



Freedom  
All Wheel Drive Club  
of Western Australia



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## Dates for the diary:

### Next Meetings:

27 July 2020                      24 August 2020

### Upcoming Trips:

25 July 2020 Christmas in July Lunch  
Members only

8 – 17 August 2020 Mt Augustus  
Trip Leaders: John & Debi Marten

30 August 2020 Wandoo Wildflowers  
Trip Leaders: Michael & Jeanette Tai

26 Sep – 5 Oct Ravensthorpe  
Trip Leaders: Tony & Carole Allender

11 October 2020 Moondyne Country  
Trip Leader: Diane Court

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Freedom All Wheel Drive Club is a family oriented 4WD Club for drivers of Compact and Standard 4WDs.

Monthly Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at the Manning Senior Citizen's Centre, 3 Downey Drive Manning. Contact us via email at [info@fawdcwa.com](mailto:info@fawdcwa.com)

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## President's Report

I will be sitting in the Hot Seat for a while until Club Committee elections are held at the AGM which will probably be in September. Thanks to Tony for his contribution.

I missed out on both the Boyagin and Julimar day trips but by all accounts both trips were well attended and enjoyed by all. Thanks to Jason and Barry & Francesca, great job!

I recently returned home from Andy and Linda's Karijini/Exmouth/Coral Bay trip. With Debi's amazing depth of knowledge and daily pearls of wisdom, John's sometimes scary pyrotechnic skills, Andy's meticulous planning and mountain-goat like agility negotiating some of the Category 5 Gorge expeditions and then Linda's top class swimsuit modelling, this trip had it all and was awesome. I won't mention the group's return from an afternoon of snorkelling at Coral Bay and Andy, John, Linda and Debi's open-air outdoor showers exhibition. I'll leave that to your imagination!!

Thanks heaps to Andy and Linda, John and Debi for a very enjoyable few weeks. I had a ball.

As international and interstate travel restrictions are not likely to be lifted for some time, WA Caravan and Camping activities have boomed. Caravan, Camper Trailer and camping equipment sales have soared and there is a noticeable increase in activity on our roads. Caravan parks are now advising that they are fully booked for months ahead, some of the popular parks are fully booked up to the end of the year. Those members considering organising trips for next year would be advised to start planning early.

I read that the WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) are planning to increase the number of National Park Campsites by 20% over the next two years. Welcome news. Enjoy the Newsletter and again thanks to Diane.

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**Phil Slowther**  
Vice President

## Table of Contents

<i>Snippets from the Editor</i>	2
<i>Member Profile: Wil Horstmann</i>	2
<i>Trip Report: Boyagin Rock</i>	3
<i>QLD Update</i>	5
<i>Where Am I?</i>	5
<i>Headers from last newsletter</i>	6
<i>Birthdays</i>	6
<i>Trip Report: Julimar</i>	7
<i>Trip Report: Karijini Part 1</i>	10
<i>Puzzle</i>	14

## Snippets from the Editor

Hello Everyone. Has anyone else been out camping in this cold, wet and windy weather? I wouldn't miss it for the world! This is a bumper issue with not one, but three Trip Reports. Andy and Linda's Karijini Trip was so big that will come to you in two parts, with Part 1 in this issue and Part 2 concluding in August. We also have an update from Luke and Craig this month as well. This month's puzzle has some of the same answers as last month, so sorry about that. I'm not changing it though! I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas in July lunch – see you then, and enjoy reading!

Diane Court  
Newsletter Editor  
[possumcourt@gmail.com](mailto:possumcourt@gmail.com)




## Member Profile

### Wil & Sabina Horstmann

**Vehicle:** Izuzu DMax  
(Go the Max!)

I'm originally from South Africa, weird fact, the same little town Rowan and Michel are from - Rowan and I lived very close to each other, went to same primary school about a year apart and we met the evening of my first FAWDCWA meeting. I am married to Sabina, also a confusing one: a South African met a half-Bangladeshi-half-Hungarian Australian in an Irish pub in Cusco, Peru. We now have two boys, Marcus aged 3 and Luca nearly one year old.

I'm interested in a few things, from agriculture (I worked on various farms as farm manager in South Africa), touring, and scuba diving. And a braai, of course. And I drive the very dirty DMax. I also worked as an overland tour guide for about 8 years in Southern, Eastern and Northern Africa, doing most of the tours for a company called Nomad Africa Overland Tour. Rowan and Michel might be aware of them, they are from the same town. That job made me passionate about travelling and took me through a lot of Africa, England, India, and South America. I've been permanently in Perth since 2014 and got my citizenship at the beginning of the year.

