



Trail Torque

The official Magazine of the New Zealand Four Wheel Drive Association

September / October / November 2024



Inside...

News & Reports

Coming Events

National 4x4 Trials

PLUS MORE!

10 of Central Zone
YEARS Club Truck Challenge

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brought to you by:



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Established in 1974,
The objective of the
Association is to
grow, develop
and improve
recreational four-
wheel drive activities in New Zealand.
As a member of the NZFWDA, you
become an integral part of this effort
to ensure that present and future
generations can continue to enjoy
our country in four wheel drive
vehicles.



Contact:
NZFWDA Secretary
secretary@nzfwda.org.nz

NZFWDA ONLINE:
[NZFWDA Website](#)
[TidyHQ](#)

FACEBOOK:
[NZFWDA Facebook](#)

Anything underlined in
this edition will either
open up in your internet
browser or open your
email to send the person
a query.

Deadlines for Trail Torque Submissions

DEC 2024/JAN/FEB 2025
Deadline: 22 November 2024
Out to Members:
8th December 2024

MAR/APR/MAY 2025
Deadline: 14 February 2025
Out to Members: 2nd March 2025

If you would like to share your
Club's achievements, events or a
story in Trail Torque, send them in
to editor@nzfwda.org.nz

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COVER PIC: Don Morgan in his offroad racer. Photo by Andrew Gee.

THE NEW ZEALAND FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION

- * Values the highest safety standards before, during and after all 4WD activities.
- * Endorses respect and care while participating in 4WD activities in the Environment.
- * Acknowledges the contribution of its members and their values.
- * Values and respects land owners and land users.
- * Encourages non-discrimination of all participants.



ARTICLES AND LETTERS NZFWDA DISCLAIMER.

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Trail Torque is produced four times a year and delivered via the NZFWDA Membership email database.

Essential Constitution Changes for Clubs

This is an important message - the new Incorporated Societies Act requires all our club constitutions to comply with the new Act.

The Companies Office advice about the new Act means that every club must look at potential changes to their constitutions and membership processes to comply with the new Act.

As planned, following this year's National AGM the National Exec's Remit Subcommittee started work on the Association's constitution and has concluded that replacing our constitution will be more straightforward than trying to modify our existing and somewhat messy constitution.

It has also become clear that there will need to be some changes to the way memberships are processed and the way records are kept, both for the association and for clubs.

In a nutshell, under the new Act:

- Every club must change or replace its constitution.
- The new or amended constitution must be registered before April 2026.
- Members:
 - Members must give their written consent to be a member.
 - The consent will also need to include consent to be a member of the association.
 - Clubs must keep records of those consents and provide copies to

the association who also must keep them.

- Clubs and the association must keep certain data about each member.
- It may be that a club must be incorporated to be affiliated to the NZFWDA, this is being researched.
- And there are lots of other things that the new Act covers.

The Remit Subcommittee is working out details of how all this could be achieved and will be providing guidance to clubs as soon as possible.

Subcommittees

Ramping up the work on continual improvements and bringing more value to members, the National Exec now has these subcommittees and working groups in action, each one with a chair as shown:

Promotion, Advertising & Sponsorship	Steve Adam
Health and Safety Subcommittee	David Sole
Land Access Forum	Ian Hutchings
Remits Subcommittee	Ashley Lucas
SWOT Subcommittee	Tariq Wasim
Finance & Membership Subcommittee	Barb Adam
Systems Working Group	Grant Purdie
Exec Structure Review Working Group	Steve Adam

Consultation for Territorial Authorities

We are still keen to receive information from anyone about any consultation opportunities that have come up. This is mainly so that the NZFWDA can make submissions, which we can only do if we're aware of the opportunity. All our members will be able to see the open consultations that we're aware of and, hopefully, who is working on submissions when they log in to TidyHQ.

The consultations we're talking about are where a city council, district council, DOC or the Walking Access Commission or anyone else has drafted some document that is open for public consultation. These are usually management plans of some form. Our interest is mainly anything to do with land access. On the one hand it's important to take every opportunity to suggest amendments or additions to these documents to allow or increase opportunities for access. And on the other hand to object to anything that threatens our existing access. Please send any information about consultation opportunities to access@nzfwda.org.nz

A BIG SHOUT OUT TO OUR PARTNER ORGANISATIONS BRINGING REAL BENEFITS TO OUR MEMBERS:



These 5 organisations have helped the NZFWDA bring genuine change to what it means to be an Affiliated Member.

If you are not already a Member of the NZFWDA but curious about it... here's 5 very good reasons to enquire!

If you want to know more email me, Steve - president@nzfwda.org.nz



TEN OF CZ CLUB TRUCK CHALLENGE REPORTING YEARS

ARTICLE & PHOTOS
BY ANDREW GEE

My first article about the Central Zone Club Truck Challenge (CTC) was printed in the NZ4WD magazine in August 2014 and 10 years on I'm still trying to promote the series to members of the NZFWDA as something worth giving a go. I've dragged out that first article to celebrate 50 years of NZFWDA, 20 years Wellington Jeep Club and 13 years of CTC events held over the lower North Island.

