



TRACK CARE

The Newsletter of Track Care WA (Inc.)
PO Box 8338 Perth Business Centre, Perth WA 6849
Website: www.trackcare.com.au

July 2015



Chairman's Report

I think this issue is a great example of how well projects are progressing. The reports herein demonstrate the resolve of our members to ensuring "access for the future". Well done everyone! Other important tasks are also being progressed following a strategic review of Track Care activities undertaken by Steve and myself. Our intention was to identify risks that have potential to interrupt our "access for the future" objective and at the same time catalogue opportunities.

One of the initiatives from the review was to instigate a conversation with Central Desert Native Title Service (CDNTS) staff to explore possibilities for an MOU between the organisations. While both parties acknowledge there are currently extraordinarily good relations, it is also recognised that an MOU will underpin the partnership into the future. Feedback provided by Ben and Eric from the Matuwa and Kurrara Kurarra (MKK) Indigenous Protected Areas (IPA) dedication trip to Lorna Glen indicates the CDNTS would like to progress an MOU. Thanks Ben and Eric for attending the dedication and for capably representing Track Care with an information booth. The important initiative I hope to commence in earnest during the next period is the renovation of our website and facebook presence. This renewal process has already commenced and an interim example of this renovation can be viewed on <http://trackcare.com.au/home/links>. This page now recognises our supporters as Platinum, Gold, Silver and General Partners. Our appreciation has been further expressed with an offer of Honorary Membership to appropriate partners.

There is other good work underway that includes adoption project work proposed for the Wandoo National Park and our input into the current review of the W.A. Adventure Safety Standard for Four Wheel Driving. I anticipate newsletter items to be published in future editions that will provide additional information about this work.

Signing the CSR

At the end of April a small group from Track Care WA accompanied some Birriliburu Rangers to install some signs on the Canning Stock Route between Wells 2 and 9 for the Central Desert Native Title Services group. Many thanks to Eric Loughton and Brian Roberts for their extraordinary input to make this happen. Some signs were "Welcome to Country" for the Wiluna Martu and Birriliburu, some were "Thank you for Visiting", and others were information signs with historical snippets. More signs will be added at a later date.



▲ Well 9.

We noted that Well 6 water was quite dirty, which is unusual, and should not be relied upon for traveller's supplies while it is like this. It is proposed to pump it out in mid-June on the next Track Care WA trip, which is to refurbish Well 12. It should be fine after that.

Ben Blomfield



▲ Pierre Springs.



▲ One track - many stories.

PROUDLY
SPONSORED BY

ORE

61 McCoy St MYAREE WA 6154

Ph: (08) 9317 2344

www.offroadequipment.com.au

Yeagarup Cleaned Up

A cool clear day greeted the Track Care and Eastern Suburbs 4WD Club members as they assembled at the new TCWA project southern departure point, the Miami Bakery, on November 21st 2014. After sampling the wares the convoy meandered on an interesting course via Donnybrook, before stopping for lunch in Bridgetown and then on through the big timber to Pemberton. This was a welcome change of scenery for most of the TCWA crew as they were more used to the red dry conditions of the north.

At the Pemberton Discovery Centre the convoy was joined by several others, all eagerly awaiting travel instructions to take us to the Yeagarup camp site. However as we have all come to know, the work cannot begin until the paperwork has been completed. With directions obtained, we commenced the final journey to our home for the next 2 nights. And what a great camp site welcomed us. It had 2 large open areas with a communal covered meeting area, fire pit, toilets and plenty of good rainwater. Even a shower cubical offering a hot shower. Amazing! After settling in, having the meet and greet around the camp fire and welcoming the Armadale 4WD club members, it was early to bed in anticipation of a great day of exploration the next day.



A grey overcast day greeted us on Saturday morning, although, with wishful thinking, we were all confident that we would not receive any of the normal south coast rain. Discussions and plans were tabled with "management" and the group split into several units. Several of the Eastern Suburbs 4WD club members opted to undertake their clean up on the Saturday whilst others waited till Sunday morning.