My most interesting trip was in 2012, I was in Zambia, on a road between a town called Chipata and South Luangwa which was notoriously bad, and the truck slid on the mud and off the road and got bogged up to the diffs. That was a bad one and the company got alternative transport to take the 19 people to South Luangwa National Park. Only one Aussie stayed behind to help me to get the truck out - with one shovel and a 15L pot lid! After a day of digging black mud the diffs were free and the truck moved 2 metres and sunk again. That went on for 4 days – it must be noted that it probably would have been quicker if we weren't bogged 10 metres from a Shebeen (unlicensed illegal bar). 





# Trip Report: Boyagin Rock – 14 June 2020

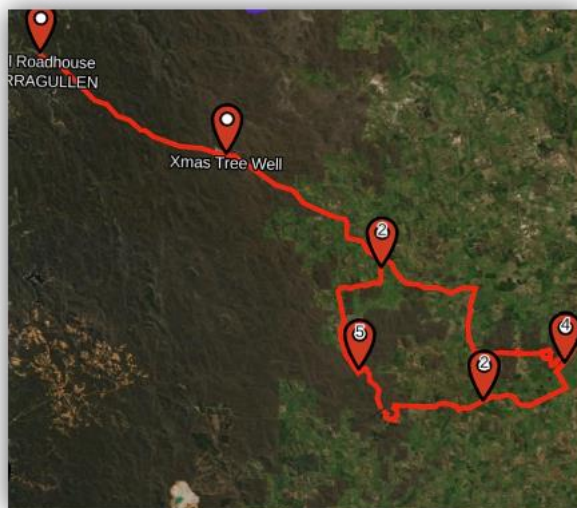
**Trip Leader: Jason Grima**

*Photos and Report supplied by Jason Grima*

*'Are we there yet? Are we there yet? Are we there yet? Are we there yet?.....'*

Surprisingly, those words weren't heard even once from the 14-year-old sitting in the back seat. The success of any family adventure is directly related to the "Interest/Negativity Gauge" of the kids, and when she says "Can I have a drive?" or "Can I say something on the radio?" You get the feeling that it's at least a little positive.

What a great day, despite the fact that it was wet, dark and gloomy - and I was running behind time as the leader (sorry folks. We met at the Puma Roadhouse in Karagullen for an introduction to the day, check off the names and introduce our guests to our Club members – an excellent turnout for the first event since the COVID Cuffs had been removed. We had seven club vehicles with 15 members and their families, in addition to five visitor vehicles accommodating 17 guests (11 kids in total!).



After a false start due to last minute nature calls, we hit Brookton Highway for the run down to Garrick/Strange Road in Jelcobine. With the highway done (for now) we enjoyed an easy run along the gravel roads before making our way into and through the Lupton Conservation Reserve. Disappointingly (for Chrispy), we failed to lose any newbies (promise to try harder next time Chris). Once we hit Ricks Road, we detoured onto timber tracks that we had investigated weeks before and pulled up for a break – letting all the kids loose on nature and each other.



Back in the cars, the timber tracks then turned to narrow bush tracks from the timber leases back through to Ricks Road. Once we all got back on the road, it was heading east, then south on York-Williams Road until turning east again onto more gravel roads heading towards Boyagin Rock – though not before a little more fun. We jumped on the Fire Trails off Boyagin Road in West Pingelly which meandered through the Boyagin Nature Reserve, before spilling out just east of the Boyagin Rock entrance road. Since last year's run, the parking area for the rock has been redeveloped with new



parking bays, barbeques, new toilets and information area (great), but was a problem for us with the size of our contingent – something to be mindful of for future trips.

We all managed to find a spot and after something to eat, some chose to relax under the trees while others dragged themselves up the rock, whilst the kids sprinted (yes - sprinted) to the top. Windy, cold, wet, but beautiful – it was worth the effort and the kids had a ball. After clambering down the rock side (again... there is no “slow” for the kids) we rounded up the troops who had stayed back to hold the fort and made our way west on Boyagin Road to close out the trip. I'd like to thank everyone who attended the trip given it was my first lead effort. Also to Kay, Michel & Rowan for the shuffling and sorting prior to the trip.



A big thank you to Tony & Carole as Tail End Charlie, and to Rowan for accepting the role of Ground Charlie for the day. I'm looking forward to getting down there again sometime soon – plenty of unexplored tracks up for consideration for future trips.





## Queensland Update

G'day members, we hope you are all doing well! Craig and I have finally started to settle in Brisbane. It's been a rough 4 months, for everyone I guess, but fancy moving from one side of the country to other! Thank goodness that we had arranged a rental property to rent before leaving Perth.