Central Zone Club Truck Challenge 2013- 2014 Series (written in August 2014)

The Club Truck Challenge has been run in the lower North Island over the last three years. Honchoed by Mark Watchorn of the Manawatu 4wd club and financially underwritten by the Central Zone of the NZFWDA it provides a series of events that has become very popular with serious wheelers who want to progress their driving skills. It provides something not too damaging to your vehicle (which must be registered and have a WoF) and is identical to "Club Champs" events that 4wd clubs put on. It is scored in a similar way to National 4wd trials and people who compete in the Club Truck Challenge get a good insight into the nuances of hub placement and the line between pegs.

This year's series had four rounds starting in Taranaki in Labour Weekend, round two in the Wairarapa in January, round three in Fordell, near Whanganui in May and finishing in Wellington at Orongorongo station in June. Round four was run by the Wellington Jeep Club, as well as setting up a course they arranged farmhouse accommodation and a spit roast meal for the out of towners that stayed the night. Similar arrangements had been done at other rounds and makes it a great weekend away.

The Jeep club spent two days before hand plotting out a course which was over a new type of terrain to previous rounds. This being a lot of loose rock,

tight creek beds and a large rock pile. This event was run in a different way to past rounds with the hazards spread over a large part of the station which includes the Orongorongo River and the seacoast. Competitors enjoyed a farm drive that took in great high-level views back over Wellington harbour from the air strip on Cattle Ridge. After our first set of hazards in loose rock we had our smoko beside the air strip to take in the views before doing another set of hazards on the ridgetop. My modest club members lead the visitors to believe that I had set all the hard hazards, but my usual very average performance showed that it was no great advantage. Wellington Jeep club member Lisa Ryan had an outstanding day in her

*Marty Green
gives it the jandal*



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*Alan Stone
from the Naki*



*Brendan Watchorn
tests his turning radius*

second ever event, driving a borrowed vehicle to come fifth overall for the day.

These quite technical hazards were followed by a speed section in riverbed and a hill climb and creek bed hazard on the river flats before heading away to the last area of hazards in a more traditional grassy paddock. The tight creek bed runs tested articulation and wheelbase, but all vehicles are suitable for this competition. There is a formal set of rules that defines three vehicle classes to give everyone a chance. Helmets are worn and cross entering multiple drivers for one vehicle are allowed. The rules, calendar and results can be found on a website www.sporty.co.nz/czctc. Registering yourself on the website will automatically send you the latest information about the

series as it comes out. Entry is open to any NZFWDA affiliated member not just Central Zone clubs for next year's series.

If you look at previous results you may think that you need a Jeep to win, it certainly helps! People have also made credible performances in other vehicles, Landcruisers, Prados, Hiluxs, Discoverys and the ubiquitous Pajero all compete equally.

There was a great core group of people who travelled to all the four rounds this year headed by Shona and Alan Stone from Mt Egmont club and fellow Nakians Neville Vesty, Keith Hoskings and Graeme Goble. Shona and Alan are stalwarts of the Central Zone, Shona has been the zone treasurer for many years now. They put on two rounds of this year's series

and did a brilliant job. Steve Stewart from Fielding club took his Nissan Patrol to every round as did Ross Gregory in his Jeep and Brendan Watchorn from Manawatu 4wd club. Dave McGinnity, Don Morgan and I are regular competitors from Wellington.

The Orongongo event finished with no major mechanical breakdowns and nice easy recoveries. For the Fordell round we had the use of the farmer's tractor, and it had a bit of a workout.

Hailed by all participants as a great success next year's series awaits a new crop of keen competitors to have a go. Last year's series winner, Dave McGinnity won the overall modified class again this year driving his Jeep CJ5.



*Dave MacGinnity has
won many rounds in
his CJ5*

Why you should join a 4x4 Club...

As a member of a 4WD Club, you will be able to tap into the abundance of knowledge and experience of other members. This can be especially helpful if you are new to 4WDing and want to learn more about off-road driving techniques, vehicle maintenance and equipment advice. Club members can educate and train you on how to tackle certain tracks, and advise what gear ranges you should be on to ensure your safety is paramount.

Get the opportunity to travel with experienced drivers who have traveled far and wide and can provide expert advice on how to prepare for a trip, essentials to pack, and hazards to look out for.

Clubs meet at least once a month and these are a great place for your mental health, to catch up with mates, create memories and meet new people with the same passions and interests.

Stronger in numbers, you are able to work together and negotiate rights to access tracks, parks and lands, to fight against possible restrictions and legislations, and to deliver new opportunities for everyone in the community. You are not only a part of a bigger movement but effectively contributing to the future of 4WDing and its development.