After investigating several tracks and visiting the Warren River, we ventured down the massive Yeagarup (sand) Hill and dune system to the ocean and a drive along the beach. It was here that we all received a valuable lesson in how not to drive on the beach. A "tourist" had approached too close to the bank of the Warren River in the "unbreakable" Hi-Lux, perhaps testing the floatability of the vehicle. The vehicle did not sink but required a \$600 tow to recover his vehicle from the area after water entered the cab and drowned the petrol engine.

An impromptu training exercise to test the Max Trax recovery apparatus in preparation for future CSR ventures was a success to a degree, as the sand hill selected was very soft. However I am still confident the operation will work on the CSR sand hills. Boys and their toys!

It was then time to attack the Yeagarup Hill and return for lunch at camp and a quiet afternoon. The spirit of co-operation and team work saw all vehicles over the "dune" system with few problems. Deflation of the tyres was the key. It was then that we experienced several of the predicted occasional showers, but these were fleeting and never spoilt the evening camp fire discussions and stories.



Sunday morning saw everyone ready and waiting when Graeme arrived and the group returned to the beach and access track area. It was amazing the amount of rubbish that can and was collected when willing hands work in co-operation. In several hours the DPaW caged trailer was $\frac{3}{4}$ filled with an assortment of rubbish. The main offenders were beer bottles and cans thrown from vehicles either side of the track and beach side camp areas. We humans have a lot to answer for in the manner in which we treat our environment.

Graeme and Toni were very impressed with our enthusiasm and diligence with the clean-up. On completion, we returned to camp for a sausage sizzle put on by our hosts as an expression of thanks for our efforts. A special mention must be made of Thomas and Angus, the 2 youngest participants, for their assistance in the clean-up.

Most of the group then departed for home with a good feeling, knowing that they had contributed in a small way to the improvement of the environment in what can only be described as a beautiful part of WA.

It was great to see the interaction of the 3 groups. Thanks to all TCWA members for your participation. Thanks also to the Eastern Suburbs and Armadale 4WD Drive Clubs for your involvement and co-operation. In all we had 22 adults and 2 children assisting in the clean-up. Thanks also to Graeme and Toni from Pemberton Discovery Centre for organizing the event, supplying us with the great facilities, for allowing us to assist in the clean-up of your back yard, and for being great hosts.

We will return.....**The date is set, join the 2015 clean-up on 21-22nd November.**

Eric Loughton.

Warriedar ~ Floods, Storms & Vandalism

Friday 10th April was a dark, wet afternoon when the Track Care Rangelands team arrived at Warriedar Homestead to do ongoing repairs, having driven at 30km/hr due to the heavy rain and then a flooded river crossing at the entrance to the homestead. As usual the team forged through the barrage of adversity and made their destination. After offloading trailers campsites were organised.

Saturday was a dry day and everyone got cracking with the work scope.



All the ladies cleaned up rocks, broken glass and smashed doors left by vandals, along with a general area clean around the homestead.

Clive, John, Kevin and Alan attacked the shearer's quarter's floors with gusto.

Ray started on the roof repair of the saddle room, blown off by severe winds.

Sunday, all similar to Saturday except Kevin was rehanging the two doors and when I arrived later that afternoon I found everyone busy, as expected.

Each night we cranked up the camp fire and everyone came for a few drinks before dinner and regrouped after dinner for a chat. Alan seemed to steal the show with his knowledge of the Star/Universe system, and I think he enlightened all of us with his endless information.

Monday everyone was doing the same works, except the ladies and myself as we started painting the ceilings, doing minor repairs as we went. Alan joined Ray repairing the saddle room roof.

Tuesday was declared a lay day, and Alan lead the group to Rothsay mine camp. First stop was some grave sites, holding three visible graves, one which could have been a family animal "Angel" due to size and name, We then proceeded to Rothsay mine camp and had a cuppa and look around, however, the mine itself was locked up. We then headed to East Delmarwah Well for lunch, followed by a mystery tour home. Once we found the correct side of the station fence, we continued on our merry way.

