



## eNews Direct To Members

*This ENews is a new format that Four Wheel Drive Victoria will be sending on a monthly basis or as needed, directly to your Inbox. As a member of Four Wheel Drive Victoria you will have the option to OPT OUT if you do not want this communication from us. If you do not opt out you will continue to receive these emails. You can opt out at any time.*

### The latest news from Four Wheel Drive Victoria

#### March 2023

##### **Volunteer Hours Needed**

The end of the financial year is not far away, this means that it is nearly time to total the incredible amount of hours our amazing volunteers give back to the local communities across the state. With a new Environmental Minister, Minister Ingrid Stitt, taking the place of Minister D'Ambrosio, it is essential that Four Wheel Drive Victoria have received any and all volunteer hours your club has undertaken to be able to represent the Association and really impress the Minister with all the hard work undertaken to give her the best view possible of Four Wheel Drive Victoria.

If you have any hours to send in, please send them to [projects@fwdvictoria.org.au](mailto:projects@fwdvictoria.org.au). If you need a copy of the volunteer hours data sheet, they can be downloaded from the website, [www.fwdvictoria.org.au](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au). It is essential that any volunteer work no matter how small is recorded and sent in to be able to be include in the reports.



Image A LROC Gippsland Volunteering

**The Great Outdoor and 4x4 Expo**

Love the outdoors? Then we'll see you at the Great Outdoor and 4x4 Expo

**Ballarat 2023**

**April 28th - 30th**

Friday 28th 10am - 5pm	Saturday 29th 10am - 5pm	Sunday 30th 10am - 4pm
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**Ballarat Showgrounds**  
Car Crosswick Road & Howitt Street, Ballarat Victoria

[www.greatoutdoorsexpo.com.au](http://www.greatoutdoorsexpo.com.au) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/greatoutdoorsexpo) | [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/greatoutdoorsexpo)

Next Expo - MELBOURNE | 30 June - 02 July 2023, Mildura Racecourse

##### **New Modification Codes**

The newly released Gross Combination Mass (GCM) modification code and amended existing Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) modification code will allow an increase in mass ratings of light vehicles in Queensland. This has been a huge amount of work by TMR Queensland and their NSW & Victorian counterparts along with the AAAA working group. Four Wheel Drive Australia are extremely proud to be associated with this working group in which our Industry will no doubt see the benefits into the future. This is expected to be rolled out to all other states in the very near future.

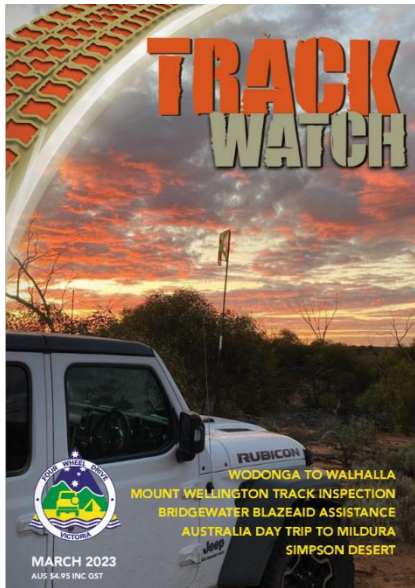
More about this exciting announcement and further details can be read on our website.

##### **Ballarat Great Outdoors Show**

The Ballarat Great Outdoors Expo is the next show up! The event is to be held at the Ballarat Showgrounds over the 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2023 and with plenty of big name stall holders it will make for a terrific event. Be sure to get down to check it all out!

##### **2023 Seasonal Closures**

The DEECA proposed seasonal closure list for 2023 has now been sent to club executives, the Parks Victoria proposed seasonal closures list will follow shortly. Please make sure your club has a good look at this list and note any concerns regarding changes to the list. These responses are needed ASAP to make sure feedback can be passed on and dealt with in the correct manner.



### **Trackwatch Articles Needed**

We need interesting articles and high-resolution photos about your club for Trackwatch magazine. Trackwatch is distributed far beyond our clubs and is seen by many organizations as well as Government agencies and politicians, so it is a terrific way to show your club to the world.

Please email your articles and photos to [projects@fwdvictoria.org.au](mailto:projects@fwdvictoria.org.au)

If you don't want to receive a hard copy of Trackwatch and would rather read it electronically, send an email to the Four Wheel Drive Victoria office, [office@fwdvictoria.org.au](mailto:office@fwdvictoria.org.au). The latest 4 issues of Trackwatch are always available to read on the Four Wheel Drive Victoria website. [www.fwdvictoria.org.au](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au)

### **DEECA Volunteer Surveys**

Part of Four Wheel Drive Victoria's KPI's with our Land Managers consist of assisting with volunteer surveying. There are numerous sites across Victoria that have been selected with high visitation rates expected. DEECA staff will be on site throughout the process to assist with the surveys. Club executives please check your emails for more information regarding these surveys, send this information to your club members and please let the Four Wheel Drive Victoria office know if anyone in your club is available across what date and site. These surveys make up part of Four Wheel Drive Victoria's KPI's so it is very important to get as many done as possible.

### **Flood Affected Parks and Forests**

There are still many parks and forests that are affected by the flood events of late 2022. Please exercise caution around flood waters and take the safe approach.

To keep up to date with current conditions and park/track closures please check the following resources. To check which tracks have extended closure periods please visit the Parks Victoria website via this link for Parks Victoria managed regions: <https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/.../flood-and-storm-affected-parks> To check which tracks have extended closure periods please visit the DEECA website via this link for DEECA managed regions: <https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/.../closures-of-parks-and-forests>

### **Easter and ANZAC Day Camp Host Opportunities**

We are sprinting through the year and already have arrived at March. Both, the Easter Long weekend and ANZAC Day Holiday provide an excellent opportunity for your club to host a camp host! Acting as a point of contact in a campground for Parks Victoria and DEECA, as well as a helpful guide for those new to the area, a camp host allows your club the great opportunity to showcase its community values in assisting others and also works as a great promotional tool for your club in attracting new members.

If your club has an area in mind that they would like to hold a camp host please let the Four Wheel Drive Victoria office know [projects@fwdvictoria.org.au](mailto:projects@fwdvictoria.org.au), alternatively a camp site can also be recommended to your club.



### **VicRoads New Distraction Laws**

Please be aware there are new laws being brought in to limit driver distractions on public roads throughout the state. The Minister for Roads and Road Safety recently announced changes will be enacted from March 31, this will bring Victorian regulations into line with the rest of Australia. The new changes are set to cover built-in vehicle systems, mounted devices, wearable and portable devices. You can read about these changes in full on our website, [www.fwdvictoria.org.au](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au). Along with these rules, new camera technology is also set to debut on Victorian roads in the coming months to help detect those using phones or not wearing seat belts whilst driving.

### ***Victorian 4x4 Show Recap***

The Victorian 4x4 Show was held at Lardner Park on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February. With fortunate sunny weather it was a busy day and a good turnout at the show for all exhibitors and visitors alike. You can read more about the Victorian Show in the March edition of Trackwatch, be sure to check it out.



[www.fwdvictoria.org.au](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au)

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