



Trail Torque

The official Newsletter of the New Zealand Four Wheel Drive Association

June/July/August 2021



**Central Zone
Club Truck
Challenge**

**New NZFWDA
Life Members**

**2021 National 4x4
Trials Winners**

**Coverage of the 2021
NZFWDA Conference & AGM
Plus much more...**

Established in 1974,
the objective of the
Association is to
further and improve
Four Wheel Drive
activities in NZ.



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.

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Deadlines for Trail Torque Submissions

SEPT/OCT/NOV 2021

DEADLINE: 20th August 2021

OUT: 5th September 2021

DEC/JAN/FEB 2022

DEADLINE: 26th November 2021

OUT: 12th December 2021

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

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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.

48th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Four Wheel Drive Association

Photos by Andrew Gee and Kath Jaggard

The AGM this year was held in Upper Hutt and was hosted by Cross Country Vehicle Club (CCVC). This was part of a year of celebration for the club as they recognise their 50 year Anniversary.

The venue was superb with plenty of room for us and our vehicles. Saturday was spent in the Akatarawa Forest, nestled between the Hutt Valley and the west coast. ARAC have done a great job keeping the access to this area for all clubs. The concept of having trained trip leaders specific for the forest is working well, and it's very reassuring knowing that the leader knows his way around the forest. It is a huge area with steep hills and some amazing views. A very welcome hot lunch was supplied by CCVC at the Orange Hut. Hats off to the local clubs and all the sponsors who contributed to building the Orange

Hut (it really is orange!). What an amazing asset to have.

Saturday nights dinner at the Silverstream Retreat was well attended with a talk from CCVC club members, Shaun & Denise Ross, who had competed in the Great African Race from Budapest to Bamako. They bought a Mitsubishi Pajero that lasted the whole trip with only a few issues and sold it to a local at the end. What struck me most about their trip was the "spur of the moment" decision to compete. It was not something that they spent a year organising.

Sundays AGM was attended by 48 members representing 25 clubs from Port Valley in the far north to Central Otago in the deep south. We received apologies from 20 clubs throughout the country, of which 15 supplied delegate votes, and we had 9 people watching via live-stream. This was the best attended AGM we have had in many a year. That is a representation of close to 2 thirds of the 63 clubs in the Association. Thank you to everyone that attended and made contact.

The remits, as presented to clubs for voting on at the AGM, had a few minor changes made as a result of input from clubs that attended, and were all passed at the meeting. The updated Constitution will be made available once it has been submitted to the Incorporated Societies.







On the Saturday before the AGM, CCVC put on two trips into the Akatarawa forest led by Neil Blackie and Dave de Martin. A Bar b Que lunch was prepared by John Vruink, Ralph Dobson and Paul Jonson and club members provided seats for visiting conference goers. On Sunday the AGM was held in Silverstream Retreat.

ANDREW GEE



Existing positions filled at the AGM:
President - Neville Dunton (re-elected)
Treasurer - Joanna Lilford (re-elected)
Secretary - Kath Jaggard (re-elected)
PRO - Peter Vahry

As a result of the Passed Remits – new positions filled at the AGM:
Membership Officer - Craig Lilford (previously seconded to the role)
National Events - Brian Howat
Land Access - Ian Hutchings
Projects - Grant Purdie
Systems - Max Wheatley



Ratified Sub-Committee positions:
Southern Zone (SZ) President
Graeme Thompson
SZ PRO - Brent Wilson
SZ Vice-President - vacant

Central Zone (CZ) President
Brian Howat
CZ PRO - John Vruink
CZ Vice-President - Max Charman

Northern Zone (NZ) President - John Hickey
NZ PRO - Peter Vahry
NZ Vice-President - Dan Barnett



National Competitions Officer - Scott Biggs.

The AGM for 2022 will be held in Auckland. We look forward to another great turnout next year. Thanks again to CCVC for a great weekend, with special mention to John Vruink for bringing it all together.

Kath Jaggard
National Secretary



Roles Re-jig

The National Exec roles re-jig, approved at the AGM as part of the remits, has resulted in changes to duties for some of the existing officers and has added several new officer positions.

Most duties are now described in a separate document that the Exec can add to or change as the need arises. See the current version at <https://nzfwda.tidyhq.com>, you will need to be logged in and then select the AGM 2021 tab in the menu.

The most significant role changes are:
National Land Access Officer:
This new role has total focus on land access, including liaising with Zone PROs on local access, issues and threats.

National Public Relations Officer:
The focus is now communications and publicity, including posting on our website, Facebook and Members' Portal. There will no doubt be some involvement with land access.

National Events Officer:
This new role has oversight across all forms of national and zone competition events, including for example winch challenges, tough truck challenges and the like, but not including club events. The National Competitions Officer will continue to be responsible for National Trials.

The other new roles are:

- **Membership Officer**
- **Systems Officer**
- **Projects Officer**

Zone officer roles now have some duties listed and the Vice-President of each Zone is now a member of the National Exec.



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.

Life Members Appointed 2021

At the AGM over the last weekend, we had two Life Members appointed.

Mel Street, Land Rover Enthusiasts (Rotorua).

Mel joined the Waikato 4WD Club in the mid to late 1980's. He quickly became a very active member in his club. He owned a green Series 3 Land Rover and attended many safaris over the years in this Land Rover.

In 1999 Mel joined the newly formed Land Rover Enthusiasts Club (Rotorua). He served on the committee of the LRE Club for many years and held the position of President from 2004 to 2009.

Mel was involved with the restoration of a Series 1 Land Rover from the Malayan conflict or as it was known 'The Emergency'. The Land Rover was built up as it would have been used in the Malayan Peninsula and the Club presented the vehicle to the Army Museum at a special club meeting in Rotorua.

