



Freedom All Wheel Drive Club of WA

A 4wd Club in Western Australia that is a mix of
Compact and Standard 4wd's, seeking adventure.

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2019

General Contact Details: Postal Address: PO BOX 68 Gosnells 6110

Email: FAWDCWA@yahoo.com.au

Meetings: 4th Monday every month - 7:30pm

Manning Seniors Centre, 3 Downey Drive, Manning

PRESIDENTS REPORT

G'Day from the Pres

Been a while since I have seen you all!

We wish Diane and Sue all the best for their adventure over east! Hopefully the weather gods are going to be on your side.

Don't forget upcoming camping trips. Please see Luke on Monday night regarding the upcoming long weekend camp trip. Need to confirm with those who are coming when they are coming and what power they need. As I need to finalise our booking on Tuesday.

Please note that club fees are coming up soon.

We will issue you all with membership forms that will need to be filled out and returned back with your monies. No form, no membership!

Well that's enough from me! Hope to see you all soon and in the mean time keep the shiny side up!

PRES

WELCOME

to our new members

Barry

Jason

Andy

Guary

John and Debi

NEXT MEETING

Monday 27th May

Manning Senior Citizens 3 Downey
Drive, Manning.

FUTURE MEETINGS

June 24th

July 25th



TRIP REPORT

Freedom All Wheel Drive Club

Melangata Station and Murchison Area Trip

Fri 19 –Thu 25 April 2019

Melangata Station out of Yalgoo

On Good Friday eight people (Sue, Phil, Neil, Chrispy, Ted, Rowan and Michel and Diane) in seven cars met north of Bullsbrook to start our epic journey to Melangata. The journey had an inauspicious start due to the Trip Leader's incompetence in checking her radio, but Rowan came to the rescue and fixed it, and off we went. Five of the seven cars were towing and we hoped to have a not-too-rushed journey which would allow us to take in some sights. We travelled via Moora then the Middle Way (Midlands Rd), stopping for smoko and coffee breaks and to look at some of the sculptures at the small towns along the way. At our first break at the Wannamal Rest Area, Neil thought it was a pretty good spot and maybe we didn't need to go any further. We pushed on though, leaving the wet weather behind as we headed north. We went through places like Namban, Watheroo, Marchagee, Coorow (our first collective experience of the diabolical unmanned pre-paid credit card petrol bowser), Winchester, Carnamah and Three Springs where we turned off for the Morawa-Yalgoo Road. The coffee tragics were dismayed that nowhere was open for a caffeine top-up – that's what you get for travelling on Good Friday.

The Morawa-Yalgoo Road was great driving and Rowan was very excited when we drove past a sign announcing our arrival in The Outback. A photo of this event was necessary of course. Soon after this crossing we came upon an abandoned gold mine, so we all clambered out to have a look. This was my introduction to Freedom Club Cat Herding as some members are very excitable and curious and became so caught up in the thrill of exploring that they forgot we still had miles to go. After some suitable exploring we headed off to Yalgoo and our destination. Melangata had received some serious rain the previous week, and although the roads were clear there had been damage to them from the fast water flows. The 68 km dirt road from Yalgoo to Melangata was more corrugated than expected, and I was going quite slowly as my Teardrop was less tough than I was told.



We got there eventually and were met by Jo Clews (the owner) and her dogs and directed to our spacious part of the campground. Melangata was hosting a Volunteer Blitz and also hosting two other clubs so there were a few people about, but the campground is so large everyone had plenty of space. We attended a welcome talk from Jo then headed back to finish setting up, having a meal and going to bed!

On Saturday morning the whole campground had a Homestead tour with Jo. Melangata is the only

privately owned building designed by Monseigneur Hawes, and Jo is an informed and engaging guide. She is the only person we know who has a turret over her kitchen.



Afterwards we took a little drive around the area and ended up at the former Dangaranga Station. This involved more poking around, then driving to and walking up to the dam on top of a granite outcrop and generally taking in the views. Many years the dam wall burst under pressure of storm water but it was an impressive engineering feat nonetheless. It reminded me of Helm's Deep. Sort of. This also required much exploration, which was followed by morning tea! We also visited Australia's smallest confirmed meteorite crater, the Dangaranga Meteorite Crater. This too required further exploration, photo ops, hiking and general looking around. We returned to Melangata in time for the whole campground, escorted by Jo Clews to drive to a little breakaway on her property from where we could sit around a campfire, sip your beverage-of-choice and watch the full moon rise over the breakaway.