We arrived in Brisbane and Craig started work, that only lasted 4 days before he was sent home to work from home for the next 3 months. I secured work in the middle of COVID working for a transport company on a permanent afternoon shift.

Very different starting work in the middle of the day but I am certainly enjoying it. We have done a little bit of exploring, we have visited the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast, but we have only just seen the tip of what there is on offer.



For those of you who are interested we are located in Springfield Lakes, which is an outer suburb of Ipswich. Brisbane is approximately 45 minutes away from us, the Gold Coast, or as the locals call it GC, is about 90km from where we are. The Sunshine Coast is approximately 150km from us.

Weather has been cold! Yes it gets cold here. We have been wearing our track pants, jumpers and Ugg boots. The dogs have settled in well. We are waiting for restrictions to be lifted more so that we can start to get out and explore tracks with like-minded people. Glad to see that the club is still going strong, and we look forward to reading the monthly newsletters to see what you have all been up to. Take care and be safe.

Luke and Craig  
*Queensland beautiful one day, perfect the next!*



## Where am I?

*The answer is somewhere in the newsletter!*

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**Answer: Header**  
**June 2020 Newsletter**

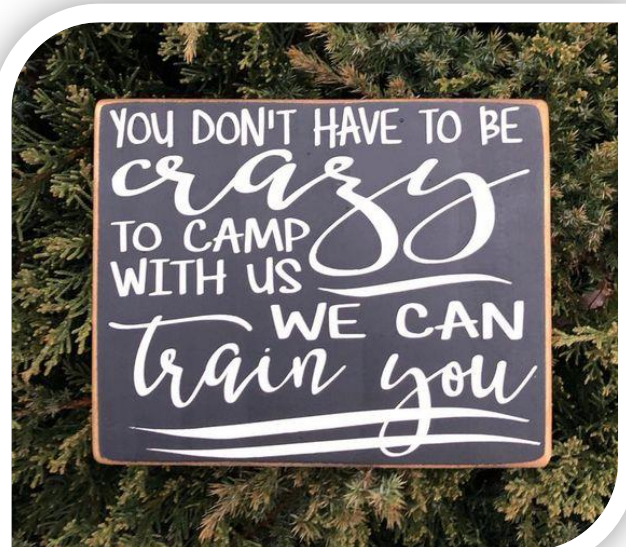
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*The Holland Track 2016*



*If the person who  
named Walkie Talkies  
named everything:*

*Stamps – Lickie Stickie  
Defibrillators – Hearty Starty  
Bumble bees – Fuzzy Buzzy  
Pregnancy test – Maybe Baby  
Fork – Stabby Grabby  
Socks – Feetie Heatie  
Hippo – Floatie Bloatie  
Nightmare – Screamy Dreamy*



We wish  
happy birthdays to:

**Neil Harrison**  
*20August*

**Zoe Malatzky**  
*22August*

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**Camping:**  
***Where you spend a small fortune to live like a homeless person***

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# Trip Report: Julimar – 5 July 2020

## Trip Leaders: Barry & Franscesca Price

*Written by Barry Price*

*Photos supplied by Barry Price & Michel Anderson*



The club gathered just north of Bindoon Bakehaus on Sunday 5 July next to an excellent public toilet- a complimentary email has been sent to the Chittering Shire Council. A total of 13 vehicles assembled. Ted felt like he was back with the Nissan X-Trail club as there was a total of three X-Trails present, more than had been seen for quite a while. No longer lonely, Ted assumed the role of the elder statesman for this mini group.

After a briefing and suitably fortified with food and drink from the Bakehaus, the convoy headed north along the appropriately named Great Northern Highway. Turning right at Stephens Road the group began a 46 km odyssey. Corrugations, cap rock, potholes, gullies, and puddles, presented a variety of surfaces for drivers to exercise their skills. The puddles were a variation of Russian roulette as one was not sure what lurked beneath the surface.



Morning tea was belatedly taken at 1115hrs at the first suitable clearing. Several servings of cakes made the rounds setting back any weight loss programs by about a month. A big thanks to the chefs involved.

Once back on the trail more corrugations and erosion gullies made themselves known. At this stage another convoy came up behind us. Their leader queried if our trip leader was driving a gopher as the pace was rather slow. After our convoy pulled over to the left an assortment of 10 vehicles (that number had repercussions later) passed us.