Mel spent many voluntary hours over 15 years going to Waiouru, restoring and maintaining many of the museum's vehicles.

Mel was a delegate for his club until ill health has meant that he has been unable to attend either club meetings or his cherished Northern Zone meetings.

As Eileen Revell says, Mel is a gentleman in the nicest possible way and the Northern Zone was pleased to nominate him for Life Membership of the NZFWDA.



Mel Street



Neville Dunton

Neville Dunton Bay of Plenty 4WD Club, Current National President

Neville joined Bay of Plenty 4WD Club in the 1980's after watching a 4 wheel drive event and seeing the "crazy things" these guys were doing with their vehicles. One of these was Steve McMinn!

Neville's first vehicle was a C Class trials vehicle that he kept for 20 years, painted lime green and called Kermit! Neville continued trialling for over 30 years and held the position of National Competitions Officer for 7 of those years. He also held the position of President for the BoP Club for 12 years.

Neville has now held the position of National President for 8 consecutive years and he has lead the achievement of some huge upgrades to the Association during that time. A well deserved nomination that the current executive were pleased to accept.



LIFE MEMBERS OF THE NEW ZEALAND FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION.

Awarded 2021 - Neville Dunton
Awarded 2021 - Mel Strett
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

42 Traverse Winter closure to 4WD's

A reminder that the 42 Traverse is closed to 4WD use from the end of April until the 1st of December in accordance with the Department of Conservation CMS.

It is important that this is respected.

Keep updated at: <http://www.friendsof42traverse.nz/news.html>

Manawatu Four Wheel Drive Club continues to distribute the surplus money raised from events it has run.



Substantial donations of at least \$10,000 each are being made to the "I am Hope" charity, the Neurological Association in support of motor neuron disease and the Rescue Helicopter.

More in depth write ups will hopefully be in the next edition of Trail Torque.



Low Volume Vehicle Technical Association Inc

1 Feb • 🌐

<https://www.lvvtta.org.nz/shop/>

Did you know, that today the NZ Car Construction Manual became a free download?

You can still purchase it as a hard copy, if you want that paper on a shelf feel.

But it's now free if you want to view it on a device, or print things out yourself.

NZFWDA Member Survey

Members were recently offered the opportunity to respond to a series of questions about NZFWDA Members, Clubs, Club Delegates, Zones, and National Executive. As an important part of our improvement programme, it is how the Executive wants to find out what members want from the Association.

There was a reasonable response to the three mini-survey questionnaires. We provided a summary of mini-survey #1 in the last edition of Trail Torque. Further analysis of all the responses will be reported in fuller detail over the coming months as will the new Exec's plans to act on the findings.

For now, we have collated responses to four of the ten questions posed in mini-survey #2 by three categories:

Yes = agreement

Don't know = don't know

No = disagree

The broad responses to these questions follow:

And a couple of highlights from mini-survey #3:

- Most members prefer to receive information by email rather than other means.
- Most members read Trail Torque and find it useful.

More to come.....

Question 1:

As an association member what does that mean to you?

- Friendship and Comradeship with other like-minded people
- Opportunities to go where few others have gone before
- To support a national organisation advocating for 4WD recreation
- National oversight of 4WD competitions
- Insurance covers
- Opportunity to put something back into the community I live in

Yes = 47%

Don't know = 41%

No = 12%

Question 2: The National Executive has been making significant improvements in providing information and guidelines for its members?

Yes = 46%

No = 54%

Question 4: Are you aware that your Club can appoint members as club delegate to Zone and National AGM meetings?

Yes = 91%

No = 9%

Question 9: Do you think it important to retain the balance of representation between Zone and National Roles?

Yes = 77%

Don't know = 6%

No = 17%

Ecosystem Management

ARTICLE BY PETER VAHRY

Back in 2012, Del Albright, a highly respected advocate for four wheeling in the USA published a 'handbook' called Shortcuts to Landuse and Volunteerism. There's an awful lot of good information in that handbook and one section is titled "Ecosystem Management".

So, what's he talking about...

"Ecosystem management takes in all aspects of nature – from the river to the trees, to the mountains surrounding the river, to the trail and roads nearby. It's the big picture – and we are part of it and must be aware of our impact on it and how it all comes together to form this world we live in." As people who rely on access to land, we must be aware that what we do on one day affects what we might have to do in the future. What we do on a 4WD trip affects the surroundings and probably downstream activities. We need to recognise how we impact the 'big picture'.

Water is one example to consider, we put in a cut or water bar across a track to divert water into the undergrowth, but where did the water run off in the first place and what happens to the diverted water that does not soak into the ground... we need to consider the 'big picture'. Diverting that water will help to keep the track from further erosion and keep sediment out of a nearby watercourse, which is important to preserve our ongoing motorized access options. I'm going to quote Del again ... "Ecosystem management is a term that describes the big picture.



One definition from Wikipedia defines ecosystem as made up of a community of animals, plants and bacteria interrelated together with its physical and chemical environment, where the purpose is to conserve major ecological services and restore natural resources. One definition of management is the act, art, or manner of managing, or handling, controlling, or directing. No matter how simple or complicated the definitions, the idea of managing whole ecosystems means trail and riding areas must be valued in the same light – in the big picture of things. We need the trails and riding areas, but we must be aware of the best places to put them and the right way to use them in those areas where the ecosystem needs some special attention".

Overall, it seems that the ecosystem is a big puzzle where each piece combines to make that puzzle; everything in nature ties together and like dominoes in a row, knocking one over can trigger a whole row to fall. However, it can be possible to mitigate damage to create a tradeoff when making a change to a piece of the

puzzle.

