



*ACT JeepTrAction Newsletter
Edition 11 — February 2015*

Inside this issue:- Trip reports, "Deua NP & Central Australia", plus...



Part 2 of the "Mickey Thompson History Tour", plus Club Happenings...





Presidents note...



Another year is already underway & it was good to see some new faces as well as some familiar faces at our first meeting for the year the other night at Eastlake Football club. This year we have positioned all the general meetings on Monday nights & all of our trade/social nights on Tuesday nights. (Please see Club happenings on page 3). At our first meeting for the year we discussed putting in place a perpetual Trophy award for the "Club Person" of the year. We are hoping to have this in place & ready for the next meeting which is our AGM & Club awards night on the 16th of

March. Hence nomination forms are now available so please take the time to fill out your nomination & once you have completed it please forward it to PJ Blayney our secretary on secretary@actjeepraction.com. (We need to get these in before the end of February please). Also its worth noting that this year we have 2 gift vouchers worth \$100 each, kindly donated by Seers Work wear to go to the "Club Person" & "Recovery " awards winners as well.

During the holidays & over the last couple of months its also been good to see the various postings of what club members have been up to with people visiting Jindabyne, Deua NP, Dry Creek, Mollmook, Sydney, Moss Vale, Geehi, the Bay, Tamworth, Tallagandra, Thredbo & other places including overseas cruises to the South Pacific. On that note we want to encourage more people to set-up & arrange club trips this year rather than just leaving it to a few people. Anyone in the club can do it & there are plenty of people & resources available in the club who are willing to help out if you're not sure. It was also suggested that we have a presentation on leading a trip one night with our general meetings, hence this presentation has been scheduled for the 15th of June.

It was also great to see the amount of exposure our club received in the latest Jeep Action Magazine, in relation to Camp Bungendore 2014 event. All the positive articles & comments submitted by other subscribers & Jeep clubs was really encouraging. Again thank you to everyone in the club who helped to make this this event possible & so successful.

Just a reminder that club membership fees are now due & need to be paid prior to the AGM to be financial & eligible to vote at the AGM. Payment can be made in person or at the next meeting or directly into our bank account, for more details on how to do this please contact Paul Hannelly our club treasurer on the following email address:- treasurer@actjeepraction.com. BTW, consider nominating for one of the committee positions for 2015. President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, JAA Liaison, Trip co-ordinator, Promotions.... and a range of others that we can make up along the way if you want to be more involved. Remember, the club is only as good as what our members make it!

Don't forget to checkout the club happenings Calendar to stay up to date with everything that is happening this year & we look forward to seeing you at one of our next events!

Regards, Paul Simmons

Club Happenings...

Club AGM & General Meetings... *(All meetings are held at Eastlake Football Club, 3 Oxley St, Manuka, Canberra, commencing at 7pm.)*

- Monday 16th of March AGM, plus Club Awards Night.
- Monday 13th of April General Meeting, plus "Get to know your Chainsaw" presentation.
- Monday 15th of June General Meeting. "How to Lead a Club Trip".
- Monday 13th of July General Meeting, plus "Soft Tops Online" presentation. (TBC)
- Monday 14th September General Meeting, plus "Using a Digital Camera/Go Pro" presentation.
- Monday 12th October General Meeting.
- Monday 9th November General Meeting.

Club Social BBQ, Sponsor Trade Nights...

- Tuesday 12th of May, Rolfe Jeep, Sausage Sizzle, drinks + presentation from 6pm - 9pm at 29 Botany St Phillip ACT 2606.
- Tuesday 30th of June, Jeep City, Sausage Sizzle, drinks + presentation from 6pm - 9pm at 14/16 Barrier Street Fyshwick ACT 2609.
- Tuesday 11th of August, National Tyre Wholesalers, Sausage Sizzle, drinks + presentation from 6pm - 9pm at 14 Yallourn St Fyshwick ACT 2609.
- Tuesday 1st of September, Road Tech Marine, Sausage Sizzle, drinks + presentation from 6pm - 9pm at 27- 29 Albany St Fyshwick ACT 2609.

Other Events...