At the junction of Creek Road and Gatling road a serious ditch impeded progress. Although it had been crossed (cautiously) during the reconnaissance the previous week it had worsened, and the possibility of vehicle

damage resulted in a detour. Unfortunately, the diversion resulted in temporary disorientation of the trip leader. The trip leader soon identified the correct track (courtesy of a Hema HX-1) while the rest of the convoy looked on in awe at the display of navigational prowess. Progress continued, albeit slooowly.

Lunch was taken at 1315hrs in a large clearing. Once again cakes made the rounds which, together with the Bakehaus purchases, resulted in a record calorie tally for a day trip and several vehicles with sagging suspensions. The lunch area had a steep clay lined depression that looked impossible to traverse. There was evidence that some drivers attempted to prove their manhood by trying to do so.






As the convoy approached Julimar Road, members were given the option of leaving the convoy. Two members took the opportunity to leave and the convoy of now 11 vehicles continued.

We were soon travelling on a narrow gravel track only one vehicle wide when oncoming vehicles were observed. It was the convoy that overtook us earlier. Lead vehicle drivers exchanged pleasantries and sized up each other's convoys. The oncoming convoy had 10 vehicles to our 11 giving us right of way. The other convoy made themselves

“one” with the bush (as stated, it was a narrow track). This was a gracious example of convoy etiquette.

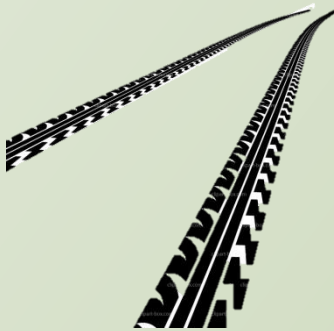
On the last leg of the trip an abrupt descent with loose surfaces added interest to the trip. Past the descent several puddles were encountered, one of them having a serious attitude problem snaring visitor Tony Van der Sanden. Help was at hand with another visitor, Keith Barlow, coming to the rescue with his Range Rover.



A hundred metres short of the exit the convoy pulled into a clearing for farewells and instructions for heading home. Thirteen vehicles entered Julimar State Forrest and 13 vehicles exited which was very fortunate as it saved a lot of paperwork. 









## Trip Report Part 1:

### Karijini and Beyond – 22 days, Jun -Jul 2020

**Trip Leaders: Andy & Linda Lawson**

**Participants: John & Debi Marten, Phil Slowther**

*Report and Photos supplied by Andy Lawson*



*Nalbarra*

camp kitchen). Where you set up is around the original shearers quarters and these are the facilities you use, old world but functional. After set up and some Dinner a camp fire was ignited and a pleasant evening chatting was had (John proved himself to be the most proficient fire starter and became the trip fire master).

17 June – Up and breakfasted we broke camp and were offered the opportunity to explore some of Nalbarra country, we travelled the dirt road back to the Hwy and on to the bitumen for a short distance and turned off at the next dirt road as instructed, through the gate and began to explore their Breakaway country, we found some old diggings and mine shaft and the backdrop to the Breakaway was stunning. We could have explored for days but had to leave to make our next overnight stop. Mt Magnet for lunch and off to Bilyuin Pool which is about 18km up the Ashburton Downs-Meekatharra road and was a bit tricky to find but once found it is a very beautiful spot. Set up camp some dinner and camp fire.

18 June – Up breakfasted and packed it was time to head off to Mt Robinson for our next overnight stop, lunch at Kumarina a look through the town of Newman and arrived at Mt. Robinson with time to set up and explore the surrounding Gorge and

16 June 2020 and with WA regional borders open all participants on this trip meet at the Bindoon Bakehaus at around 0830hrs. With the usual start of trip discussion and a coffee and pie for some from the bakery we set off just after 0900 hrs. A casual drive to our first lunch stop at Dalwallinu and then on to the first overnight stay at Nalbarra Station. Nalbarra Station is a no frills stop but has all that you would need (hot shower/toilet and a



*Nalbarra Station*



walk trail up the hill. Dinner and camp fire.

19 June – Up and off on the way to Tom Price as this was to be base camp for four nights with day trips to Karajini and surrounds. Stopped at the Karajini visitor centre on the way for a look and get info on what



to see and do.