Changes can however become cumulative with their impacts. Not all are bad, and some can be beneficial, while many negative impacts can be easily mitigated with sound science and good management. We need to constantly reassess what we are doing to nature. Our population and recreational pressures increase each year, and we need to keep that 'big picture' in mind and manage our impacts. Potential solutions towards management are:

Learn about eco-system management and cumulative impact in your region. Be actively involved with local land management agencies by providing input to proposed policies that put at risk responsible 4WD recreation opportunities.

Educate others about the big picture. Be willing to mitigate impacts from your activities

Be proactive in considering activities and events and get ahead of issues before they become issues!

Threats to our land access

This is a reminder to everybody who likes to go off-road in their 4wd. As we all know, access to land is vital. Without permission to use properties, we have no recreation.

As we have often highlighted to all our members, it is really important to make sure that every one of us complies with the basics:

- Have a good relationship with the land owner or land manager, understand their requirements

then comply with those. This includes where and when you can go, where and when you cannot go, behaviour expected and any other conditions of access.

- Think safety! Undertake hazard identification and have a safety plan for every trip. See the Health & Safety Policy and Guidelines for Clubs at <https://www.nzfwda.org.nz/healthandsafety>

- Value and safeguard the environment. This includes a "tread lightly" approach and being aware of the requirements of the Resource Management Act.

Failure to mitigate for risks to the environment, such as sedimentation and streambed disturbance, can have dire consequences such as loss of future access, the possibility of a fine or prosecution.

Star in a reasonably priced car

ARTICLE BY: ANDREW GEE

Central Zone clubs host 4WD trials that are open to all NZFWDA members, and you run your registered and warranted vehicle in one of four different classes that even up the playing field.

Thanks to the efforts of Mark, Raewyn and Brendan Watchorn the Club Truck Challenge continues to run in the Central Zone after it was introduced ten years ago.

This year's series has had some new competitors who are turning in good performances and they are keen to do full series (this year was four rounds).

Dave and Natasha Smithson from Tararua club and Chris Mason, Clinton Carrol and Mike Ward from Wairarapa club are some of the new competitors to the club truck this season.

Natasha may well be the best Pajero driver (under 18) that the world has ever seen, her dad thinks so but I couldn't be bothered to see every Pajero driver in the world to compare them. While the Club Truck is a competition most people aren't cutthroat and it's a good day out. Natasha looks like she's having a lot of fun and in later rounds with a little more experience she is giving Dad a bit of a hiding.



Dave Smithson at Taihape



Natasha Smithson at Taihape

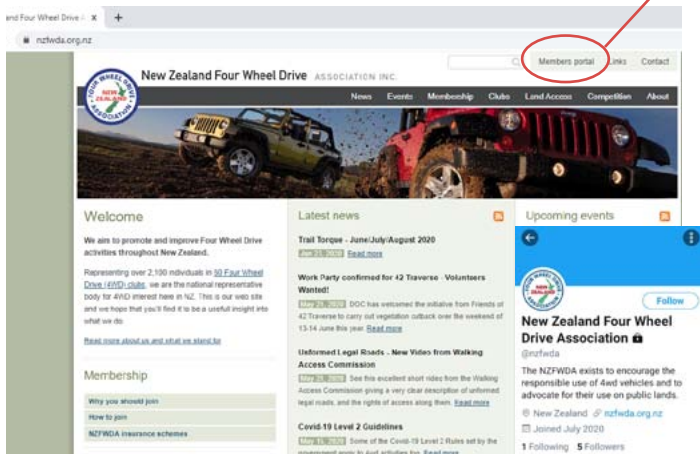


Judith Hintz

NZFWDA online

Our database & members portal for the NZFWDA is <https://nzfwda.tidyhq.com>

Our website is <http://www.nzfwda.org.nz>



Our twitter handle is @nzfwda





4WD Clubs work with Auckland Council to restore native species in park.

Members of several Auckland region 4WD clubs travelled to Kaipara South Head on Sunday 16 May to again help with the revegetation of the Te Rau Puriri Regional Park.

For 2021 they were joined by members of the South Kaipara Landcare group. There were four wheelers from the Land Rover Owners Club (Auckland), the Auckland Four Wheel Drive Club and Wilderness Ridge Riders Club.

The 4WD clubs have been doing an annual planting day at Te Rau Puriri for almost fifteen years and the results

of those efforts are impressive, with several wetlands now surrounded by vigorous native plant species. It is estimated that over 30,000 plants have been planted in the park by the 4WD volunteers.

The planting project involves families, and it is quite common to have grandparents with their grandchildren, all wielding spades and getting the young trees into the ground.

...4WD clubs have been doing an annual planting day at Te Rau Puriri for almost fifteen years...

An Auckland Four Wheel Drive Club member, Peter Vahry, said "It is gratifying to see the enthusiasm of the 4WD community for the restoration of the native tree cover within Te Rau Puriri and being able to assist Auckland Council in that way".



CROWN DECIDES AGAINST APPEALING LATEST FORESHORE AND SEABED DECISION

ARTICLE BY PETER VAHRY

The Crown has decided not to lodge an appeal in the first major foreshore and seabed decision under the current law which awarded customary title in three parts of Eastern Bay of Plenty to six hapu of Whakatohea.

Instead, the Crown has applied to be an "intervenor" in the case.

The decision last month, by Justice Peter Churchman, is the first major case under the foreshore and seabed law, the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011, which replaced Labour's foreshore and seabed law.
<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/crown-decides-against-appealing-latest-foreshore-and-seabed-decision/SV3JXYO6ZPU42MAXOFQCFGOVFI/>

The Landowners Coalition are alone in appealing the decision. The link is to an article explaining what is going on with this case and why the judge's decision is so dangerous to the public good is here:www.nzcpr.com/a-bombshell-ruling - A direct link to the fundraising page is here:www.nzcpr.com/fundraiser-donation-page.

