that, marvel at the kaleidoscope of pattern and colour formed by 170,000 Tulips planted at Araluen by volunteers and staff. Travel to the far corner of Australia where, on a clear day, you can see another country. All wonderful experiences of nature and friendship facilitated through membership of the Subaru 4WD Club.

For September, there are another variety of opportunities for you to enjoy the Club, friends and nature. Be it a social lunch to meet with friends and celebrate the life of long-time member Karl Boeing, a walk through the Jarrah forest and historic townsite of Jarrahdale, an extended trip though the Great Western Woodlands and Goldfields, or a visit to the spectacular world biosphere reserve that is the Fitzgerald National Park. For those Club members doing “The big trip around”, it will be the chance to travel across the Nullarbor Plain.

Above all, be an active member of your club and contribute to its rich heritage. Participate in trips, provide ideas for trips, attend a meeting, meet with other club members, be a part of the management group but above all, “Act, Commit, Belong”. We will all be the richer for it.

Writing a Trip Report

Vanessa Carn



On each trip the leader will ask one or more of the members to write a report. If you can't write the report assigned to you, please let the trip leader know. Otherwise, send your trip report(s) in to the trip leader to review and collate as soon after the trip as you can.

Trip leaders please **include photos** with collated reports if you can. Send photos as **separate files**, or send a link to your cloud image storage (eg Dropbox) to share them. Do not embed them in the trip report document(s) as the image quality is reduced if you do.



Things to include with your report(s):

- Your name
- The trip name
- The date and day of the trip
- Photos - Please name & date all images -
If I wasn't there, I need your help to match the images to your report



Thank you all for your help to capture and share our story!

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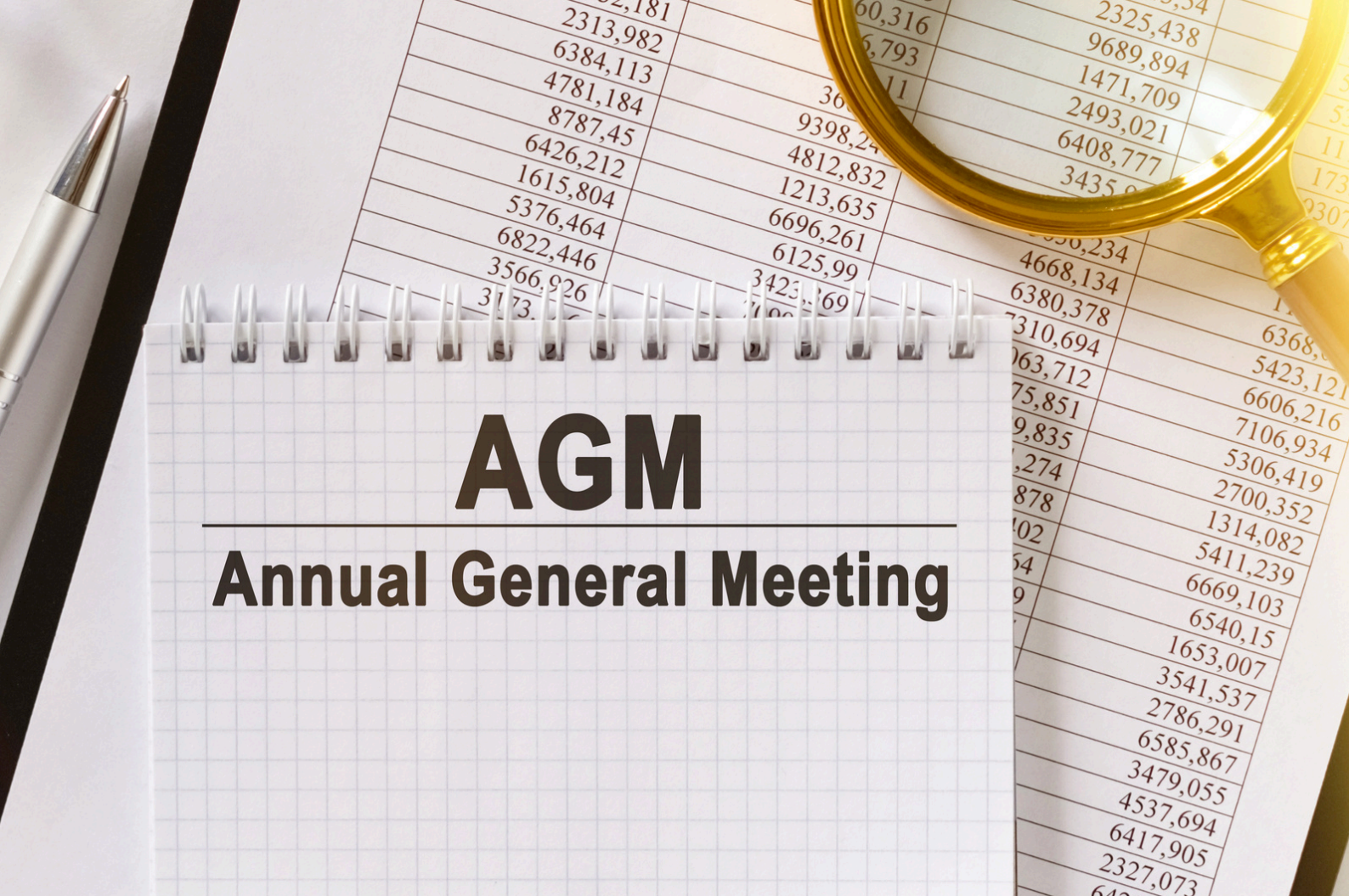
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AGM