- 20th - 22nd February "Vic High Country Trip" for more info contact Gav Bartell 0419 606 194.
- 13th - 15th March "Yalwal Grease Monkey" hosted by SJC, see community FB site for more info.
- 7th March "Brindies Day Trip" for more info contact David Eyles 0412 341 290 or see FB.
- 2nd - 7th April "Camp Coffs" Nana Glen Showgrounds. See JAM for more info.
- 23rd - 24th May "Bendethera Overnight Trip" for more info contact Paul Simmons 0451 514 540.
- 6th - 8th June "Classic Not Plastic", Nabisac Showgrounds Great Lakes. See JAM for more info.
- 19th July "Canberra District Wine Lovers Trip" for more info contact Paul Simmons 0451 514 540.
- August "4wd Driver Training Weekend" at Great Divide Tours, event details to be advised.
- 3rd - 5th of October "National Jeep Jambo", Blue Mountains Rydal. See JAM for more info.
- 6th of December "Christmas Party" Venue & event details to be advised.

**Please note the above dates are subject to change, please check general meeting minutes, Facebook & future newsletters for up- dates. Inclusion of additional events & info will be updated as soon as possible..*

Trip reports.... Deua National Park - Sunday 11th January 2015

by Marek Bilski

For some time now I have been keen to do a drive in the Deua National Park. After chatting with Troy Rollan about it a few times he offered to show us a few good tracks in the area. And so, on what turned out to be a ridiculously wet day a bunch of us met up at Queanbeyan Macca's nice and early. Five Jeeps headed out including Troy Rollan, Peter and Lyn Little, Mandy Wade, Chris Burt and his two year old son, and myself with my trusty side-kicks, Josh and Sienna.

Ever the optimistic I was hoping it wasn't raining as much in the area we were heading into as it was at home! Unfortunately it was. When we reached our turn off point into Bendethera we were faced with a major obstacle. The creek had turned into a river. Lyn Little braved the water to check the depth, but it was pretty clear that we wouldn't be going through it. Over morning tea it was decided to head south to Cascade Falls. Along the way we had to stop to change a tyre on Peter and Lyn's car.



At Cascade Falls we had lunch and then a walk to the falls. With all the rain the falls were quite spectacular. Since we hadn't done any 4WD to this point, we headed for some fun in Tallaganda, with Peter and Lyn opting not to continue without a spare. We were rewarded with plenty of wet tracks and muddy challenges. It reminded me of when we had first encountered these tracks last Winter, with some of the tracks serving as rivers. We came across a major obstacle in the form of a massive tree down on the track in a tricky spot. Troy had to winch part of the way up as it was super greasy and steep. Time was starting to get away from us, so we ended up back-tracking a little to get out. Overall, it was a fun day out. Thanks to everyone who came out!





**REGISTER
EARLY TO
WIN!**

Register before Friday 6th February
and receive an official **CAMP COFFS**
2015 DVD and go into the draw to win
a winch and CouplerTec Electronic
Rustproofing!

Jeep Action subscribers are invited to attend

CAMP COFFS 2015

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL TO TUESDAY 7TH APRIL

Nana Glen Sports and Equestrian Centre

- **AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST ANNUAL JEEP EVENT**
 - **FIVE DAYS OF JEEP FUN**
 - **ON-SITE CATERING**
- **NIGHTLY TRIP MEETINGS AND PRIZES**
- **GRADED TRIPS TO SUIT ALL JEEPS**

Camp Coffs 2015 Programme

Thursday 2nd April	Camp open. Arrive, set up, meet and greet
Friday 3rd	Trips – Placid, Moderate, Moderate +, Hard
Saturday 4th	Trips – Placid, Moderate, Moderate +, Hard
Sunday 5th	Trips – Placid, Moderate, Moderate +, Hard
Monday 6th	Group Activities
Tuesday 7th	Camp closes – depart

Showers and toilets on site. No powered sites, generators OK

Registrations available at www.jeepaction.com.au

Adults \$95 Children (16 years and under) Free

Registrations close 13th March 2015

Camping not available until 8am Thursday 2nd April

Calling all Jeepers

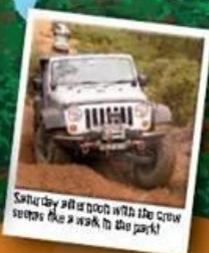


*Register
Today to join in
on the fun!*

www.facebook.com/JeepJamboree2015/events



Rydal is located in the heart of the Blue Mountains, NSW.



Saturday all at once with the crew seems like a walk to the park!

**BOOK EARLY &
GET READY**

THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER UNTIL
MONDAY 5 OCTOBER 2015.

Taking it to the Edge!