This cunning plan, however, was skittled by malicious fate. Although we were carpooling the convoy was still quite large and there was a boggy patch in which the farm tractor got bogged that very morning. The short version is, many cars went over said boggy patch at highway tyre pressures, Phil with his car load of passengers barely made it through and when it came time for Sue to get across things were looking tricky indeed. The bog monster got us and Sue was a tad irritated. After a big team effort (which also involved pruning a tree down to a twig to establish a Path B), Sue's winch was deployed for her own use for the first time ever. The remaining convoy members all dropped their tyre pressures significantly and used Path B to make it through unscathed. We made it to the breakaway in the dark, and settled down around a campfire where Rowan and Michel proceeded to demonstrate how to have drinkies in style.

Next day was Sunday, and the Easter Bunny had been out early. After a civilised start time we did an epic day trip out past Dangaranga (I just like saying 'Dangaranga' – it sounds like you're growling) to Cue, via dirt roads. It took much longer than expected (the road was quite damaged by the recent rains) but included more mines, bird spotting, food stops and finally to Cue where I had to find the Post Office (which in 1955 was the Registry Office where my parents were married). We had all been hanging out for either hot chippies or coffee for days, and we finally got our fix at the very expensive Cue service station. After lunch we went to Big Bell, a former gold mining town with an amazing art deco pub. This, naturally, required more exploration. There is a lot to see and unfortunately we didn't have time for it all. The Trip Leader was a Nervous Nelly and doesn't like driving at Kangaroo o'clock. Two hours after leaving Big Bell, upon arrival at camp, right on sunset, comment was made that the convoy speed had increased from the day before (there was food at the end of journey you know). We did see some kangaroos and emus but fortunately they saw us too, or were fast. The treat that night was having a Sunday roast cooked by Jo, eaten in the front yard of the homestead under a million stars.

Monday was the escorted tour of Melangata with Jo Clews. Most members thought this was the highlight of the trip. Unfortunately we could not go as far as usual as the water damage had made some roads impassable, but we were happy with what we saw. There are Dorper sheep, beautiful breakaways and Aboriginal art (hand paintings) on the property, a lot of history, and an old Cessna (which crashed and now adorns their airstrip). As usual Jo was an amazing guide. The rest of the day was spent hanging around camp .



Due to the active social life at camp we hadn't yet had our own campfire so we decided not to join the whole camp cook-up and have our own instead. Rowan earned the title of Braai Master, as he (and Michel) know their way around a fire and a poitje. The food we cooked was yummy.



Having learned that civilised start times lead to uncivilised arrival times, on Tuesday we had a less tardy start for our drive to Mount Magnet on the back roads. There was another abandoned gold mine to explore, and treasures were brought back for show and tell. Once we arrived at Mt Magnet we were mostly underwhelmed. There had been hopes of a counter lunch at a country pub, but as business is so slow none of the country pubs opened for lunch. We managed to find one café which was open so most of us went in for lunch, which overwhelmed the staff who were not used to peak hour.

Mt Magnet does have a nice rest area (and playground) with toilets on the main street.



We checked out the Information Centre and had a poke around, then headed off to do the Tourist Loop. This was pretty much fun, with more gold mining history to check out, and some breakaways and nice views. Some team navigation did occur at the breakaways but we were not lost, we were exploring. We then headed in to Yalgoo on the bitumen (shock horror) so that we could get to Joker's Tunnel, (more goldfields history) and check it out before dark. This was much enjoyed and as usual Rowan was leader of the pack, investigating all the nooks and crannies with faithful Michel right behind him despite spiders and bats. They made it all the way to the end.



The next day was our last day and was a rest day. I called it “make and mend”, so we stayed in camp, hung out, went for walks. However, the Freedom Club Men’s Shed also happened.

Chrispy and Rowan, having helped me with optimising solar panel charge then sorted out the electrics on Neil’s new camper. They “got on the tools”. They were men on a mission with problems to solve. All recipients were duly grateful (really really).