At stake is New Zealand's entire coastal marine area - the distance between the average spring high tide waterline and the 12 nautical mile territorial limit, along with the airspace above, the waterspace, and the subsoil, bedrock and mineral wealth below. It covers 10 million hectares of the richest natural resources in the country, equivalent to a third of the land area of New Zealand.



Lucas Oil NZ 4x4 Trials 2021 Winners

POSTED ON 30/04/2021 BY DANIEL HOWAT

SOURCE: <https://nz4x4trials.co.nz/lucas-oil-nz-4x4-trials-2021-awards/>

A Class had its first Northern Zone finisher since 2013, with Jack & Stu Mickell's finish at Round 2 enough to claim the spot.

In C Class, Rhys O'Brien & Clarrie Vazey's strong performance with two wins and a 2nd place finish all but guaranteed them the cup, with Shayne Towers & Tony Hadlands class win at Thames enough to break the tie with 3rd place finisher Nathan Fogden & Mike Gibbons,

Greg & Chris McDell's strong finish at Bay of Plenty saw them retain the Acker Bilt Cup once more, with Scott Biggs & Sam Thomsen winning the Hardwick Metals Cup in 2nd, followed by Jarred Biggs & Fleche Crawford.

Luke Mickell & Bradley Laird as sole entrants from their zone won K Class for Northern Zone.

The "Best Presented (Vehicle)" award for Northern Zone went to Shane Hazelden & Ashley Clark for their vehicle The Sandtroll, who also enjoyed their best result of the season by finishing 8th at Hawkes Bay.

The Best Northern Zone Trial award as decided by the competitors themselves, went to the South Waikato 4WD Club which hosted the first round of the season, which was collected by Phil Hobart on the behalf of the club.

C Class saw the introduction of the Malcolm McLeavey Memorial Trophy, awarded to 1st in C Class for Central Zone in memory of the late Malcolm McLeavey, who was a prominent figure in C Class alongside son Ayden with their buggy known as "The Joker". The inaugural winner was none other than Mitchell Caldow & Jamie Elms, who now compete in "The Joker" itself. The award was given by Malcolm's Family: Ayden, Lorraine & Keith McLeavey.



Northern Zone. D Class: 2nd Sam Thomsen & Scott Biggs, 1st Greg & Chris McDell, 3rd Jarred Biggs & Fleche Crawford.

Michael Thomsen & Caleb Adlam claimed 2nd in Class, followed by Steven & Cohn Thomason in 3rd.

Reuben & Shane Mason's strong performances on their return saw them with a shot at claiming Central Zone glory overall and in D Class, however they had to beat former NZ1 Hamish

Auret & Paul Barnes at the final round. This was not to be, with the Mason brothers finishing directly behind to claim 2nd for the season. Derek Smyth & Paul Chapman's win popped them up to finish 3rd.

Sole entrant in E Class Daniel Howat duly won Central Zone with Michael



Central Zone. Malcolm McLeavey Memorial Trophy for 1st C Class in Central Zone: Jamie Elms & Mitchell Caldow, awarded by Ayden, Lorraine & Keith McLeavey

Whiting & Jarrod Moss alongside.

In J Class Sean Cushing & Blair Leitch took 1st place with two wins, over 2nd place finishers Hayden McGill & Barry Williams who pulled out after the second Central Zone rally in Manawatu.

Brent & Michael Ward duly won K Class for the fourth season in a row, in front of Daniel Whiting & Willow Eayrs.

Stephen Andrell & Chalmaine Hart's efforts in their G Class Isuzu Bighorn were rewarded with 1st in Class for Central Zone, the first finisher in G Class since 2007.

Best Presented Vehicle for Central Zone went to Grant & Renee Harrison with their CowperTruck.

The Lis Lawson Cup for Best Annual Central Zone Rally went to the Mt Egmont 4WD Club, received by Wayne Buckthought on the behalf of the club.

The Tomalin Family Trophy awarded for "Excellence in Engineering Workmanship & Innovation" was given to inaugural winner Gary West for his new twin turbo D Class buggy.

The Biggs Family Trophy awarded for the highest average class finish for each club, in effort to encourage those in the smaller classes, was won by the Counties 4 Wheelers club for the 2nd year in a row.

Sportsperson of the Year Award went to Tom Baeriswyl for his efforts helping those broken on the day throughout the season.



Tomalin Family Trophy: Awarded to Gary West (right)

In C Class, Nathan Fogden & Mike Gibbons returned to the top step, with Rhys O'Brien & Clarrie Vazey finishing 2nd, and Shayne Towers & Tony Hadland finishing 3rd after strong campaigns by all three.

Scott Biggs & Sam Thomsen won D Class and season honours for their strong performance, with Scott now a 3-time NZ1 alongside John Cowper, sitting 5th= of all time. Jarred Biggs & Fleche Crawford's consistency throughout the last five rounds saw them finish a comfortable 2nd in Class and Overall, ahead of 2009 NZ1 Philip Walton & Brendan Austin, whose podium performances at the final two rounds of the season saw them finish 3rd for the season.

Daniel Howat & Cole Stockler duly won E Class as the sole contenders, with Cody Fogden & Glenn D'Ath's

finish at Hawkes Bay giving them the 2nd place spot on the podium.

Stephen Andrell & Chalmaine Hart's two finishes were enough to give them G Class for the season, the first winner since Ray Hill & Gary Renall in 2007 when they won with their Mitsubishi Pajero.

J Class saw the first tie for a class position since 2019, with Sean Cushing and Hayden McGill both winning three rounds apiece to share class honours for the season.

Brent & Michael Ward won K Class for the fourth year straight, with Daniel Whiting & Willow Eayrs finishing 2nd in front of Luke Mickell & Bradley Laird.