The Sydney Jeep Club is proud to again announce Rydal as the location for the 2015 Jeep Jamboree, located 150kms west from Sydney, approximately two & half hours by car. The village of Rydal is located 15 mins from Lithgow and 45 minutes east of Bathurst.

Being close to some of the best tourist meccas in New South Wales, Rydal is well situated to attract interstate and international travellers alike.

Rydal and surrounds offer:

- Historic Court House and Village
- Marrangaroo National Park & Jendian Caves
- From tourist day trips to hardcore trails for the more experienced, we have it all!

Receive **FREE** a 1 Year digital
subscription to 6 issues of
Jeep Action Magazine
with your Jamba tickets!!



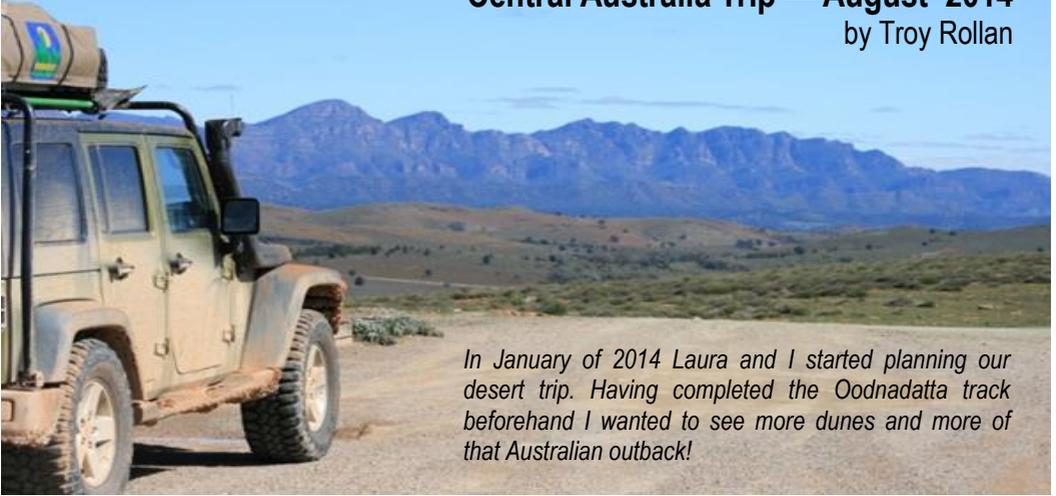
WWW.JEEPJAMBOREE2015.COM.AU

This event is being organised by Sydney Jeep Club. Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jeepjamboree2015>
Email us: info@jeepjamboree2015.com.au - or to learn more about the club, contact us: <http://www.sydneyjeepclub.com/>



Central Australia Trip — August 2014

by Troy Rollan



In January of 2014 Laura and I started planning our desert trip. Having completed the Oodnadatta track beforehand I wanted to see more dunes and more of that Australian outback!

I prepped the Jeep (2008 JK Wrangler Diesel manual with 240000km on the clock before), with all the servicing & spares, we had onboard HEMA navigation mounted on a home made dash mount which worked really well, a GPS Findme SPOT which was for any emergencies and allowed everyone at home to track where we were on our trip. We also had a lot of recovery gear as you would expect, a roof top tent and two spare tyres. Living out of the back of the jeep we did all our cooking and meal prep on the tail gate.

In August 2014 Laura and I set out for Broken Hill and met up with my dad who had a 4x4 Canter which he built a camper on the back. From Broken hill we headed to Yunta and had a very cold night near a dry river bed which froze our wash water solid. From there we headed up the track toward the flinders and out to Copely up to Maree and then headed toward Birdsville. Not long on the Birdsville track an Emu came bolting out from behind a bush and was collected fair smack in the middle of the Jeep. While a very solid bird he unfortunately did not survive the encounter. Jeep suffered little more than a few cracked light covers.



The track was well marked and for the most part (except for the corrugations) able to mosey at around 80km/h or so. The gibber plains which we encountered in the deserts were interesting, pebbles which while laying in the sand have been polished shiny by the ever blowing breeze over the desolate moonscape.