Annual General Meeting



**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FOR THE
SUBARU 4WD CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.**

TUESDAY 08 OCTOBER 2024

IN THE

**CITY OF SOUTH PERTH LIBRARY MOPOKE ROOM AND
ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE**

AGM FOLLOWS THE GENERAL MEETING WHICH STARTS AT 7.30 PM

**AGM AGENDA INCLUDES: PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT,
TREASURER'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS,
AND ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS & COMMITTEE**

SNATCH KIT GUIDE

Follow This Guide To Build YOUR Perfect Snatch Kit



Choosing The Correct Strap

- THERE ARE 2 TYPES OF STRAPS:
 - FLAT SINGLE LAYER (20% MAX STRETCH)
 - DUAL LAYER ROUND BRAIDED NYLON (30% MAX STRETCH)
- STRAPS SHOULD BE 2-3X THE 'GVM' OF LIGHTER VEHICLE IN THE RECOVERY
- YOU SHOULD ALWAYS CARRY A STRAP SUITED TO YOUR VEHICLE
- DUAL LAYER ROUND ROPE STRAPS HAVE A VERY LONG SERVICE LIFE AND HIGHER ELASTICITY THAT REDUCES SHOCK LOADS

Choosing The Right Bridle / Equaliser

- BRIDLES DISTRIBUTE THE LOAD ACROSS 2 POINTS
- RECOVERY POINTS LESS THAN 750mm APART CAN USE 2.5/3M LONG BRIDLES
- RECOVERY POINTS MORE THAN 750mm APART SHOULD USE 5m OR LONGER BRIDLES
- BRIDLES DONT NEED TO STRETCH AND JUST NEED ANY RATING OVER OVER 6000KG MBS
- BRIDLES AND TREE TRUNK PROTECTORS ARE SIMILAR
- TREE TRUNK PROTECTORS (WIDE STRAP) ARE BETTER AS A TREE TRUNK PROECTOR IF YOU'RE DOING A LOT OF WINCHING. YOU MAY NEED A BRIDLE AND A TREE TRUNK PROTECTOR



Choosing The Right Shackle

- METAL SHACKLES ARE RATED IN WLL WITH A MBS OF X6
- SOFT SHACKLES ARE RATED IN MBS
- NEVER USE 'D' SHACKLES IN 4WD RECOVERY SITUATIONS
- SOFT SHACKLES ARE SAFER, LESS DAMAGING TO PEOPLE AND VEHICLES. THEY FLOAT IN WATER AND THERE'S NO PIN TO LOSE
- SOFT SHACKLES ARE NOT SUITED FOR SHARP EDGES OR THIN FLAT STEEL CONNECTION POINTS. THEY NEED LARGE CURVED RADIUS EDGES TO BE SAFELY USED.
- YOU MAY NEED A COMBINATION OF METAL AND SOFT SHACKLES TO SUIT YOUR VEHICLE AND POSSIBLE RECOVERY SCENARIOS
- TAKING SPARE SHACKLES IN YOUR KIT IS HELPFUL IN CASE ANY ARE LOST OR DAMAGED

Rocking the Boys

Day One - 10 August 2024

Tom Minto



After some general wandering around, we took to the highway again heading east before turning onto Pike Road. There may have been intervening roads. Ross loves to travel on secondary roads and is very familiar with these. As long as one follows, there is exposure to many backroads.

We stopped for morning tea at the site of the former Dale River Tennis Courts. This had been a big operation with five courts. The sequential decline and collapse could be followed by the state of what was left. Two end courts were obviously abandoned first as these had the largest gum trees growing through the bitumen.

Next stop was **Boyagarring Rock** which was located within a Nature Reserve. We travelled along the west edge of the reserve using Pike Road which progressively deteriorated. We then turned onto a track which skirted along the east edge of the reserve. This became quite interesting driving, particularly for Samantha and Steve in their relatively new Crosstrek.

Progress was halted by a tree which had fallen across the track and onto the adjoining farm fence. Driving around it clearly wasn't an option, so we followed Ross on foot in steadily climbing up through the bush to Boyagarring Rock. This constituted genuine exercise. I'm not sure how much closer we could have gotten to the rock if we hadn't been blocked by the fallen tree. Boyagarring Rock is not as prominent as many others. However, Ross did find what seemed to be an area for making of indigenous sharp edged rock tools. There were several areas on the rock where water was seeping out of the soil and then forming small trickles down the rock surface.



Tom & Sammi at Boyagarring



Group at Boyagarring

After lunch, the next stop was **Boyagin Rock**. Getting to Boyagin entailed travelling along several dirt back roads through picturesque farming country. Much of this was covered in vivid yellow flowering canola interspersed with rich green pasture and other cereal crops.

There is a picnic area at the base of Boyagin Rock has a number of information signs about the environment plus bbq's, seating and toilets, all clean and tidy. This rock is far bigger than the first we visited.