Check out the National Trial Series Hall of fame here: <https://nz4x4trials.co.nz/hall-of-fame/>

4wd Community Contributions

We frequently hear stories of great efforts made by 4wd clubs where they contribute to their wider communities. Examples are planting, rubbish clean-ups, taking passengers for off-road trips on public days and more recently helping with pest eradication.

Many people have said that all these types of community-good projects should be publicised, to show the world we are actually responsible people who give something back to the community as a gesture to recognise the privileges of land

access that we enjoy. Positive publicity like that would help assure the public, land owners and council officers that there is a lot more to organised 4wd activities than the old-time perceptions often regarded negatively.

Sometimes we get material to publish about these good deeds, and there are articles in this edition of Trail Torque. Unfortunately, all too often these good deeds go unrecognised, and the Association wants to do something about it.

We invite clubs to provide stories and photos to publish on the web page in TidyHQ (the NZFWDA membership portal).

Your material doesn't need to be up-to-the-minute, although fresh is best, all our stories over recent times should be worthwhile. And don't forget to include your club name, and the general area where it took place!

You can submit material to the National PRO at pro@nzfwda.org.nz for the webpage.

4x4 Events/Trips/Runs /Important Dates

Events and Trips 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

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

5 SEPTEMBER 2021

SHEFFIELD MUD PLUG 2021

Brought to you by SHEFFIELD FIRE BRIGADE And 4x4 Events NZ. Rain Date 8th September. All Proceeds to Sheffield Volunteer Fire Brigade and Malvern Order of St John. **EARLY ENTRY** up to 22nd August \$40 per competing vehicle (including driver and Co-driver) **LATE FEE** \$60 entries close 9.15am on day. If any spaces available. Limited to 45 vehicles. \$10.00 gate entry for all extra passengers on the day. Children under 12 free. See <https://4x4events.co.nz/index.php/sheffield-mud-plug/> for full details.

23 - 25 OCTOBER 2021

NATIONAL 4X4 TRIAL 2021-2022 SEASON.

Round 1: Eastern Bay Twin Diff Club

See www.nz4x4trials.co.nz for more information.

20 NOVEMBER 2021

NATIONAL 4X4 TRIAL 2021-2022 SEASON

Round 2: Wanganui 4WD Club

See www.nz4x4trials.co.nz for more information.

FEBRUARY 2022

NATIONAL 4X4 TRIAL 2021-2022 SEASON

Round 4: Waikato 4x4 Club

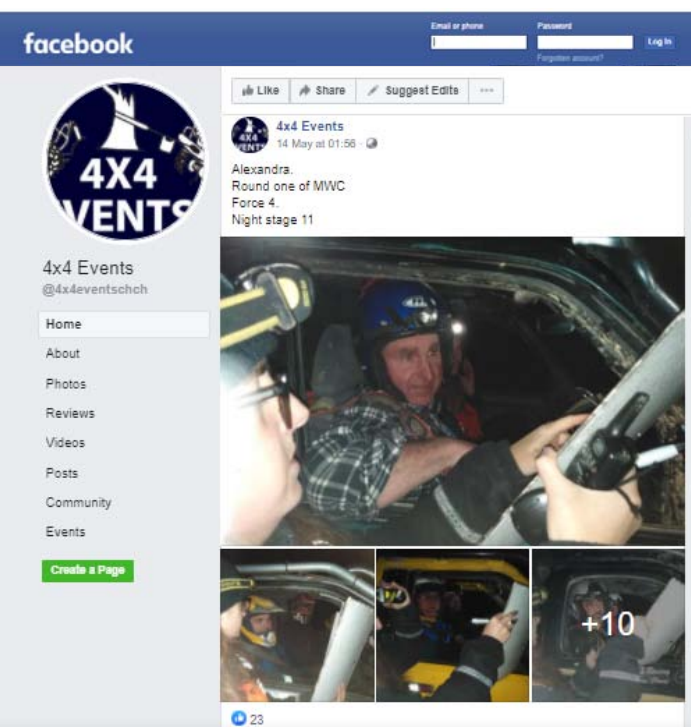
See www.nz4x4trials.co.nz for more information.

MARCH 2022

NATIONAL 4X4 TRIAL 2021-2022 SEASON

Round 5: Counties 4 Wheelers

See www.nz4x4trials.co.nz for more information.



Offroad Wairarapa 4x4 Club Inc

Public group · 203 members

CLUB CHAMPS June 2021 -

To our faithful scorekeeper and the DECO boys, we missed you, get well soon, ORW 4x4 Club Inc.



Advertising in Trail Torque

Quarter Page	(94mm x 135mm)	\$150
Half Page	(190mm x 136mm)	\$300
Full Page	(190mm x 278mm)	\$600

These prices are per edition of NZFWDA Trail Torque and do not include GST. Invoices are sent yearly and bookings must be made for a minimum of one year. Advertisements must be received copy ready and sent as jpeg or pdf to: Bobbie Kincaid: editor@nzfwda.org.nz All advertising ("advertising") in Trail Torque is on the basis that

1. The Editor at the Editor's discretion may accept or reject any advertisement without giving any reason.

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Rescue Chopper Tip

One of our members has suggested that you carry a lighter in your vehicle. It doesn't have to go, as long as the flint flashes. The helicopter pilots night vision goggles can pick up the flash of the flint from a long way off to help guide them.



President Report

Neville Dunton - Email: president@nzfwda.org.nz - Phone: 07 578 2689 - Mobile: 027 446 5634



This year's AGM was hosted by Cross Country Vehicle Club (CCVC) who are in the throes of celebrating their 50th Anniversary. The venue was Silverstream Retreat which is nestled midway up the Hutt Valley. The venue was originally a WWII US military hospital and is being progressively restored to useful function as an events centre. The "conference" was a trip through the Akatarawa Forest led by CCVC trip leaders, BBQ lunch hosted by CCVC at the "Orange Hut", and then a pleasant afternoon of more tracks (with a few challenges for those who wanted such things).