I drove on them a few times and found it to be a little soft for the first few inches but with a stable base. Upon reaching Birdsville we stopped at the iconic Pie shop there and I had a Curry Camel Pie.... given my time over I would just have a plain one I think... I was surprised to find so much water and wild life at the Caravan park we used for base camp right on the large billabong which Birdsville is located on. No trip to Birdsville is quite complete without visiting Big Red. Deceptive is the fact you go past Little Red first – and then on to Big Red but it is essentially the same dune. It was amazing though. After spending some days driving around we started heading toward Innamincka along the Cordillo Downs track. This was like the others a pretty good, dusty, and corrugated road but all in all for the area not too bad. I found my first bull dust pits which were interesting. Innamincka was at the time, quite the dust bowl, with trucks going in and out, the shop owners clearly had given up on dusting and keeping the shop free of the powder. Camping along Coopers creek nearby was quite good.

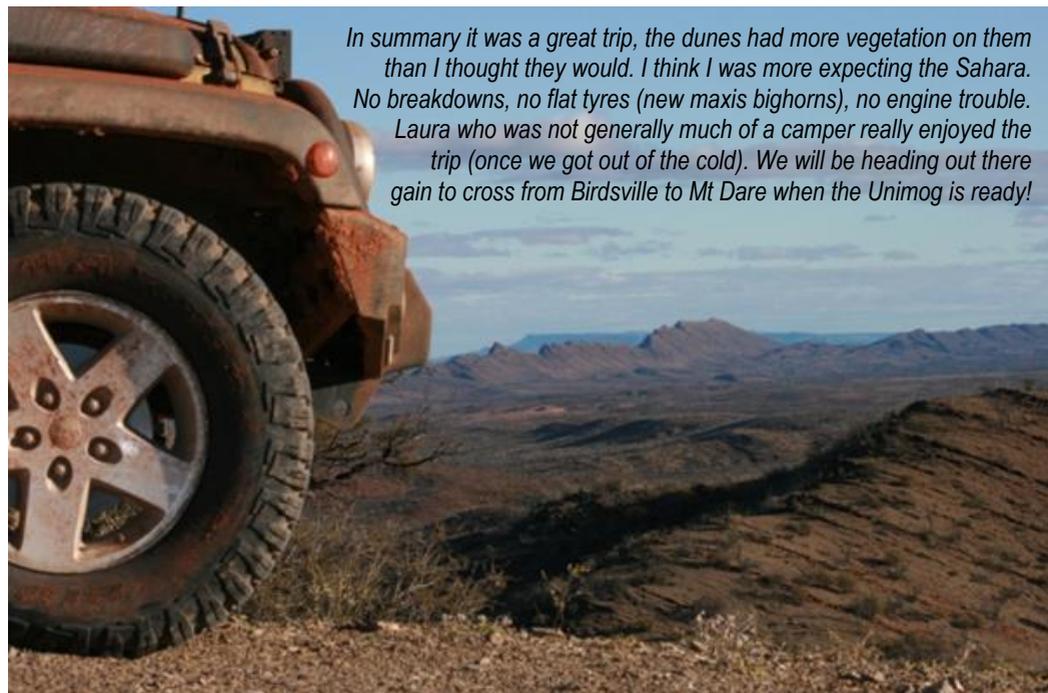


From here we decided to do a 100km run up to Coongie lake which feeds Coopers Creek (listed on a reserve sign on the way in – its dune surrounded waters were intriguing). This was spectacular & I highly recommend it. Its north west of Innamincka & offers some great dune driving around a beautiful lake. Laura & I enjoyed this immensely. It was surreal to camp by the lake by day & by night watching the sun set & the moon rise over the desert. After returning to Innamincka and a trip out to the Dig tree we separated from Dad who decided to head to Cameron's Corner while we headed down into the Gammon Ranges to Arkaroola. The Strzelecki track was very uneventful , even going via the old Strzelecki track. The track south to Arkaroola however was a single lane back county track which I enjoyed driving immensely. Here it started to rain, & rain it did for five days. Lucky for us we got a cabin but still managed to do every self drive 4x4 trip around Arkaroola. If you have not been it is a sanctuary nestled into the north of the Flinders Ranges in an area of great geological significance. There are lots of Gorge drives & the four wheel driving is excellent. Having been there before I am always intrigued by the fossilised sea bed that is out in parts of Australia you cannot quite wrap your head around it. Arkaroola is one of the must see places in our country. This was also a point where I took the time to recheck the Jeep, change the air filter and ensure everything was tip top before going to the next leg.

After our stay at Arkaroola we headed out of the outback down through the Flinders in which the road had been considerably converted to Bitumen since my last trip through there. The Flinders Ranges offer spectacular views. After that we set about our long trip back to Canberra. Overall it was a great trip we (for the desert part) had great weather, had a lot of open air camping nestled amongst the dunes, saw our fair share of flies, and appreciated how wide open our big country is.