[\(Story continues over page\)](#)

One of the interpretive signs here floated the idea that indigenous occupiers claimed that if you were able to get to the top without stopping, you would enjoy a long life. This probably makes cardiovascular sense. On a shorter time frame, the suggestion was that to climb the rock and return would take around 45 minutes. We all set off together but after some time I decided to let the others continue on to potentially add to their life duration. The other three did make it to the top and back in around 45 minutes. I should have thought to ask if there had been any stopping involved.



Group on track to Boyagin Rock



Heading up Boyagin Rock



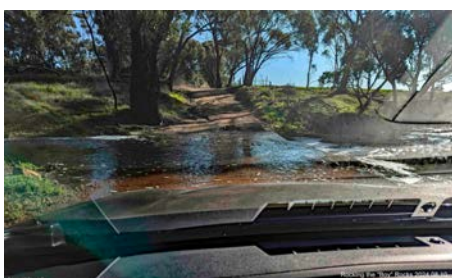
Sammi on Boyagin Rock



Steve & Sammi at Boyagin Rock

Ross advised me that from the top of Boyagin Rock, there are spectacular views across the surrounding Nature Reserve and adjoining farmland. Steve and Samantha expressed a desire to return for a longer visit to explore the several other rock outcrops nearby. After exploring the top of the rock, everyone headed back to the start point for some afternoon tea. This is obviously a popular spot to explore as we met several other groups of people also walking to/from the rock or relaxing at the picnic site.

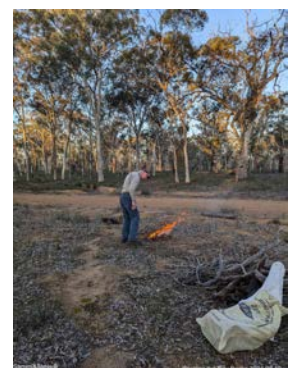
From Boyagin Rock, a further half hour drive along picturesque tracks (and creek crossings) through farms and forest took us to our camp spot. Ross had done a recce before the trip. He had chosen the site based on it being both Wandoo vegetation and located on a ridge. There were not big distances involved as this was only 140 km from our meeting point at Karragullen.



Creek crossing

Samantha and Steve had decided to sleep in their car rather than go to the effort of pitching tents for one night.

We enjoyed the traditional campfire, conversation and drinks before retiring for the night.



Ross at campfire

Rocking the Boys

Day Two - 10 August 2024

Tom Minto

There was some rain just before dawn but probably a bit less than the weather forecast suggested. This had cleared by morning which gave Ross and I the chance to get our tents at least partially dry. We were surprised to see a ute pass by with a driver and a rather large mean looking dog on the back. Samantha and Steve noted the dog had a jacket with a radio aerial. Ross confirmed our hypothesis that this would be a roo dog for hunting. We all waved at the driver but got no response back.

I suppose we should be grateful he didn't produce a gun.

There was no time pressure, so it was about 9.15 by the time we left to wind our way back to Jarrahdale. Our wanderings took us to the Mt Cook waterhole for morning tea then the Mt Solus area. Unfortunately, whilst driving down Balmoral Road, we were stopped by a large tree which had fallen across the track. Fortunately, we were able to work out a way around it with a little gardening work at the re-entry point onto the road. Samantha was a bit nervous about the possibility of damage to her car. Happily, no scratching of paintwork was involved.

Our lunch stop was at the remains of the Balmoral Italian POW camp for a wander round plus lunch. This camp was in operation during WWII with POW's stationed here to carry out forest tending works in the area. There are remains of several camp buildings worthy of checking out. From here, the run through to Jarrahdale was straight forward. Ross stopped at the RV stopping area in Jarrahdale to empty his chemical toilet into the dump site. We made our own way home from there. This was an excellent trip which deserved a bigger rollup.

Thanks to Ross for organising it and sharing his knowledge and experience plus Samantha and Steve for being such good travelling companions.



Log over road (above)

Sammi getting around tree & at POW camp (Right)



SUBARU 4WD CLUB OF W.A. INC.

CLUB MERCHANDISE – buy items at meetings



Bisley khaki 100% cotton long sleeve shirts (Mens and Women's sizes) are available at a subsidised cost of \$40 with logo (but no name) and \$45 with logo and name.

If you buy a shirt from Club stock with no name, you can have your name added later by taking the shirt to Hip Pocket in Balcatta and having it embroidered (on the spot if you ring first) at a cost of \$9.



Royal blue & white ("Contrast") polyester/cotton polo shirts (with pocket) are available at a subsidised cost of \$15



JBsWear Full Zip Polar Jackets (in Mens and Women's sizes) with logo (to be added) are available for \$36.

Details: 100% polyester for durability; 290gsm low pill polar fleece; 2 front pockets; and adjustable elastic hem with toggles.



Cap – royal blue and white. Logo to be added. \$15



Broad Brimmed Khaki Hat \$20



Royal blue and white ("Podium Bold") 100% polyester polo shirts (with pocket) are available at a subsidised cost of \$15.



Club stickers \$3



Embroidered Badges \$5



Navy blue beanies – \$12

The supplier of all Club clothing items is Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety, Balcatta.