And there is a 4x4 Club in a town near you - see pages 19 & 20 of this edition!

CHECK THIS OUT!

United 4WD Club Member, Jono Hitchcox, has recently started to post a small mini series on Youtube, that will breakdown what each grading of a 4WD track is and showcase the terrain that comes with it. Check out the first video [here](#)



Discover a New Lifestyle on Grade 1 4WD Track

4.6K views ~ 1 month ago

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LIFE MEMBERS OF THE NEW ZEALAND FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION.

Awarded 2021 - Neville Dunton

Awarded 2021 - Mel Street

Awarded 2018 - Russell Quin

Awarded 2017 - Bob Holmes

Awarded 2017 - Eileen Revell (nee Austin)

Awarded 2017 - Steve McMinn

Awarded 2016 - John & Nonnie Cowper

Awarded 2015 - Ces Horan

Awarded 2015 - Kath Jaggard

Awarded 2011 - Peter Vahry

50 YEARS 1975 ~ 2025

SOURCE: NZ4x4Trials.co.nz



1NZ
Driver: Scott Biggs
Navigator: Phil Walton
Club: Counties
Vehicle make: Nitro Custom



2NZ
Driver: Sam Thomsen
Navigator: Caitlyn Thomsen
Club: Wanganui
Vehicle make: Nitro Custom



3NZ
Driver: Craig Potter
Navigator: Mike Hill
Club: South Waikato
Vehicle make: Nitro Custom



#4
Driver: Ash Tonkin
Navigator: Dyon Ross
Club: Thames Valley
Vehicle make: Nitro Custom



#5
Driver: Mitch Caldwell
Navigator: Jamie Elms
Club: Mt Egmont
Vehicle make: Cowper Truck



#6
Driver: Chris Gifford
Navigator: Shaun Joblin
Club: South Waikato
Vehicle make: Nitro Custom



#7
Driver: Russell Hall
Navigator: Glen Hall
Club: Wairarapa
Vehicle make: Cowper Truck



#8
Driver: Jarred Biggs
Navigator: Fleche Crawford
Club: Counties
Vehicle make: Nitro Custom



#9
Driver: Scott Dickson
Navigator: Mike Thomsen
Club: Wanganui
Vehicle make: Cowper Truck



#10
Driver: Phil Cameron
Navigator: Todd Charman
Club: South Waikato
Vehicle make: Nitro Custom

2024/2025 SERIES

Round 1: 2nd November 2024
Hawkes Bay National 4x4 Trial
Waipawa

Round 2: 30th November 2024
Thames Valley National 4x4 Trial
Waiterimu

Round 3: 18th January 2025
Glencorran National 4x4 Trial
Rangiwahia

Round 4: 22nd February 2025*
Manawatu National 4x4 Trial
Pohangina

Round 5: 23rd March 2025
Bay of Plenty National 4x4 Trial
Rangiruru

National Final: 12th April 2025*
Counties National 4x4 Final
Kaiatea

*Dates subject to change

The H&S Subcommittee would like to receive incident reports based on the following criteria: Incidents that have caused harm, the potential cause serious harm, are unusual or form part of a pattern of incidents.
Please email safety@nzfwda.org.nz

2023/2024 Lucas Oil Class Winners

C CLASS

Caleb Adlam & Jarrod Moss
Club: Levin
Vehicle: Mākara Rare Spares
Homebuilt

D CLASS

Scott Biggs & Phil Walton
Club: Counties
Vehicle: Nitro Custom

K CLASS

Geoff Butcher & Sean Cushing
Club: Wairarapa
Vehicle: Homebuilt

2023/2024 National Awards

Sportsperson of the Year:
Gail Smith

Tomalin Engineering
Excellence Award
Daniel Whiting

First Female Home
Rebekah Templeton

Northern Zone -
Best Presented vehicle
Chris Gifford

Central Zone -
Best Presented vehicle
Mitch Caldwell

Malcolm McLeavey
Memorial Trophy:
Caleb Adlam – C Class - Levin

2023/2024 Biggs Family Cup
The Biggs Family Cup is determined
by a Clubs Top 3 Class finishers at
each event.