That night we sat around our last campfire together, then headed off the next morning. Rowan and Michel stayed on in the area and did more exploring as it was only Thursday after all. Phil opted to take the coast road for a quicker journey and the rest of us returned via Morawa, Perenjori and Dalwallinu (after checking out St Hyacinth’s chapel – also by Monseigneur Hawes in Yalgoo). Perenjori has another of his churches which we saw but didn’t explore. After seven hours we made it home.



The Crew

It was great to see a previously unexplored part of WA. It is beautiful and when you get off the beaten track there is even more to see (including Wedge Tailed Eagles, Nankeen Kestrels, Whistling Kites and Rainbow Bee Eaters). Everyone

enjoyed the trip, and we enjoyed getting to know each other better. This is not a trip for a long weekend, but is recommended!

One final comment – this Trip Leader business is hard work!!

Cheers

Diane Court
Trip Leader
20 May 2019

Trip Report

East of Armadale – Revisited

28th April 2019

Trip Leaders – Michael and Jeannette

Tail End Charlie – Paul

A small group of members and one visitor vehicle, 7 in total met up on a sunny Sunday morning at Hogs Breath Carpark in Kelmscott, ready for a day on the tracks. After our usual briefing on what to expect, Paul kindly volunteered to take on tail end Charlie duties for the first time.



After leaving the carpark, we turned left and headed out of town on Albany Highway with our first stop of the day being a morning tea break at Sullivan Rock car park along the highway. The carpark was busy with lots of hikers making the best of the good weather and walking up to the rock.

Continuing further along the main road, we turned off the highway just short of North Bannister onto Wearne Rd. From here we followed some good forestry roads and interesting fire breaks. The tracks were all dry despite some previous rains.

We found a lovely clearing to have lunch and a bit of a relax before



continuing on our way up the “dry” weather section of the trip. It’s been a few years since the last time visiting this area and here the route varied from previous trips due the track being impassable. As we had recently completed a recce for this trip, we were prepared and had an alternative route planned following firebreaks along the fence line of the farming land.

We had a very enthusiastic greeting from the local sheep who came running to greet us, obviously thinking we had food!



There were no mishaps on the day, however Ted did need a guiding hand at one point!



All in all, an enjoyable day out was had by everyone, driving through some pretty country side.

Thanks to everyone for coming along.



A big thankyou to Michael and Jeannette for leading another great trip.

UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS

NAMBUNG STATION

June Long weekend

\$15 p/p per night plus \$10 per night for powered site.

Will be visiting Pinnacles and Stockman Gully Cave.

For more details contact Luke and register on data base.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

When: **19TH—21ST July**

Where: **Toodyay Caravan Park**

122 Railway Road

Phone 9574 2612

If you are interested, register on data base and you need to contact the caravan park to make your own booking for a site—but advise that you are with the FAWDC or Luke's group.

WANTED

TRIP REPORTS

PHOTOS

IDEAS

ARTICLES

RECIPES

HINTS

JOKES

Please email to Linda
via Dayne.

You can compress the diameter of your rolled up sleeping bag by running over it with your car.

As you get older three things happen. The first is your memory goes, and then I can't remember the other two.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To all those celebrating their special day in May.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

Anyone who would like to order Club shirts or hoodies please see details below, the Club no longer does a bulk order, you can contact Westate Embroidery yourself and order and pay for your shirt individually.

Westate Embroidery – 9493 0349

Unit 1/111 Kelvin Road, Maddington Open: Mon - Fri 8.30am - 5pm

Westate Embroidery have the club logo so you only have to advise which shirt you want and if you want your name embroidered on the shirt as well.

Details and prices are:

Men's shirt:

Item # 1309 – Panorama Polo – NAVY/ASHE/WHIT (Men's Freedom) - \$27.50

Club logo embroidered - \$8.80

Name embroidered - \$4.40



Ladies shirt:

Item # 2308 – Flinders Polo – TEAL/BLK (Ladies Freedom) - \$27

Club logo embroidered - \$8.80

Name embroidered - \$4.40



Hoodies:

1511 Men's Panorama [Hoodie](#) Navy/Ashe/White OPTIONAL!! - \$42.50

2511 [Ladies Panorama Hoodie](#) Navy/Ashe/White OPTIONAL! \$42.50

Plus Club logo embroidered - \$8.80 , name embroidered - \$4.40



Hats and Caps:

Cable Knit Beanie—\$9.90 plus embroidered costs.