Flat pack neoprene can coolers – \$5

Lake Kepwari

17 to 18 August 2024
Adrian Longwood



A week of rain and a forecast of heavy showers and storms led to some concerns if the trip was to go ahead, but most persevered, and a couple were unwell and missed out. I got to the meet point a little late (classic) but promptly got the convoy going, with 3 cars there waiting for me, a quick hello on the radio and off we went.

Driving down in heavy rain and strong winds, we knew it wasn't going to be dry however the forecast did have rain easing in the arvo, luckily it did just that. We drove southwest hwy, stopping in Waroona at Pinjarra Bakery for lunch, and Harvey Cheese for some treats. Passing through Collie around 2pm we continued on into the campground going for a look around the main boat ramp, other campground and day use areas before going around the lake to our campsites.

Setting up shelter beside the fire ring with the car awning and gazebo was the first priority, which fit our group nicely, away from the persistent rain. It wasn't very windy, and the rain eased in the late arvo/early evening making it pleasant for arvo nibbles and dinner as a group by the fire. Paul De Vaney joined us (guest) for the arvo but opted not to camp. The group had a relaxed arvo by the lake with nice views.



[\(Story continues over page\)](#)

The jaffle iron came out to fry up some chorizo that went with the cheese and crackers spread. Dinner came around soon enough, With Neil and Emelyn and the kids getting into marinated pork and rice, cooked on the fire, Nina had fresh veggies, while I put the jaffle iron back to use for beans toasted sandwiches for Luke Murphy (guest) and I to enjoy.



With two dogs and a few kids around there was plenty of noise and laughter as the night went on.

As people later wandered off to bed, Luke M and I hadn't set up camp yet and were still pondering how to set the swags up and not get too wet. Luke put the car awning up, slanted down so it wouldn't pool with water and had the swag on a stretcher. I made use of the picnic table we had under the awning and gazebo, so managed to fit it on there and tie it out nicely.

That worked well and kept me dry.

There was decent rain overnight waking us at times however by the morning it eased to a light drizzle and paused in periods, giving us a chance to pack things up without getting soaked. Nina (and her pooch Snow) departed first, with the rest of us heading to collie before splitting off, Neil, Emelyn and crew going the more direct way home with Luke M and I diverting via Dryandra. My Dad is caretaker of Lions Dryandra Village so I went the detour home and Luke tagged along for a forest drive.

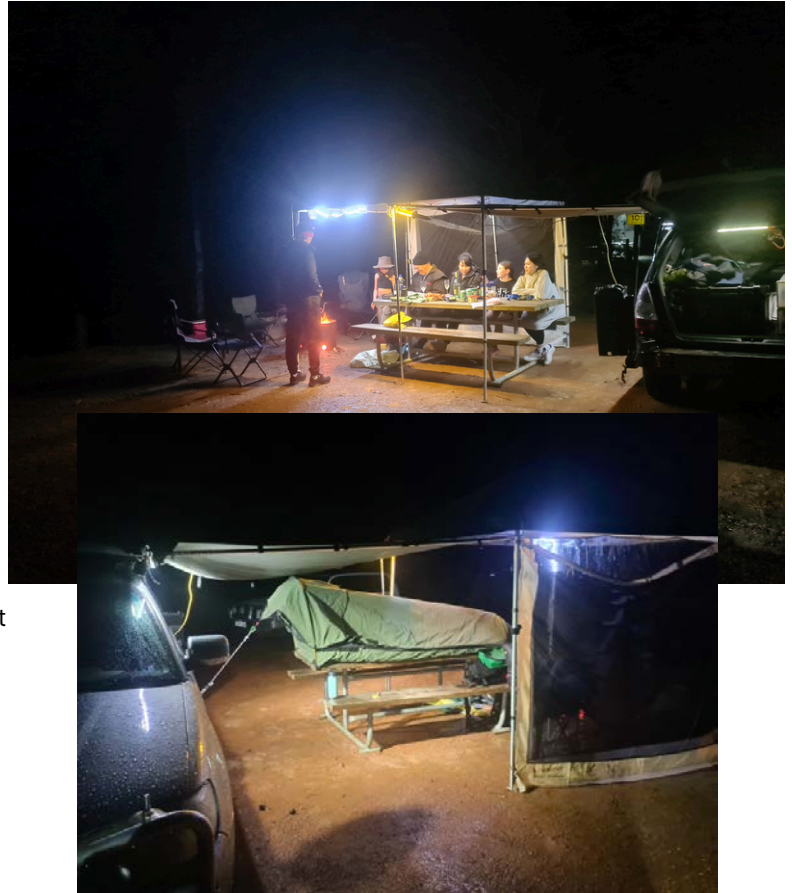
While the Trip formally ended in Collie, Luke and I came across a fallen large tree in Dryandra forest blocking the gravel tracks to Dryandra, we made our way around ended up going back with Dad and chainsaws, clearing the track so others could get through as its a main gravel track linking the Campsites and attractions. Made some Burgers for lunch before departing home. Luke and I had a pretty windy & windy drive home with a mix of rain and sunshine.