The AGM was well attended with registrations of 96 delegate votes (in-person or formally assigned) which represented a tad more than 67% of total NZFWDA delegate votes. It was

great to see the interest and intent of members, and the numbers, at this AGM; all Remits were passed with majority "aye" votes (7 "nay" votes were expressed for Remit 1; the remaining Remits were all passed by "aye" votes, no "nay").

I have to confess the past couple of years have been significantly demanding not only on me but all National Executive Committee members. I suspect there has been equal pressures on your Club Executive and on all members as we have come to terms with the fall out from the Deadwood prosecutions. But, fundamental to our individual and collective love of our sport and recreational activities, is a love and respect for the great outdoors. That has been so since collective 4WD

association began. We are all aware of "Tread Lightly", we all know we only have "One Earth", and as 4wheelers we embrace "do no harm". It all comes down to personal choice(s) but now, in this Association, we have embraced the collective power of personal choice and obligation to act lawfully.

The substantial majority votes for the 2021 Remits tells me that members are accepting of the need to practice what we believe.....from me to you, my thanks for your support and recognition of the merits of the Constitutional change(s) that have just been ratified.

With best wishes
Neville Dunton
President, NZFWDA Inc.

National PRO Report(s)

Email: pro@nzfwda.org.nz

Report from retiring National PRO, incoming Projects Officer

Well what an exciting AGM, all that hard work by the remit subcommittee and National Exec over the last 18 months paid off. There was overwhelming support by delegates, and all the remits were approved with only a small handful of minor wording changes. The process of consulting with clubs and members, the roadshows, and the resulting improvements to the remits was clearly successful and worth the effort to make sure we got it right.

This is my last report as National PRO and I welcome Peter Vahry into the role as I move to take on the new position of Projects Officer.

My full report is in the Members' Portal on TidyHQ, on the AGM 2021 page at <https://nzfwda.tidyhq.com/public/pages/agm---2021>. (Remember you need to be logged on to get access).

In my brief verbal address to the AGM I had a big moan about many members not reading our communications, which the Exec has put a lot of effort into. Yet we have still

heard complaints from some members saying that they don't know what's going on. Go figure!

There is the bright side though, the Exec has made lots of useful achievements despite the big focus on remits. On land access for example, since the previous AGM in November we have worked on issues at Muriwai with Auckland Council, Foxton Beach with Horowhenua District Council, Parks Network Plan with Greater Wellington Regional Council, Outer Green Belt Management Plan with Wellington City Council and now also their proposed by-law to allow closure of unformed legal roads. We have attended many meetings, written submissions and appeared in person to speak at council hearings.

As for projects, there is already a list which the new Exec will look at during its first meeting. Watch this space!

Grant Purdie
Retiring National PRO
Incoming Projects Officer

New National PRO intro

I'm Peter Vahry, an Auckland, a past president of the NZFWDA and longtime advocate for four wheeling. I was elected at the AGM to this newly configured role, which has less emphasis on land access than previously and is now more about communication and image building.

In this day and age, image is everything and as a recreation we need to be seen as 'responsible'. We don't have to be perfect, but we need to stay on the right side of the law and minimise opportunities for those with differing viewpoints to criticise.

I hope to promote four wheeling in a way that will improve the chances of getting access to public and private lands. Along the way there will need to be some ongoing 'education' and not just within our recreation, but a wider audience which may need to include the advertisers of various 4WD brands who claim that their vehicles can go anywhere! That is misinformation and damaging our image.

There is only one earth – respect it.
Peter Vahry



Northern Zone President Report



John Hickey - E: ntzhpresident@nzfwda.org.nz - Mobile: 0274 531 247 - Home: 09 630 4904

(EDITED VERSION - FULL VERSION AVAILABLE HERE: <https://nzfwda.tidyhq.com/public/pages/agm---2021> You need to be logged in)

Northern Zone Presidents Report - NZ Four Wheel Drive Association - NATIONAL AGM on 30 May 2021

Our last Northern Zone AGM should have been in April 2020 but it was not until 26 September 2020 and since that AGM the National AGM was held by Zoom in November 2020.

Tracks in the North

There is continuing pressure on land and problems with land access issues:

Hull Road

This is now closed for the 3 winter months.

Poutu

Locals aren't happy with 4x4s on the beach:

- I understand a fence now exists around the lighthouse area. Kauri Club point out that the fence around the lighthouse was put up by a group of Kauri Coast Four Wheel Drive Club members and locals from Waikaretu Marae.

- Locals are complaining that with the closure of Auckland's beaches, more people will be travelling north to Poutu.

- Kauri Coast Four Wheel Drive Club say that issues about four wheel drive use on the beach are separate from Poutu and linked to some individuals trespassing on private property and driving at speed. (A member whose name I did not know said that the article that appeared in the Northern Advocate last year had misrepresented the position and concerns. Feedback is useful. It is helpful when clubs send delegates to our Zone meetings or at least report on important matters.)

90 Mile Beach Management Plan

- (a) Locals are upset about visitors straying off the beach and onto the sand dunes and private property.
- (b) I understand that the Crunchy Trail and Gumdigger track may be currently closed. Is that correct?

Maratoto

This is open during summer and now closed for the winter.

Zone AGM

At our Zone AGM Dave Brown stood down as Zone Vice President and Dan Barnett has replaced him.

Thank You

Thank you to everybody in the Zone who has helped over the last 8 months. As I have said before the Association can only operate because of the time spent by many volunteers.

Thank you to the Northern Zone Executive particularly Eileen who works tirelessly; Peter Vahry as PRO and Dave Brown who as Vice President provided a solid backup.