1st - South Waikato 4WD Club
497 Points

2nd - Counties 4 Wheelers
495 Points

3rd - Wanganui 4WD Club
494 Points

2023/2024 SERIES POINTS

Competitors	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	TOTAL
Scott BIGGS - D	89	100	98	100	96	96	490
Sam THOMSEN - D	99	97	100	98	92	90	486
Craig POTTER - D	94	95	86	99	100	93	481
Ashley TONKIN - D	93	98	99	97	85	94	481
Mitchell CALDOW - D	100	81	97	92	93	97	479
Chris GIFFORD - D		99	92	94	94	99	478
Russell HALL - D	97	88	95		88	92	460
Jarrod BIGGS - D	98	90	85	86	99		458
Scott DICKSON - D	91	92	84	88	98	81	453
Phil CAMERON - D	86	86	91	91	97	85	451
Caleb ADLAM - C	95	84	87	82	87	68	435
Dean WELLS - D	90	89		90	86	80	435
Wayne BUCKTHOUGHT - D	85	91	96	78	78	82	432
Shaun NICHOLSON - D	92	87		81	77	91	428
Ryan BOLD - D	65	77		93	81	100	416
Chris TOMALIN - D	80	78	88	96	70		412
Wayne WEATHERLY - D	75	94	68	83	84	71	407
Luke DONALD - D	88	69	83		91	75	406
John HAWKEN - C	87	82	80	71	82	73	404
Shayne TOWERS - C	81	65		87	80	77	390
Alastair BEVEGE - D	76	76	90	72	64	74	388
Phil HOBART - D		67	81	85	73	79	385
Scott DONALD - D	84	85	67	75	65		376
Gary WEST - D		75	64	84	90	62	375
Sam CARLSEN - D	74	72	62	76	68	84	374
Rhys O'BRIEN - C	64	71	89		72	76	372
Brent WARD - D	83		93		95	95	366
Rebekah TEMPLETON - C	72		75	66	69	72	354
Daniel WHITING - D		55	82	70	83	64	354
Andy CANNING - D		80	94	89		87	350
Hayden MCGILL - C		70	66	77	67	67	347
Glenn D'ATH - C		64	71	73	75	63	346
Graham HIBBERD - D	67	63	77	68	66	60	341
Kelsey VAN WAAS - D	68	61	69	62	63	58	323
Nathan FOGDEN - C	71			74	76	83	304
Graham FOOTE - D	79	68		65	79		291
Jonathan BOLTON - C		59	76		71	66	272
Russell LUDERS - D				95	89	88	272
Steve LACEY - D		56	70	63		69	258
Geoff BUTCHER - K	70	58		64		65	257
Brian HOWAT - D		79	78			78	235
Michael WHEELER - D	78			69	74		221
Daniel MORRIS - C		66	79	67			212
Steven THOMASON - C		62	72			61	195
Peter MURPHY - D		60	65			70	195
Jamie LARSEN - D	96	83					179
Aaron GUEST - D		96		80			176
Dave MCKIE - D	82	93					175
Reece MCKIE - D			63	79			142
John SHERIDAN - K		54				59	113
Reuben MASON - D						98	98
Neal TURNER - D						89	89
Dan COWPER - D						86	86
Matthew DODGE - C	77						77
Kevin GALBRAITH - D		74					74
Grant HARRISON - D			74				74
Robert SHIVNAN - D			73				73
Paul ALEXANDER - D	73						73
Duncan BRADLEY - D		73					73
David DOREE - C	69						69
Tim DODGE - D	66						66
Daniel HOWAT - C		57					57
Graeme GOBLE - K						57	57
Angus HAMILTON - C		53					53

A huge thank you to the Clubs that hosted the 2023/2024 National 4x4 Trial Season



Central Zone Club Truck Challenge 2024 series

WORDS & PHOTOS
BY ANDREW GEE

The rubber has hit the road, the fat lady has sung and the Club Truck Challenge (CTC) for 2024 has finished. The final round was held at Hintz's farm near Taihape as a gala weekend of clay shooting, four

wheeling, gourmet barby Q, fun and laughs.

Class results for 2024 season

There were five rounds held between October 2023 to May 2024, from

Taihape to Wairarapa, Colyton to Wellington and back to Taihape. Your season result is taken from your best three results. Class honours this year were a clean sweep to Wairarapa 4wd club members.



Class 1 1st Chris Mason - Suzuki Jimny



Class 2....1st Clint Carol - Jeep TJ 2nd Brendan Watchorn - Pajero



Class 3....1st Kevin Galbraith - Jeep TJ....2nd Steve Stewart - Nissan Patrol....3rd Andrew GEE - Jeep TJ....4th Peter Pope - Jeep JK





Class 4....1st Brent Ward - Nissan Patrol GQ

Have a look at the rules on www.sporty.co.nz/czctc and then enter the next round likely to be held in Taihape in October.

DUNE PLANTING

An email has gone out to Central Zone members in a call for volunteers to help a community working bee to plant about 3,000 spinifex and a few other dune-binding grasses that help reduce erosion and strengthen fore-dune resilience.

When: Saturday 28 September from 9am to about 12:00.

Where: Foxton Beach, go down Pinewood Road and when you get to the open area, follow around to the right.

BBQ provided at the end.
Bring a narrow spade, or long trowel.

Your 4wd vehicle not required, we will park and walk.

For about 25 years members of 4wd clubs have helped with planting and rubbish clean-ups in the Foxton Beach and Manawatu Estuary area, also working with Horowhenua District Council and other authorities to help protect the fore-dunes in other ways.