***All in all, a good weekend out despite the rain,
I think we'll try again in summer and make better use of the lake.***



***The lake is located 10km south-east of Collie in the south-west of WA.
The name Lake Kepwari comes from the local Wiilman language 'Kepwari' meaning 'playing in water'.
The area is an old mine that has filled with water from the Collie River.***

The picnic area located on the northern edge of the lake is fully accessible, including a ramp to the shore. You can find out more online <https://exploreparcs.dbca.wa.gov.au/park/lake-kepvari>



Lancelin Dunes

Sunday 4 August 2024
Adrian Longwood

The morning began at Alkimos Bakery, welcoming the three guests Asher, Jack and Luke. I led the convoy to Lancelin Bakery, filled up on pastries and treats before heading to dunes. I did point out that we had a bigger range of older vehicles on this trip compared to the usual turnout of new near vehicles, so I was in familiar territory.



Gathering the group for a detailed briefing with mostly in-experienced drivers I went through the usual info. I also did a quick check of the cars for front and rear recovery options and noticed the tow hitch in Luke's Forester. With his 2007 model and original towbar it was hard to get the bolts moving.



In a tight spot making most spanners useless, I slowly got it budging, one small portion of a turn at a time. With my finger in a cast from a recent fracture (cricket) I passed the tools on to others to finish it off in case I did more damage. With the tow hitch removed and stowed safely, Sand Flags attached we got on our way. Tyres were deflated to around 12-13psi for most of the group, with recent rain and gentle winds the sand was likely to be firmer than usual.

[\(Story continues over page\)](#)

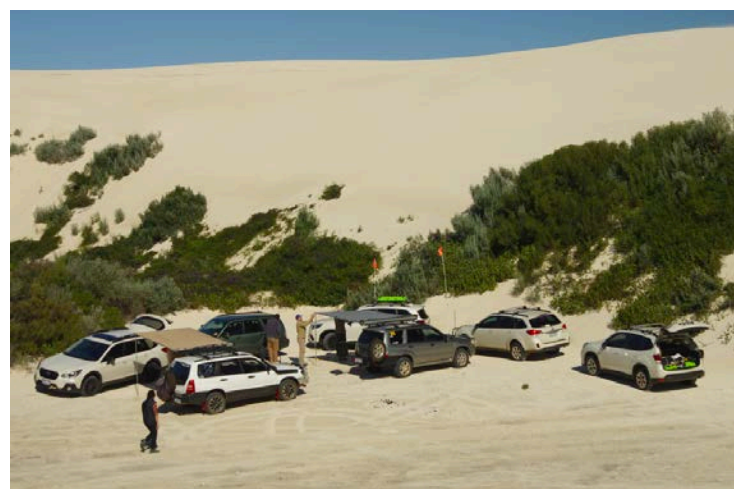
Heading off up an easy dune turned into a soft dune crest, steep descent, and awkward hollow at the base with a steep rise at the base of the dune. After my extensive briefing (maybe toooo extensive) Jack didn't absorb all the points and followed up behind me too soon, forced to make a track beside me, unfortunately lining himself up with an even steeper trap at the base of the dune [left picture] and turning his car into a plank with it stuck on the front and rear bumpers completely suspended across under the middle. Before anything could be said the next vehicle came up and over the dune and I managed to get a quick word in: 'go further right' before they also proceeded down. Came down in a better spot, but with the car ploughing straight and reduced approach angle on the latest model, Doreen found herself nose deep in the sand as well [right picture]. That makes for a new "Personal Best" of two cars stuck simultaneously on the first dune. Not deterred, the group pulled out shovels, got to digging and both cars drove out a short time later.



I got everyone moving and wound us through some easier but interesting terrain, ducking and weaving through small-medium dunes, hollows, bowls and more. It wasn't long before Jack got in a spot of bother, unable to make it up a small dune and managing to reverse to a precarious position on the edge of a hollow. [Picture #5] With some rocking back and forth, a little work on the shovel we had Jack drive down into the hollow to a firm flat area, and then he was able to get a good run up and continue on. With more cars coming through the track got chopped up a little and the cars at the back of the convoy had more troubles coming through. While this was happening I'd scouted ahead looking for the next dunes to take the group through and had gone a little too far out of sight with those behind unable to follow my tracks correctly. As the hours (minutes) went by I back tracked to regroup everyone before continuing with a closer convoy.



Winding through the south end and to the eastern edges before tracking back into the middle I ended up taking everyone along a ridgeline to give them a different experience. Eventually coming to a steep drop off, I made the choice to have the group reverse, turn, and head backwards down the adjacent large dune. Why not give everyone a new challenge? The base was wide with plenty of space, with all vehicles reversing down. I then led us towards the largest dunes and went up one of the harder/steeper sections. With mixed experiences I didn't take the group up the steepest path but certainly made them go down it. Not all were successful getting up, so we ended up dropping most cars to 10-11psi and after that most made it up. I gave everyone time to play in this area with a variety of easy-medium-hard climbs and descents to have multiple attempts at, using different speeds, and gears, and electronic controls.



Despite there being plenty of fear amongst the group, all still were successful in the different climbs and steep drops. I then took the ground over the back and down to the usual large hollow at the back middle of the dune network for lunch.