Standard baseball cap - \$7 plus embroidery.

Plus postage or you can collect from Westate in Maddington. Turn around time is 2-3 weeks . Full sizing information is in the links provided .

Hi Guys Chrispy here with Multimeter Basics Part1

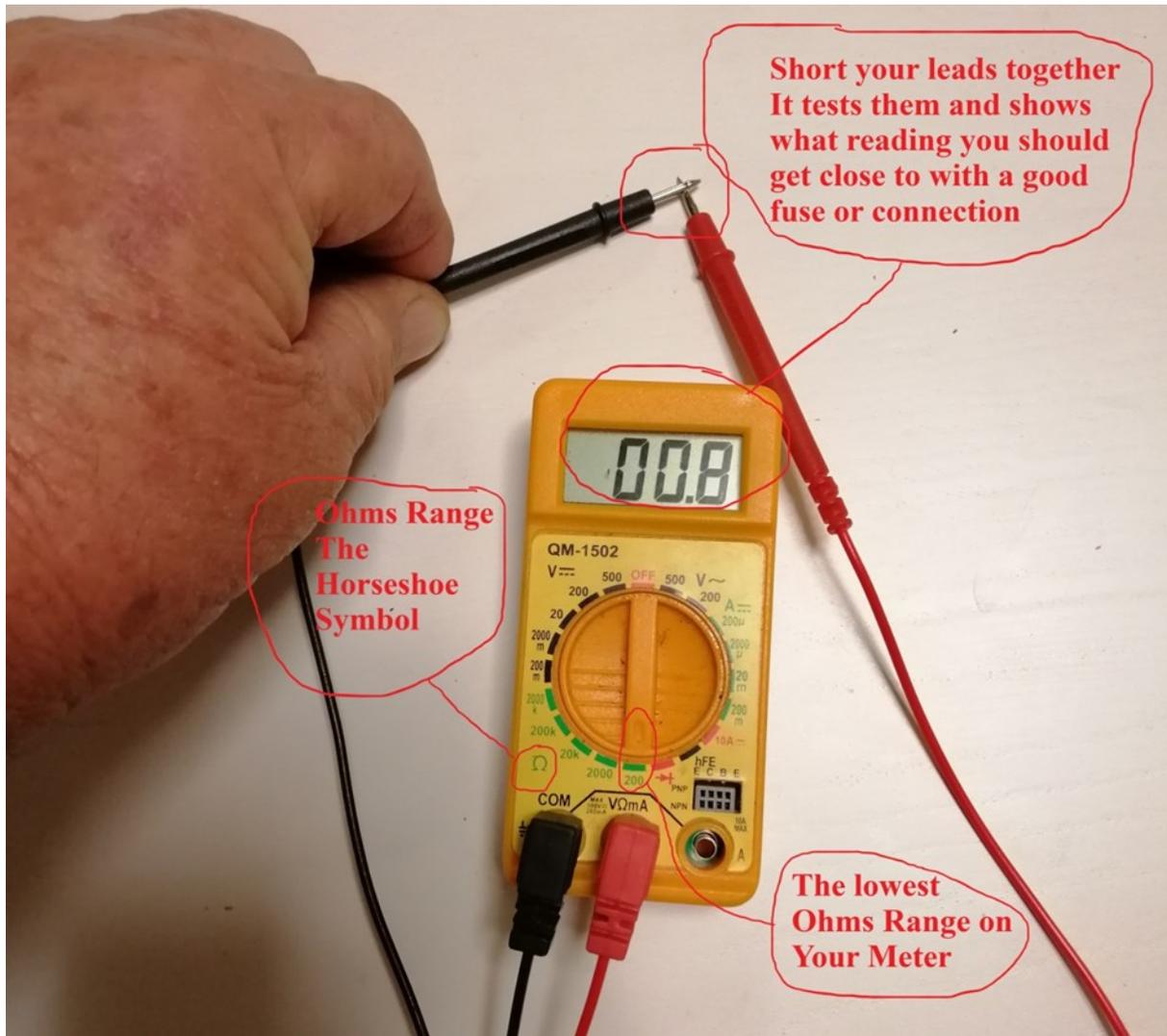
I will give you a basic look at how to use a
Multimeter for basic Trouble shooting on 12 volt
Dc systems only ie car/ camper and Solar Panels