Doing our bit to look after our environment.

Our strong reputation is important to help keep continued access to the McKenzie Trail, also keeping a high positive profile with DOC locally and nationally.

A big thanks to members of Central Districts 4x4 Club, who have sourced 1,000+ of the plants.



Club Members' H&S Responsibilities

Every person (including every 4wd Club and every member of a 4wd Club) is responsible for:

- Taking reasonable care for their own health and safety
- Taking reasonable care that what they do (or do not do) does not adversely affect the health and safety of anyone else
- Complying with any reasonable instruction given by the Club so that it can comply with its health and safety obligations including all safe work procedures, rules and health and safety training
- Attending any trip briefings, ensuring they can hear it, and paying attention to the details.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be sent to editor@nzfwda.org.nz Letters should not exceed 200 words and should carry the author's signature, name and residential address and a phone number so as to enable their authenticity to be confirmed. Letters may not be formally acknowledged and may be edited, abridged or discarded at the discretion of the editor.

The way we were...

PHOTOS BY PETER VAHRY
& BARBARA MCMINN.



These two photos are of the end of the January 1995 Coast to Coast. It was a 3 day event. This was the inaugural North Island safari type event that started at Karaka, went to the west coast at Kariotahi beach, collected a drink bottle of sea water and a bag of black sand and deposited these on the East Coast at Opoutere Beach, much to DOCs annoyance, though they did calm down when they realised

we hadn't transported the whole of the West Coast. Camp overs at Maratoto Rd and the Tairua Forest Redwoods camp area.

The event was run by Wilderness Ridge Riders Club (planned and researched by Barbara and the late Steve McMinn) and had 120 vehicles including the WRR club helpers.





Above:

The Land Rover in a river was Dave, crossing a track in 1987.

Top Right:

The 'flying' red Bronco was the late Warren Arthur's, probably at a Whangarei Trial.

Right:

The Suzuki has Barbara driving in a Torbay (Auckland) fun trial.

Below:

Probably at one of the last 'Jamboree's' hosted by Whangarei 4WD Club.



COMING EVENTS

Events Disclaimer. Care has been taken in entering details of these events. However NZFWDA does not take responsibility for any inadvertent inaccuracies or subsequent changes made by the event organisers. Trips and events will normally be hosted and organised by a Club or Clubs and not the Association itself. All events, trips and runs are the responsibility of the hosting Club. Potential participants should contact the relevant event organiser or Club. Email events to editor@nzfwda.org.nz

20 - 22 SEPTEMBER 2024

METHVEN MUD AND STEEL + NZ1. 3 night stages, 8 day stages. NZ1 2hr 4WD Enduro. Entry fee \$140 for NZFWDA Members. See www.4x4events.co.nz for more info.

27 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2024

CENTRAL PLATEAU 4X4 TEAMS WINCH CHALLENGE 2024

Hosted by Wanganui 4WD Club. Teams of two vehicles will compete driving and winching themselves through challenging courses which are set out in a forested area. This event is not suitable for spectators. Two classes; Outlaw - for hydro steer and fiddle brakes, with tube frame and; Modified for full bodied vehicles with minor modifications. Drivers must be affiliated to NZFWDA through a 4WD Club. Camping is available from Thursday. All mechanical work must be done on a ground sheet. Places are limited. Entry fee is \$320. For more details and entry forms contact Tony Smith: tony@melrosechairs.co.nz Ph 027 279 8821 or Dogg (Phil Shailer) rotordogg@hotmail.com Ph: 021 130 7913

28 SEPTEMBER 2024

DUNE PLANTING. Foxton Beach - 9am - 12pm. BBQ provided at the end. Bring a narrow spade, or long trowel. Your 4wd vehicle not required, we will park and walk. See page 11 of this edition for full details.

13 OCTOBER 2024

MURIWAI BEACH CLEANUP. Come and join the Green Forces of Good and help the Landrover Owners Club, Auckland 4WD Club and the NZ Jeep Club. Meet by the tennis courts down Coast Road at 9.30am for a briefing. Drive up the beach and back, picking up bags and trailers of trash as we go. We'll be on the beach and walking up in the dunes, picking up anything non beachy, rubbish, treated wood, fishing nets, and any random space station bits and pieces. The Council Rangers will be present and will have a rubbish skip and a thank you BBQ for us at the

end at 1pm. A Council permit to drive on the beach is needed and speed limits do apply. Free permits can be found [here](#).

1 - 2 NOVEMBER 2024

FORCE4 KING OF CANTERBURY 2024. NZ first Xtrem 4wd Endurance Race. See www.4x4events.co.nz for more info.

2 NOVEMBER 2024

NZ 4X4 TRIALS Round 1: Waipawa. Hosted by Hawkes Bay 4x4 Club. Waipawa. See nz4x4trials.co.nz for more.