Awnings went up to shade us from the surprisingly warm weather and lunch was enjoyed with some food being shared around. A relaxed, enjoyable chat over lunch calmed everyone after the recent elevated anxiety levels.

Once packed up I led us out the harder exit, proving too hard for some. I needed to come back down, firm the track and provide some guidance on the best ways up. Huw captured these attempts well with Luke's effort enough to unlatch the Tyre carrier and the arm swung out. [\(Story continues over page\)](#)

With more experience gained I led the group on a more challenging set of hills and looped up, down and around testing their newfound skills. We eventually dislodged Jacks Forester's plastic sump guard and took that home in the boot.

It was a fun day out showing new drivers the art of taking Subarus off road and displaying the capabilities of their cars.

All the adrenaline was a bit too much for some so once we pumped up we stopped at Lancelin IGA for Ice-creams to cool down before the drive home.

On our way out of the dunes we found a lady in her Outback with interstate plates on, she was relaxing reading a book while her partner was sandboarding, and she was amazed the club existed and had just been driving through the Lancelin Dune system.



Adrian making the group reverse down



Uta & Doreen sharing stories

Trip report images thanks to Huw Porter, Uta Bauer & Adrian Longwood

The Be Giants There II

Sunday 21 July 2024

Uta Bauer - Guy Spouge - Sammi Browning - Barb & Gus King



Graeme and Naomi had kindly gone down to Mandurah before the trip and collected maps and guide booklets for us all. The whole thing about the giants is to find them all and the clues which will lead you to finding the secret giant.

It's a pretty full day, even without trying to see the Billie Bob in Subiaco and code breaking would have added to that so rather than solving the puzzle to find the 6th giant, it was left as a question mark on our maps.

I was quite taken with the details of the giants, down to the fingernails and toenails. They are really quite magnificent to see in person and even though they've been on display for 18 months, we were certainly not the only ones out visiting them. Hard to get photos without random other people in them! I also like the way the giants are integrated with the natural surroundings, Jyttes Hytte hugging a tree like a koala and Little Lui's hair made up partly of the root system of an upturned tree. Pic 2

Getting out to the mystery giant took us along the boardwalk at the thrombolites which are quite interesting in their own right. These are clots of sediment created by microorganisms, especially cyanobacteria and take a long time to develop. They are only found a few places in the world. Sadly, though they have been recently trampled by crowds who had come to see the big aurora show May 11. Pic 3

A bit blustery and rain at times but didn't stop us have a great day out - Uta



Jyttes Hytte



Thrombolites

(Story continues over page)

This was a fantastic social day trip, being my first trip with the club. I was joined by a long-term friend Maryanne, who wanted to see the Giants and took up the opportunity, not being a Subaru owner.

Being a 24/7 shift worker, it can be difficult to get time off to undertake a trip, however as I have not seen the Giants and had the day rostered off and free, this was a perfect opportunity to take it up.

I must say as a new member, I am delighted and excited to see the professionalism, care and friendliness from the leaders Naomi and Graeme Sexton, plus all of the participants on the day. Thank you all, I am looking forward to many more trips to come, and hopefully in the no- too-distant future.

Of course, the highlights of the day were seeing the five giants up close and personal with a nice walk in and out to each of the Giants. No doubt all other participants will write highly about these; however I must say the added impromptu special touring visit around the Port Bouvard Marina, various roads, and surrounds, looking for Naomi and Graeme's 'new "house"' to buy, was fun too! (LOL). Added to this was Jo's iced cupcakes made specially for Naomi's recent birthday, where we all sang Happy birthday at morning tea. Added to this, other homemade treats shared during the day, including on National Lamington Day, and lunch together huddled under a gazebo with added misty rain and strong breezes at times.

Thank you all for a fantastic organised and delivered trip, and I look forward to many more - Guy



Santi Ikto Giant - A different View



Gus Blowing Seba's Song Trumpet



Giant 3. Mystery Giant Jyttes Hytte

Our trip to see The Giants of Mandurah was an unforgettable experience filled with exploration, celebration, and a bit of weather-related adventure. Starting with a quick meetup and introductions, we embarked on our journey to discover the unique and charming sculptures created by Thomas Dambo, a recycling artist.

First on Naomi and Graeme's list was a visit to Yaburgurt Winjan Cirkelstone, who captivated us with his adorable pose, preparing for rest. The excitement continued as we drove to see Seba's Song with his long trumpet.