Things that worked well included the rooftop tent was great, kept dust & sand out of things , was quick & easy to setup, the Uneeq rear tailgate table, removing the back seat in the Jeep & building a shelf worked well, the Dual AGM battery charged by the engine through a Baintech controller which ran the lights & fridge worked like a charm & I never ran out of charge, Square Water drums, good did not move around & were the perfect size., ODBII module which provided Engine temps, excellent., HEMA Maps on the dash mounted IPAD, great for knowing exactly where you are. Worked like a charm & was very accurate the whole time.

Things that didn't work included the Congo Cage roof rack moved so much when hitting one washout that it hit the windscreen & broke the corner of it. Too heavy, we really were carrying too much stuff. Needed heavier duty springs or Poly air bags. Should have changed the shock absorbers before the trip I think.



In summary it was a great trip, the dunes had more vegetation on them than I thought they would. I think I was more expecting the Sahara. No breakdowns, no flat tyres (new maxis bighorns), no engine trouble. Laura who was not generally much of a camper really enjoyed the trip (once we got out of the cold). We will be heading out there gain to cross from Birdsville to Mt Dare when the Unimog is ready!

Mickey Thompson History Tour

By Brett Quodling of Jeep City - Part 2



Deegan Ranch! Brain "The General" Deegan is a pioneer in action sports & is a co-founder of the Metal Mulisha, a decorated Freestyle Motocross rider, a 16- time X games medal winner, a five time Lucas off road racing champion, and a global Rally cross racer. At the age of 17, outfitted with only a credit card, a dirt bike and an old truck, Brain left his hometown of Omaha Nebraska for Southern California with dreams of becoming the next big name in Motocross. Brains skill quickly impressed everyone he encountered, and soon he rode his way onto a super cross team. Over the years he has moved into off road racing. Noticed by Mickey Thompson racing scouts he quickly fitted into the MT racing legend mould. Mickey Thompson now makes a tyre called the Deegan 38, ultimate all-purpose mud terrain. We got the invite to his ranch in Temecula to see how these guys spend the days prepping for off road racing. It was the most amazing man cave I've ever visited with a collection of previous motocross bikes, off road racing trucks and large Semi Transporters. I was gob smacked.

Bonneville Speed Week. Unfortunately this event was cancelled due to the lake being a lake. As you might or might not know, Bonneville speed week is held just outside Salt Lake City. It's held on the salt flats, and unfortunately we travelled over a 1000km's to this great event to witness a piece of automotive history being achieved. Danny Thompson, son of the late Mickey Thompson had resurrected his dads streamliner to set a new world record of over 419mph. He didn't get the chance this year but will return to try in at the international speed week later in 2014. We decided to head out the 100 miles to the lake to see for ourselves, yep it was definitely under water!

Larry Miller Motorsports Park. So on our way back from Bonneville, we noticed signs to a Motorsport complex, we took the detour and we were amazed at this facility. With 500 + acres, Miller Motorsports Park is over three times the size of Disneyland™. Miller Motorsports Park is a state-of-the-art racing facility for automobiles, motorcycles, off-road vehicles, and karts, located just 35 minutes from downtown Salt Lake City in Tooele, Utah. It is considered the finest race track of its type in North America. Opened in 2006, the Miller Motorsports Park hosts many of the world's most significant racing series including the Lucas Oil Off Road Racing Series, Pro Motocross, and NASCAR. MMP is also home to the Ford Racing School, and to the Boss Track Attack and ST Octane Academy owner programs. It also has one of the best FORD performance vehicles in the world. A definite bucket list item for FORD fans. That's it for now, stay tuned for the 3rd & final part of our trip.





Club Sponsors...

Rolfe Motors

Jeep



Be Part Of The Legend



Club Contacts details...

President - Paul Simmons president@actjeepraction.com

Vice President - Louise MacDonald vicepresident@actjeepraction.com

Treasurer - Paul Hannelly treasurer@actjeepraction.com

Secretary - PJ Blayney secretary@actjeepraction.com

NSW & ACT 4WD Assoc. Rep. - Troy Rollan 4wdassocrep@actjeepraction.com

Trips Co-ordinator - Gavin Bartell trips@actjeepraction.com

Public Officer - Gavin Bartell profficer@actjeepraction.com

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