2 NOVEMBER 2024

Tararua 4wd Club is organizing a "Shiny" fund raiser for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter in the Tararua Forest Park Cost \$100 per vehicle. Keep an eye out [here](#) for entry details.

30 NOVEMBER 2024

NZ 4X4 TRIALS Round 2: Huntly. Hosted by Thames Valley 4x4 Club. See nz4x4trials.co.nz for more

18 JANUARY 2025

NZ 4X4 TRIALS Round 3: Mangaweka. Hosted by Levin 4x4 Club. Rangiwhia. See nz4x4trials.co.nz for more.

25 - 27 JANUARY 2025

(Auckland Anniversary weekend). The King Country 4WD Club invites participants to register for the "Matiere Cosy Club Safari". We will be camping at the Matiere Rugby Club and we will traverse over hilltops and valleys with our local guides. This historical settlement on the Forgotten Highway, in the heart of the King Country, would love to show off their panoramic views of rivers, railway, bush, and farmland. Open to 4x4's only with good MT tyres. This 3 day event is \$280 for a driver and passenger with all meals supplied. Register at www.kc4wd.co.nz

15 - 16 FEBRUARY 2025

Kauri Coast 4WD Club are hosting another Fundraiser Safari, raising funds for the Northland Rescue Helicopter. Event layout will be similar to previous years, with more farmland and less beach driving than past years. Two full days of four wheel driving, brush marks and scratches are likely, so suitable for club type vehicles. Day one will be a mixture of beach driving and farmland focused around the Kai Iwi Lakes area, day two will be all farm and bush land driving in the Aranga and Maunganui Bluff area. Boasting spectacular views through out both days. We will be aiming to hold a prize giving event around lunchtime on Sunday. Camping for Friday and Saturday nights are included in the entry fee for two adults. Camping will be in the same location all weekend so suitable for caravans etc. Entry fee is \$350 per vehicle. \$50 discount to all members of NZFWDA clubs. Children are \$15 extra per child. To register interest, please email kauricoast4wdclub@outlook.com

22 FEBRUARY 2025*

NZ 4X4 TRIALS Round 4: Feilding. Hosted by Manawatu 4WD Club. See nz4x4trials.co.nz for more

*Date change is possible.

23 MARCH 2025

NZ 4X4 TRIALS Round 5: Te Puke. Hosted by BOP Four Wheel Drive Club. See nz4x4trials.co.nz for more

12 APRIL 2025*

NZ 4X4 TRIALS 2024/2025 National Final. Whangarei. Hosted by Counties 4 Wheelers. See nz4x4trials.co.nz for more. *Date change is possible.

H&S RISK MANAGEMENT

Risks and hazards are part of the environment our members choose to be in. As such IDENTIFYING AND THEN MINIMISING AND CONTROLLING the hazards will be the most likely route to managing everyone's health and safety.

LAND ROVER RALLY. 15 - 20 APRIL 2025

Three days of safaris in Wanaka, followed by two days of vehicle displays at Wheels in Wanaka. All models of Land-Rovers and Range Rovers from 1948 to 2025 are invited to join in, for an action-packed Land Rover-only rally with exclusive off-road safaris exploring seldom accessed high-country stations. First up is Middlemarch Pre Easter Mountain Circuit organized by the Land Rover Enthusiasts Club (Otago) with two single day trips followed by Forest Range Station in the Lindis Valley organised by the Canterbury and Otago Land Rover Owners Clubs. Then onto Wheels at Wanaka Friday 18 to Sunday 20 April. Participants must be members of the NZFWDA. To attend the Wheels at Wanaka check out the [website](#) to buy exhibiting enthusiast and supporter tickets. All Landies attending will have their own dedicated parking and display area at the Wheels venue. To register an expression of interest and go on the event email list, fill out this [form](#) More information contact: Colin Brown Ph 0274 333 033 Email cdabrown52@gmail.com Form for [Forest Range](#) More info contact: Mike Simmons Ph 027 448 9550 Email mike.simm@xtra.co.nz Or Ross Fraser Ph 021 0287 4414 Email nzarhmfraser@kinect.co.nz For any rally queries contact Rod Corbett Ph 027 433 8772 Email rod.corbett88@gmail.com



SUPPORT THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TARARUA 4WD CLUB
JOIN US ON AN ALL DAY OFF-ROAD ADVENTURE

Date: 2nd November 2024



Where: Akatarawa Forest and Rallywoods 4x4 Park
Cost: \$100/vehicle (100% of the proceeds go to The Life Flight Trust)
Vehicle Types: Any 4x4 with high ground clearance

Keep an eye out [here](#) for entry details.

Is your 4WD too 'extreme' for ordinary insurance? **Leave it to Carol.**

Carol Winter

Commercial Broker | 4WD Off-road Insurance
021 457 427

www.rothbury.co.nz/4wd-off-road-insurance



As a valued partner of NZFWDA, Rothbury Insurance Brokers are pleased not only to offer members our market-leading on and off-road vehicle cover, but a range of insurance options from home and contents through to business assets and liability too.