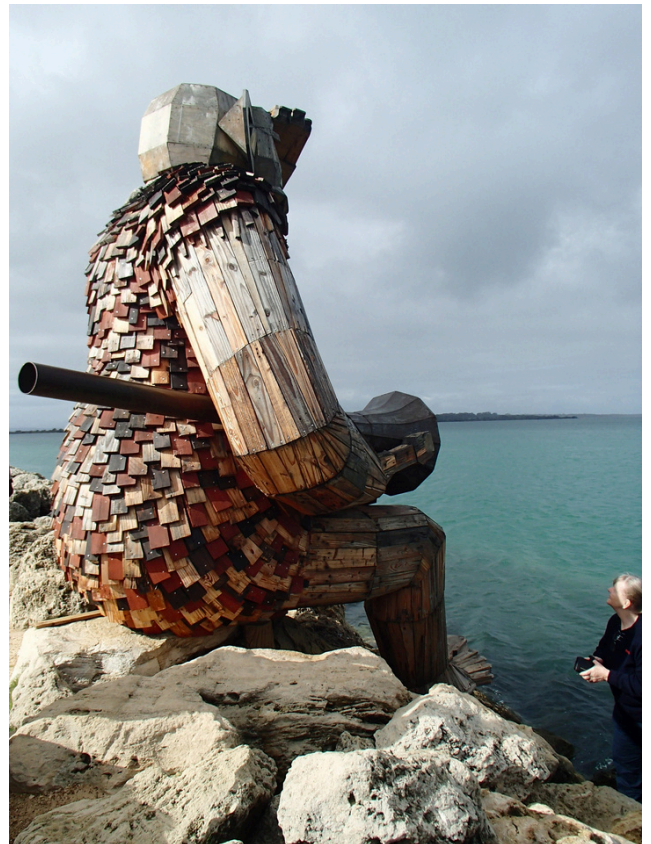
Our morning tea break featured Lamingtons from Naomi and homemade muffins from Jo for Naomi's birthday ensuring everyone had happy bellies despite the weather. Even Stu had a muffin.

Next on Naomi and Graeme's itinerary was Jyttes Hytte, a giant hugging a tree with such endearment that he quickly became my favourite. Our walk to the thrombolites was both awe-inspiring and sobering, reminding us of the natural wonders and the need to protect them.

As the drizzle picked up, we made our way to lunch, huddled under shelter with our rain jackets, our spirits undampened by the weather—or perhaps it was because Barb also brought out some cake.

The final stretch of our adventure took us to Santi Ikto, whose meditative pose and the clearing skies lifted our spirits once more.

The photo session of our cars at the car park captured the day's camaraderie, and our last stop at Little Lui, resting on a fallen log, perfectly encapsulated the blend of nature and artistry we had experienced throughout the day - Sammi



Photos clockwise from left:

Yaburgurt Wiinjan Cirkelstone Giant

Morning tea with Jo's cake

Seba's Song Giant - Overlooking Dawesville Channel



There Be Giants There No. 2 2024 07 21

Subarus all in a row



Jyttes Hytte - Mystery Giant



17 21

Giant 5 - Little Lui

Weather was threatening as we were leaving the house, so raincoats and umbrellas were put in the car, along with our lunch, thermoses, and the usual gear. We met at the BP Roadhouse Balddivis for our briefing by Graeme, and the handout of our maps and booklets for us to follow along with. These sculptures have been created by Thomas Dambo out of recycled wood, and his work is seen all over the world. This is the first time in Australia, and Thomas' aim is to inspire people to get out into nature. He says the Western Australian bush 'looks like pure magic straight out of a fairytale'.

Luckily, despite the forecast, the rain was intermittent and most of the heavy showers were while driving. The convoy headed south to Mandurah, and our first stop on the Coodanup foreshore to see **Yaburgurt Cirkelstone**. This was the site of the giant that sadly was burnt down but has since been replaced. He is lying down around the fire after eating too many crabs, making jokes. Each giant has an accompanying story from the Noongar culture. And indeed, they are giant!

On to our number two, **Seba's Song**. After many twists and turns, we finally found the parking area, and it was a short walk to find him, again magnificent, but we couldn't see his face! Back to the shelters in the car park for morning tea, with Jo's Birthday Muffins for co-leader Naomi.

From there we were off to the **Mystery Giant**. In theory, you needed to find all the clues from the others to unlock the location of this giant, but Graeme and Naomi had done this for us. I won't divulge A much longer but enjoyable walk, about 3.5km, with a profusion of pink fairy orchids along either side of the path. We arrived at **Jyttes Hytte**, who is hugging a tree. This is where our group photo was taken. Some of our group used the opportunity to see the thrombolites as well.

Then off to **Santi Ikto** where we parked in the larger carpark, with a grassed area, shelters and toilets. We had lunch under a shelter – not much, as the rain still came in – but the sun shone for our walk to the giant. He is facing the ocean, with his arms wide and raised, and this was a magnificent sight in the sunshine. Like a celebration.

For our final giant, **Little Lui**, we headed off to Lakelands. By this time, it was late afternoon, and the sun was getting low. A 3.6km walk through the bush, to find him sitting on the ground, leaning against a tree stump. Then back to the carpark, where we left the others as we had an evening appointment.

It was a very enjoyable day, with good company. We are glad the giants have remained in place and would recommend that others take the opportunity to see them. It is hard to pick a favourite as they all have their own personality, so go and see them yourselves!



Yaburgurt Winjan Cirkelstone



Uta reading info about
Yaburgurt Winjan Cirkelstone Giantt

*Thank you to Graeme and
Naomi for putting this trip on
again, as we were unable to
make the first one
- Barb & Gus.*

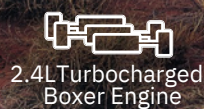


Little Lui



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1. Subaru Outback AWD Sport XT and Outback AWD Touring XT feature a 2.4-litre turbocharged Boxer engine. 2. Towing capacity is subject to regulatory requirements, tow bar and vehicle design and towing equipment limitations. If the towing mass is greater than 2,000kg, an Electric Brake Controller must be fitted and is only capable of towing a trailer with a maximum of 2 axles. Requires fitting of optional tow bar accessory. Refer to Owner's Manual for towing instructions. For further information, ask your local Subaru Retailer. 3. Compatible Apple[®] or Android[™] device required. 4. Nappa Leather seat trim only available on Subaru Outback AWD Touring and Outback AWD Touring XT.