I also wish to acknowledge the help of the National Executive. Neville Dunton as National President and Grant Purdie as National PRO. Also Kath Jaggard as National Secretary, Jo Lilford as National Treasurer and Craig Lilford as Central Zone PRO and membership officer.

Thanks to everyone in the Zone, in particular the Zone Delegates for their support of me as Zone President. It has been an honour to serve you.

Regards
John Hickey
Northern Zone President

MURIWAI BEACH UPDATE - 2 JUNE 2021

Dear All,

I understand that Auckland Council has concerns about damage caused to the dunes by the public including those driving four wheel drive vehicles, those riding horses, those riding motorbikes, bicycles and by other vehicles such as all-terrain vehicles and side by side vehicles:

1. The underlying problem appears to be the behaviour of a few people, some of whom drive four wheel drives and also others who ride motor bikes and/or drive ordinary two wheel drive vehicles.

2. You should be aware that Auckland Council has proposed closing Muriwai Beach by either:

- (a) Closing it on a seasonal basis; or
- (b) Limiting access by installing gated access points; or
- (c) Permanently closing it to all vehicles except lifesaving and emergency service vehicles.

3. For the purpose of the Land Transport Act, the NZFWDA considers the beach is a road and ordinary road rules apply,

e.g. no careless or reckless or dangerous driving.

4. All four wheel drivers, not just members of the Association, should be aware that the Association promotes responsible use of four wheel drive vehicles; and

- (a) Does not support or encourage use of vehicles that will damage ecologically fragile areas;
- (b) Encourages safe use of motor vehicles and promotes health and safety policies for that purpose;

5. You should also be aware of a number of community activities by members of clubs who are members of the NZFWDA including annual beach clean-ups, tree planting at Te Rau Puriri, fund raising events and assisting the Police with transport and to promote for responsible four wheel drive use.

BEACH ACCESS RULES

6. To maintain access to the beach please:

- (a) Do not drive on the beach south of Coast Road;

- (b) Follow ordinary road rules, i.e. drive to the conditions (on a beach that often is less than open road speeds);
- (c) Where there are people on horses, slow down;
- (d) Stay between the high water and low water parts of the beach and do not drive on the sand dunes;
- (e) Avoid any nesting birds such as Dotterels (I understand that they may prefer to nest on the open sand dunes so they can see any predators coming, of course that may make them hard to see when driving a vehicle so keep a good look out);
- (f) If the beach is closed on a limited basis, to vehicles, for good reason, such as Guy Fawkes, please respect that;
- (g) Encourage all other users (not just members of our own clubs) to follow the rules and discourage any breach of the rules.

Sticking to these rules will support access to the beach for all beach users.

Regards
John Hickey
Northern Zone President

National NCO AGM Report

Derek Smyth

(EDITED VERSION - FULL VERSION AVAILABLE HERE: <https://nzfwda.tidyhq.com/public/pages/agm---2021> You need to be logged in)

Due to covid and the delay in the association AGM meant the new committee did not officially take office until late 2020 and this would see us in office for just 6 months.

We, as a committee, have achieved an amazing amount this year. One of my philosophies and statements to our members was "we were not interested in people bringing problems to the committee without a solution". That really did work. Our focuses this season were on:

- Vehicle and competitor safety
- Public exposure to our events
- Promotion and ways to look at opening the doors to new interested competitors
- Focus to develop a new web site.
- And to improve communication with each committee member and our members

To implement these goals within such a short timeframe required us to set up a sub-committee which was made up of a mentor, a marketing person, a junior class development person and a website

development and media person. Behind the sub-committee we had other people assist with these different projects, this included photographers.

Vehicle and competitor safety is a constant work in progress but this year our AGM was one of the biggest attended for some time. Some of the remit items passed were: fire extinguisher location and identification on site, the recommendation of fireproof under garments as a minimum, helmet weight improvements, and improved steward's job descriptions.

Public exposure has been important part of this season with the focus put towards clubs that wanted to have the public attend their national round event. I see the public exposure as a very important aspect in the promotion of our sport, it allows us to get sponsors on board, it allows the clubs to raise money for charities and local communities, and it creates a pathway through exposure to get people interested in giving trialing a go.

There are many people involved in the above successes that need recognition, however there is one name that really stands out for me and that is

Daniel Howat. With the help of other knowledgeable people willing to help Daniel, he has developed our new website, this is a go-to hub for our organisation. Daniel has maintained live updates all season, Daniel has also taken on board the Publisher role and it is worth visiting - www.nz4x4trials.co.nz.

I am very proud of our committee, subcommittee and the families supporting them this year. It has been a buzz to see everyone acting as a family, this includes all our competitors and their families. We all have looked after each other this year and all gone above and beyond.

All six rounds this season have been a success thanks to the clubs that held them. The applications for council and horizons resource consents have gone smoothly and it has been fantastic to see these organisations wanting to get involved in making the events a success for us and their communities.

Thank you.
Derek Smyth
National Competitions Officer

2021/2022 NZFWDA Executive

The NZFWDA Executive are volunteers who administer the Association. Divided into three Regional Zone committees - Northern Zone (North Cape to Taupo), Central Zone (Taupo to Wellington), Southern Zone (the entire South Island) and a Competition Committee.