On top of this, our collaborative approach to supporting the association includes a referral agreement where we share a portion of our income back with the association. Between offering market-leading cover to members, and supporting the association, all whilst providing personal service and quality advice, we hope you'll leave your insurance needs to us!

4x4 Outdoor EXPO

7 - 8 SEPTEMBER 2024

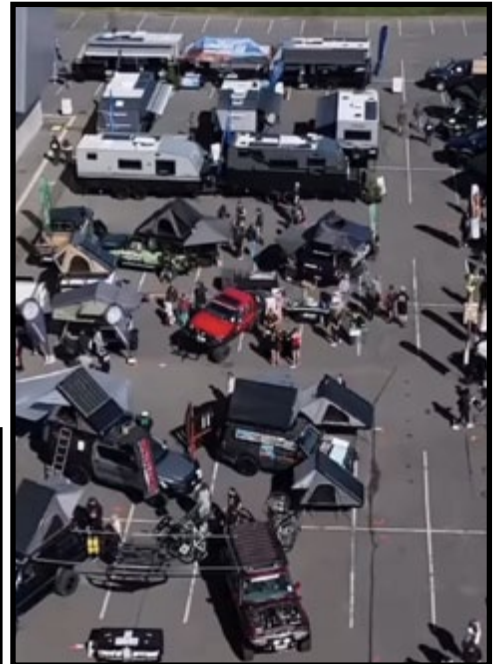
WOLFBROOK ARENA, CHRISTCHURCH



A big shout out to the Organisers of the 4x4 Outdoor Expo, hugely successful event with around 3000 through the doors on the first day ! I spoke with most of the Vendors and stall holders, they were all delighted with the response from the 4x4 community. From our perspective, we had a steady stream of people stopping for a chat with a raft of questions about what we do and how to join a 4WD club etc. so I have to say, a great success.

Thanks to ARB 4x4 for supplying products for our giveaway draw.

I want to say a heartfelt thank you to Bob Holmes, John McDonald and Barb Adam for giving up their time to attend the Expo on behalf of the NZFWDA, you all did a terrific job, I appreciate what you did.
Steve.



President Corner

Steve Adam - Email: president@nzfwda.org.nz - Mobile: 027 228 8221



Since my last Trail Torque report, I mentioned that we had some challenges ahead of us, well we're in the thick of it now, the Constitution update / change is creating some hurdles to overcome – we have a significant amount of rules / regulations embedded in the current constitution that just can't live there, so the Remits Sub-Committee under the leadership of Ashley, have their work cut out with what should be a straight forward job of writing a new constitution but putting together the rules / regulations that have stood the test of time into a new format... this Sub-Committee are made up of very special people !

The other major task set as a result of the AGM is a structure review, this has turned out to be a right old can of worms ! It's not a matter of just taking the Executive number from 18 to 10, but the potential changes also involve the changes in the constitution, rewriting position descriptions that inevitability will involve amalgamation of roles and clearly the dissolution of others. So, the more the Restructure working group got into this, the more we realized that we actually needed to take a long look at the way we operate, and most importantly what we are here for. All said and done, this is a positive thing for the Association.

By now most of you will have heard something about the Macetown road and access to 4WDs, I have had to be relatively silent on the matter due to the complexity of what we are trying to achieve long term and the amount of interested parties and influential parties involved. Rest assured what is coming is extremely positive for 4WD access, so please ignore the rumors that are being bandied about, none of them are right. We will be making a public announcement in the next two to three weeks, I'm sure that everyone will be pleased with the result. Some incredible amount of hard work has gone in from 3 members in particular from the Shotover 4WD Club and 3 members of the NZFWDA. We presented a detailed written presentation to the Queenstown Lakes District Council LTP hearings committee and also fronted up to the full council to verbally present also. Whilst I have been in Queenstown for the hearing, I took the opportunity

of catching up with the Shotover 4WD Club and a couple of other very different players in the 4x4 arena, namely Nomad Safaris and Lost Sheep Adventures. If you don't know who they are or what they do – look them up. I am delighted to say that they gave me a different perspective on 4x4ing AND I came away with a few useful insights that I will share at a later date that could well be beneficial to us all. All in all, a damned good bunch.

Land Access is still very high on our list of priorities, an issue that just won't go away so long as we continue to have a bunch of guys and gals who think it's great to rip up tracks, swamps and the bush, rip up and down river beds during shorebird nesting season, tear down signs etc – you will know who are or know of someone that is doing... you may think is fun, but consider how much longer you can keep doing this ? We are losing access to so many areas now as a result of your actions. Just stop and think, please. If you want to have a



real 4x4 experience / challenge, join your local club, you'll be pleasantly surprised and you just might get to learn something too !