How To: Camper Trailer Build – Part 5 - Final

Mark Smithers shares final insights into a small camper trailer that he recently built.

Perhaps you'll be inspired to build your own?

So now it's basically at lock-up stage and ready for registration. It was necessary to get another temporary travel permit and then go to the Canningvale weighbridge to get an idea of the various weights needed for registration. There are some straightforward instructions at the weighbridge on what to do so once I'd placed the vehicle and trailer on the required weigh bridge decks, the final weight came in at 400kg – 340kg for the axle and 60kg for an approximation of the ball weight. So, there you go at my target weight for empty.

With weights and measurements in hand it was back to the trailer manufacturer (yep, another temporary travel permit) a few weeks later so it could be inspected and registered with his other trailers. No issues, it passed and had a shiny new number plate installed.

Now I needed to get a few finishing touches sorted, internally I needed some shelving, hanging hooks and curtains. The shelves are gloss acrylic, so they are lightweight and fitted up high, so I don't bang my head. The gloss is a problem as they look smeared most of the time. The hole in the base is because they are typically used for mounting a router on a wall so the power cable goes through it – no issues with that. The flip-down hook system means I can hang a small backpack, car keys, head torch, hat, clothes etc and when not needed I don't get hooked-up.

The curtains took some time to figure out (not to mention I can't sew) but they needed to be on the door because with my previous build I used a small curtain rail mounted inside the cabin – a real pain because they get caught up in the door, hooks would come out of the track, and generally were in the way whenever you transited the van.

This design is basically a 'pillowcase' that is held in place with some eyelets and a small piece of dowel at the top – the eyelets hold the dowel in place. There are extra eyelets at the bottom if I want them halfway up and they roll-up completely out of the way. I guess the inside is sort of finished, although I expect I'll find other things to do.

The drawbar needs some storage and rather than a basic plastic box (that's what the last one had) I wanted something a bit more 'flexible' in what I could use it for. It needed to carry some tools, a second (or third) battery and be reasonably watertight. This last point wasn't essential as I planned to build a waterproof battery box, and I had a waterproof 'expedition' storage box, so it just needed to securely contain those items. The basic constructions are from left-over material – timber frame, marine ply base coated with bitumen paint, aluminium composite panel and some black angle iron Sikaflex'd to cover the joints. The overall size was limited to how far I could have both doors open as each door has a retaining latch that I wanted to mount on the sides of the storage box.

The battery box build is for another time; however, it can be plugged into the rear of my vehicle then the storage box gets plugged into it and finally the camper connected to the storage box. The reason being is that I can remove the battery box and use it elsewhere, I can plug the camper into another 12v source such as my 240v/12v converter and I can also entirely remove the storage box without impacting the camper wiring.

The 'bling' I've allowed myself was some custom acrylic house plaques that are back-lit with green LED's, along with the under-trailer green LED lighting – after all I need to find it in the dark so it should stand out from any other vans.

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I hope you found these few articles interesting and may be inspired to build your own. I'm happy to field any further questions if there's something you want explained further.



Curtains - Shelf/hooks - Storage Box





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Trips & Socials

* Day Trip

Please refer to the club website for all dates & details

 <https://www.subaru4wdclubwa.au/>

UHF radios are required for all club trips. They can be hired from the club by indicating on the website when you put your name down for a trip or by contacting trips co-ordinator Adrian on 0424 723 558 or email trips@subaru4wdclubwa.au

* SEPTEMBER 2024

JARRAHDAL JAUNT 2
8 SEPTEMBER

* KARL'S SOCIAL EVENT
14 SEPTEMBER

QUAALUP QUEST II
20 - 23 SEPTEMBER LWE



GUS LUCK TRACK TRIP
18 - 23 SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER 2024

OCTOBERFEST
19 OCTOBER

ANNUAL DINNER
26 OCTOBER

KAARAKIN CLEAN UP
27 OCTOBER

NOVEMBER 2024

SUBARU CLUB STAND @ 4WD SHOW
8-10 NOVEMBER

MARTINS TANK OVERNIGHT CAMP
23-24 NOVEMBER

BUFFALO & BELVIDERE BEACH TRIP
24 NOVEMBER

DECEMBER 2024

CHRISTMAS PICNIC IN THE PARK
1 DECEMBER

JANUARY 2025

* LEDGE POINT 4WD DAY TRIP
19 JANUARY

AUSTRALIA DAY LWE - IDEAS NEEDED
25-27 JANUARY

FEBRUARY 2025

* MYALUP - PRESTON - WHITEHILLS
BEACH DRIVE
16 FEBRUARY

MARCH 2025

* GUILDERTON TO SEABIRD 4WD TRIP
30 MARCH



The Club is running trips for members in accordance with the latest advice issued by the WA State Government COVID-19 Guidelines.

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Quiz Night

Raffles

4WD day trips

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