The Meter on the right is my work meter, True RMS, Auto Ranging and Cat 3 rated and some other Bells and Whistles Cost about \$200 when I Bought
It but you can get something similar for less than \$100 now, the one on the
Left is a \$10 one Which I will use For this series and is good enough for
The non tech People to have handy in the Glove box for trouble shooting



These are the terminals on the meter to plug your leads into for normal
Trouble shooting they may be in a different place on your meter
But Black lead goes into the common or com terminal and
Red goes into the V or Volts/ ohms(the horseshoe symbol) terminal



Next month I will show testing some fuses using the ohms range and also some connections good and bad also by the end I hope to have a series of Pics that the non tech people can print out, load to their tablet or phone and use while on trips to do basic trouble shooting on their DC systems.

Feedback and requests welcome except on AC because it is too deadly.

Cheers Chrispy.

2019 PLANNER

WHEN	WHERE	TRIP LEADER
MAY		
25th - 20th June	Flinders Ranges & Eyre Peninsula	Diane
26th	York via the forest	Michael & Jeanette
27th	FAWDCWA Monthly Meeting	
JUNE		
1st - 3rd	Nambung Station	
16th	Harvey Dam	
17th	WA4WD Association Monthly Meeting	
24th	FAWDCWA Monthly Meeting	
JULY		
7th	Boyagin Rock Descent	
15th	WA4WD Association Monthly Meeting	
19th - 21st	Christmas in July—Toodyay	
25th	FAWDCWA Monthly Meeting	
AUGUST		
11th	Hoffman Mill	Luke & Craig
19th	WA4WD Association Monthly Meeting	
25th	Car Rally	Dayne & Linda
26th	FAWDCWA Monthly Meeting	

Wishing Diane and Sue a safe and exciting adventure on their travels across the Flinders Ranges and Eyre Peninsular. Looking forward to the photos and hearing the stories on your return.



2019 PLANNER

WHEN	WHERE	TRIP LEADER
SEPTEMBER		
15th	Tip-toeing through the Canola AKA East of Armadale	Michael & Jeanette
16th	WA4WD Association Monthly Meeting	
23rd	FAWDCWA Monthly Meeting	
28th - 6th Oct	Sue's Southern Wheatbelt Adventure	Sue
OCTOBER		
6th	Tracks & Tucker	Michael & Jeannette
20th	Wandoo Wanderings	Manoj & Lee
21st	WA4WD Association Monthly Meeting	
28th	FAWDCWA Monthly Meeting	
NOVEMBER		
8th - 10th	4WD & Adventure Show	Members
17th	WA4WD Association Monthly Meeting	
24th	Presidents Trip	
25th	FAWDCWA Monthly Meeting	
DECEMBER		
8th	Christmas Party	
20th	Manjimup Cherry Festival	

TRADING POST

If any members have something they wish to sell, whether it be 4WD accessories, camping gear or any quality unwanted items, email the details, price and picture (optional) to : lbarrett@iprimus.com.au by the 15th of each month.

Monday 3rd June



What is WA Day?

- WA Day takes place on the first Monday in June each year.
- It's a day to celebrate all Western Australians, recognising our Aboriginal history, early European settlers and the many from all over the world who have made, and continue to make, Western Australia their home.

It's a day for each of us to reflect and celebrate all the great things about our people, our lifestyle, our culture and our potential.

What is the history of WA Day?

- Prior to 2012, the first Monday in June was known as Foundation Day, which marked the day when the first European settlers, under the command of Captain James Stirling RN, Lieutenant Governor, arrived from Britain to settle the Swan River Colony.
- In April 2012 Foundation Day was formally changed to WA Day following bipartisan political support in the Western Australian Parliament.