*Bilyuin Pool*

20 June - Day One – Eastern side, Dales Gorge, Fortescue Falls, Fern Pool, Dales Look out and Circular Pool. Climbed down to Fortescue falls, steel steps most of the way and then some rock climbing to descend to the bottom all the time with the Falls in view, very pretty. Asked a tourist reading a book at the bottom if she could take a photo of the group which she kindly obliged, after a good look around at the



*Dales Gorge*

falls we made our way to Fern Pool. What an amazing sight it is to see, there are ferns growing all around and a beautiful water fall. John & Debi, Andy & Linda made to decision to swim and get to the falls, the water was fresh but the water fall was warmer so some of us climbed up the very slippery rocks and sat under the falls for some time before making our way back to exit the water. The climb up out of this part of the gorge was testing but we made it and travelled to Dales Gorge day use area for some well deserved lunch. After lunch we walked to some lookouts that give you truly



spectacular views, sadly Circular Pool was closed due to some rock falls exposing Asbestos, in hind sight looking down at the Pool which was a long way down I doubt if we would have liked the climb out (all being up in years). Off to the Karajini centre to regroup and have a coffee break then back to camp.

21 June – Day Two – Western Side, Hancock Gorge, Kermit's Pool, Handrail Pool, Weano Gorge, Joffre Gorge and Knox Gorge. We all descended into Hancock Gorge down some steep rocky steps and in one section a steel ladder had been placed to help with a long drop to the next section, once at the bottom we travelled along the gorge with not too much trouble until we encountered water that you had to get in to get further along, not deep water at this stage but enough to get your legs wet and the bottom of your shorts.



*Hancock Gorge*

Our goal was to get to Kermit's Pool and this involved a section called the spider walk but before we even got to the spider walk there was a section of deep water and the edge was in small shelf like steps which continued until they also were in the water. The decision was made that we had attempted to get to Kermit's Pool and although it felt like it had beaten us we were all safe up to this point and wanted to stay safe for the rest of our trip. Back up top and off to handrail Pool/Weano Gorge area and stop for some lunch. Descending down the Weano Gorge we had two options 1) traverse to Handrail Pool to the right or 2) walk through Weano Gorge to the left and ascend at the other end, option 2 was the group pick and it was a very enjoyable scenic jaunt through this gorge. Asked another tourist if they could take a group photo of us in the gorge. The climb out at the other end was not as demanding as the climb down. We visited Joffre and Knox gorge lookouts to finish our days outing and made our way back to camp.

22 June - Day Three – Hamersley Gorge, this gorge is in the north western part of the national park and requires travelling a long unsealed road being the Nanutarra/Wittenoom Rd, this road is used by the mining companies a fair bit and some of the trucks kick up so much dust you have to stop as you can't see a thing until the dust settles, unfortunately John & Debi and Andy & Linda suffered with stone chipped and cracked windscreens from oncoming mine vehicles along this road. Was it worth it, you bet it was the high light of all the gorges in my opinion and we stayed for some considerable time exploring this amazing gorge, from the rock climbing to swimming it had it all. Having returned to base camp in Tom Price around 15.30 we decided to go up Mt. Nameless and watch the sun set. The track up is steep/rocky with a lot of loose surfaces to traverse but it is worth every metre to watch that sun set over the Pilbara, getting down Mt. Nameless in the dark was also an experience not to miss if you are in the area.

23 June – Pack up camp and off to Cheela Station.

TO BE CONTINUED ...







*Hamersley Gorge*

And a teaser for Part 2



## **Answers to Where Am I?**

Wilbinga January 2016. Where incorrect tyre pressures proved that the lightest car in the convoy could take seven attempts to get up the hill!



# Puzzle Page

Word Search (print this page and do manually or [download](#) this file and do in Word). Answers [here](#).

## WORDSEARCH - GOING NORTH

M	A	E	R	T	S	L	L	I	M	L	W	L	D	A
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N	G	L	S	C	E	A	A	O	G	N	G	N	L	R
M	O	I	L	B	I	U	W	O	A	N	S	N	W	A
U	L	T	G	A	G	R	N	L	A	P	U	U	A	H
R	D	I	E	U	F	J	P	R	A	P	N	T	L	T
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O	E	G	N	A	U	X	C	S	O	E	N	O	H	M
N	C	E	L	R	D	S	E	A	T	I	T	J	Z	V
U	K	L	D	Y	A	L	G	O	O	M	Q	R	O	L
E	A	O	E	G	O	L	F	E	R	N	P	O	O	L
N	O	K	A	R	I	J	I	N	I	C	U	E	K	F

Big Bell

Cue

Dalwallinu

Fern Pool

Fortescue Falls

Gaol

Gascoyne

Gold

Gorge

Joffre

Jokers Tunnel

Karijini

Kennedy Range

Lists

Maps

Meekatharra

Millstream

Mt Augustus

Mt Singleton

Murchison

Nallan

Newman

Paraburdoo

Plans

Tom Price

Wagon

Wool

Yalgoo

Zook