PS. I recently bought a 17 year old V8 diesel Range Rover, I am gratefully accepting donations just so I can keep it on the road !!!

Tread Lightly
Steve Adam
President
NZFWDA

NZFWDA Directory

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Southern Secretary/Treasurer:	... Barbara Adam	 szsecretary@nzfwda.org.nz
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Remit Subcommittee		 remit@nzfwda.org.nz
Patron:	 Neville Dunton	 patron@nzfwda.org.nz

Southern Zone President Report

Bob Holmes - Email: szpresident@nzfwda.org.nz



Hi team just a couple of things to report on from the Southern Zone

We have just held our Zone meeting, this was the first one on Teams, not as good a turn out as usual. Not sure if this was because of the new format or not, but we had enough to hold the meeting. A week prior to the meeting I had texted all clubs asking for any agenda items, with nothing come back from that text we take it all is good out there.

We had a quick club report from those attending, all reported their club's are running 1 some 2 trip a month with

some low key compositions as well, most reported membership is up.

A couple of topics that have been on the go for a couple of months have been discussed again. One being Eyre Creek, I gave a run down on my last discussion with Jono Airey from DOC Invercargill with no progress yet. The other was the Macetown Road, there has been a lot of work done by Kevin and his team from the Shotover 4wd club. Kevin was in attendance and gave a really good report of where we are at, along with costing which I believe Steve has in hand.

Ben from 4X4 Events has a couple of competition events coming up, also a couple of clubs down south have mud plug events pencilled in.

Planning is underway for the zone AGM, we plan on holding it in the Twizel area over a weekend with a short high country trip and meeting on Saturday.

Cheers
Bob Holmes
Southern Zone President

National Public Relations Officer Report

Peter Vahry - Email: pro@nzfwda.org.nz



One of the efforts to achieve wider public recognition has been a presence of the NZFWDA at the NZ Hunting, Fishing and 4x4 Expo in Rotorua from 23 August to the 25th. The display was complemented by some ARB supplied products as a prize for a random drawing of entries by visitors to the stand, who provided their names and email addresses. That generated 98 contacts who will be followed up. Fortunately, the winner was involved in a 4x4 aftermarket group and was still at the show when the draw was made and was located and happily collected his prize package.

The stand was assembled and manned by me over the three days with the help of the northern zone PRO, Ashley Lucas on Saturday and the zone president, Tariq Wasim on the Sunday. Their involvement was appreciated. Overall public

attendance is believed to be around 12,000 people, with some from as far away as Whangarei, Gisborne and Whanganui.

Two days before Rotorua, I'd had a meeting in Hamilton with an Officer of Waikato Regional Council (WRC) to discuss past, somewhat difficult relationships between our organisations. It seemed to be a fruitful exercise and hopefully both our organisations can get a better understanding of our respective requirements. More to come on that, but in the meantime the WRC have committed to putting gates across the entry points to their land adjacent to Thompsons Track in the Kaimai Range. The vital thing will be getting track users to respect those gates. The plan is to have gates in place before the temporary road closure is lifted in late October.

Other National PRO activities have been coordinating the monthly land access forum discussions which are drawing good interest from around the country. I've generated the monthly NZFWDA E-news and publishing the E-news 'special' about 'value' that was compiled by Steve Adam.

One important item that will need strong input from NZFWDA members, is the draft Northland area CMS. Submission will need to be lodged with DOC before October 11. Find details at www.doc.govt.nz/te-hiku-draft-cms

Going forward, getting more news of our zones and club activities and perhaps access matters would be welcomed to offer a wider picture to our members in general of what's happening in organised NZ four wheel drive recreation. That may help our overall public relations and that vital 'image'.

Peter Vahry
NZFWDA
National Public Relations



KEY HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGES

Remember

- it is everybody's obligation to act safely.
- Take responsibility for what you can control.

Northern Zone Clubs

Anything underlined will either open up in your internet browser or open your email to send the person a query.

If your Club logo has been updated, can you send a copy of it to editor@nzfwda.org.nz please.

As Clubs have AGMs please send the NZFWDA Membership Officer (membership@nzfwda.org.nz) an updated list of your President, Secretary, Treasurer and NZFWDA delegates details as these are vital in communicating with your club.



4X4 ACCESSORIES
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Wilderness Ridge Riders 4WD Club

Central Zone Clubs

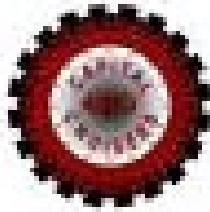
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4X4 ACCESSORIES
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Featherston Family
4x4 Club



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Kapiti Family 4Wheel
Drive Club

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www.kiwi4x4.org.nz

Levin 4WD Club



www.m4wdc.org.nz



www.naki4wd.org



www.twincity4x4.co.nz



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Southern Zone Clubs



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