President - Neville Dunton
Secretary - Kath Jaggard
Treasurer - Joanna Lilford
National PRO - Peter Vahry
Membership Officer - Craig Lilford
National Events - Brian Howat
Land Access - Ian Hutchings
Projects - Grant Purdie

Systems - Max Wheatley
National Competitions Officer - Scott Biggs
Southern Zone (SZ) President - Graeme Thompson
SZ PRO - Brent Wilson
SZ Vice-President - vacant

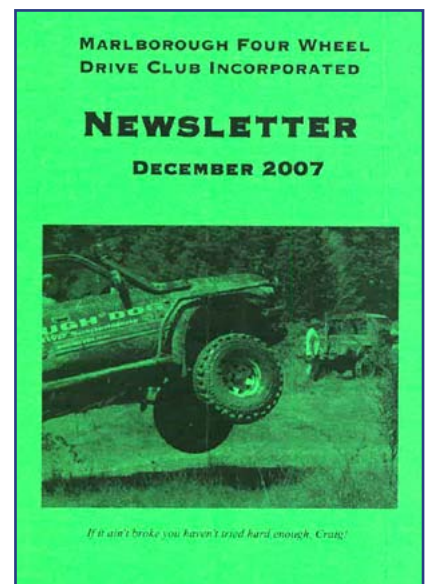
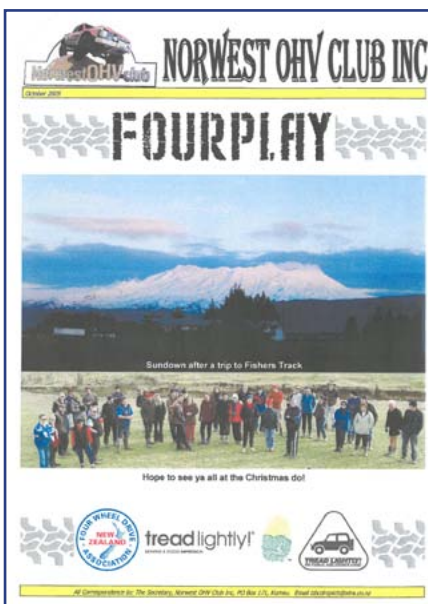
Central Zone (CZ) President - Brian Howat
CZ PRO - John Vruink
CZ Vice-President - Max Charman
Northern Zone (NZ) President - John Hickey
NZ PRO - Peter Vahry
NZ Vice-President - Dan Barnett

Looking back...



Details of this photo page 4

P.O. Box 228 Nelson
February 2008
<http://www.4wdnz.net>



Northern Zone Clubs

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

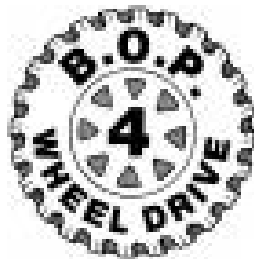
If your Club logo has been updated, can you send a copy of it to editor@nzfwda.org.nz please.

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



auckland4wd.org.nz

Bay of Islands 4x4 Club



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cozzie4x4@gmail.com



hunt2@windowslive.com



www.geyserland4wd.co.nz



justjeepinaklnz@gmail.com

Kaitaia 4WD Club Inc.
Kaitaia4x4club@hotmail.com



Kaimai 4x4 Club



www.kc4wd.co.nz



www.lroca.org.nz



manukau4wd.org.nz



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secretary.waik4wdclub@gmail.com



Whangamata4x4@gmail.com



secretary@whangarei4x4.org

Wilderness Ridge Riders 4WD Club

Central Zone Clubs

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

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cruiser4wdclub@gmail.com



VEHICLE CLUB
Wellington
www.ccvc.org.nz



<https://www.facebook.com/DesertDefenders4wd>

Featherston Family
4x4 Club



www.hb4wd.co.nz



www.kiwi4x4.org.nz

Levin 4WD Club



www.m4wdc.org.nz



www.naki4wd.org



www.twincity4x4.co.nz



<http://wf4x4c.org.nz>

Wellington Jeep Club
wgnjeepclub@yahoo.com



Southern Zone Clubs



www.4x4events.co.nz

Central Otago 4WD
Club
co4wdc@gmail.com

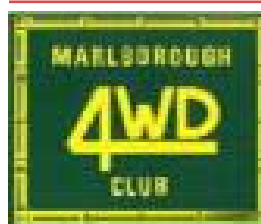
Clutha 4WD Club



www.lrec.co.nz



www.lroco.com



marlborough4x4club.weebly.com



nel4x4@gmail.com



www.or4g.org.nz



shotover4wdclub.co.nz

South Island Deaf
4x4 Club
s.i.deaf4x4club@hotmail.com



southlandlandroverclub.co.nz



Kids Page

Hi and greetings from Ms. Jones' Class!,

Hope you are well and safe. My name is Becca and I volunteer in an online education program for kids. I have been helping the kids to research car models and we have been having a lot of fun learning about all types of vehicles including offroad 4X4 vehicles! That's how we come across your page <https://www.nzfwda.org.nz/links/c54/>

One of the kids, Dexter, who is a fan of 4X4 cars, surprised me when he sent this article about some of the best classic offroad cars. I was so proud of him for going above and beyond the lesson in finding it!

<https://www.carcovers.com/resources/top-14-classic-off-road-vehicles-of-all-time-content/>

I wanted to show him that you may find the information useful and that he can help others in the research that they may be doing, just like we have been. Would you be willing to add the link he found as a resource to your page? Even if it's just for a little while, I would really appreciate it!

We believe it could be as useful to you and your other visitors as it was to us and the students would be so excited if you used it! I would love to surprise Dexter to show him you appreciated the information he shared as much as your information helped us.

Please let me know if you'd be willing to help. Thank you so much in advance!

Becca Jones
Teacher / Advisor



Can you find the 12 hidden 4x4's in this picture?



NZFWDA YOUNG DRIVER OF THE YEAR CUP

2008-09	Mitch Seymour
2009-10	Martin Rivers
2010-11	Ash Senior
2011-12	Shaun Robertson
2012-13	William Sturme
2013-14	Renee Harrison
2014-15	Rachel Buckthought
2015-16	Daniel Howat
2017-18	Aaron Tosland
2018-19	Caitlyn Thomsen

To nominate a Young Driver in your Club, contact the NZFWDA National Secretary secretary@nzfwda.org.nz
Entries must be received by 31st January.

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.