Wednesday saw Kevin and Jill leave us.

The ladies continued painting ceilings and doors.

Clive and John completed the shearer's quarter's floors. What a great job they have done. They then repaired the south facing wall at the homestead, where the louvres had been smashed, and installed some roof iron and shade cloth. They also sheeted the western external door to help preserve it.

Myself and some of the ladies, stripped all the termite eaten timber and shade cloth from under the tank stand/meat hanging room and swept the slab area clean. Thursday was completing final works and then packing up to head home on Friday. Clive and John completed the window repair. The ladies did a final homestead clean up.

Ray and Alan completed the saddle room roof with ridge capping and flashing. John and I started on repairing gaps in the walls and the top of the entrance.



Ray and Alan have done a fantastic job on replacing this roof. Well done, and thanks Ray for taking this under your wing and running with it. Thanks fellas.

Thomas celebrated his 11th birthday and we sang happy birthday at morning tea.

Two couples, who chose to stay at Warriedar for approx. one week, were invited to join us on our last night around the camp fire. They were lovely couples and we hoped they enjoyed their stay. They commented on how great it was to see the homestead being restored and used.

Thank you to all the Track Care team members for their fantastic work achievements;

Clive & Sylvia, John & Maureen, Kevin & Jill, Errin, Alan, Jan & Thomas and Ray.

I have also received an email from John Coetsee of Geraldton DPaW expressing his gratitude for the work Track Care has done at Warriedar repairing the vandalism, the saddle room roof and the intended scope!

I hope everyone enjoyed their time on the project, it was a great trip. Until next time please stay safe.



Brian Roberts.

Wellington News

Campers have been warned they may lose the right to stay at Wellington Weir after a horror long weekend at the National Park. Rubbish, camping equipment and car wrecks were among the items left strewn across the camp sites.

Department of Parks and Wildlife district manager Drew Griffiths said visitors should show more respect when coming to Collie. "If you bring it in, take it out – otherwise you may lose the privilege of camping in the National Park, making it hard for all the people doing the right thing."

The article in the Collie Mail was viewed more than 50,000 times and the mess at Wellington National Park hit a nerve with many, including members of the Wellington Region 4WD Care Group who spent a day filling several trailers with rubbish and pulling out 5 car wrecks.

National Park Ranger Jamie Gault said it was fantastic to see the community step in and help look after the park. "The department is dedicated to working with four-wheel-drive clubs to help look after our tracks," he said. "Working with like-minded people is fantastic and a significant amount of rubbish was collected."

"We can't do what we do without our volunteers."

Story from Collie Mail – **Josh Del Pino**

Dig a little - discover a lot!

Become a Microblitzer!

Join this citizen science project to map the DNA footprint of Western Australia through the analysis of microbes in the soil. As microbes are essential to the health of our environment, this information can be used to monitor and manage our environment in areas such as mining & site rehabilitation and agriculture.

If you would like to be involved in the simple process of collecting soil samples, especially in the more isolated areas of our state, go online and register at www.microblitz.com.au. A sampling kit, instructions and return packaging will be posted to you.

MEETINGS & MEMBERSHIP

Meetings:

Track Care WA (Inc) holds a monthly meeting on the last Wednesday of each month at 7.15 pm at Star Street Uniting Church, corner Star and Archer Streets, Carlisle. All members are welcome to attend and encouraged to contribute. Visitors are most welcome.

Membership:

Membership fees are for 12 months and renewable annually from 30th June.

Full Membership with voting	\$80.00
Associate Membership no Voting	\$40.00

2015 meeting dates for Track Care WA are:

28 January
25 February
25 March
29 April
27 May
24 June
29 July
26 August
30 September – NEW date for our AGM, 6pm start with meal
28 October
25 November – no meeting in December.
All meetings commence at 7.15pm except September (6pm).

Proudly sponsored by: Data Documents



61 McCoy St MYAREE WA 6154
Ph: (08) 9317 2344
www.offroadequipment.com.au