

# Wheels Deep

Devonport 4WD Club Newsletter



March 2021



**Next Meeting**

**Tuesday 6th April 2021  
7:30 pm @ clubrooms  
Cornelius Rd, Sassafras**

**Contact Info**

**devonport4wdclub@gmail.com**

**P.O. Box 720  
Devonport 7310**

***President - Lyndon Kettle*  
*0417180910***

**presidentdevonport4wdclub@gmail.com**

***Secretary - Sarina Reid*  
*0400663041***

**secretarydevonport4wdclub@gmail.com**

***Treasurer – Michaela Redpath*  
*0438267319***

**treasurerdevonport4wdclub@gmail.com**

**Checkout our website:  
[www.devonport4wdclub.com.au](http://www.devonport4wdclub.com.au)**

# Upcoming Events

**March  
27**

## **Wombat Flats Cleanup**

Postponed

**April  
2-5**

## **Easter West Coast**

Trip Leader Mick Smith - 0409965188  
Leaving Thursday 6pm from the Homemakers centre, or can catch up later.

**May  
22**

## **Kids Day Trip to Bridport**

Bring your boogie board for the dunes ,

**June  
11-14**

## **Rivers Edge Campground**

Camp at Rivers Edge & explore surrounds

**May-June 2022**

**24 - 7 Simpson Desert / Alice Springs**

Spirit is booked out for overheight space, Searoad will be \$2300 plus you will need to fly over. We will revisit at our next meeting. Another alternative for Easter is Rivers Edge Campground and explore nearby.



**Click on the club logo  
to visit our website**

# News

Club stubby holders will be printed shortly with all club members names for this last year as well as our sponsors.

Another massive thankyou to North West Off Road who printed our club stickers, this is another service offered at NWOR as well as vehicle protective wraps and all their usual services.

Welcome onboard to our newest Major sponsor, Lawrence & Hanson, make sure you support our sponsors like they do us !!

**Lawrence  
& Hanson**  
A Sonepar Company

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# OFF ROAD

## 4X4 ACCESSORIES

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# Sassafras

## February 2021



# Sassafras

## 20/21 February 2021

Massive thanks to Mat's grandfather for letting us camp at the Fossil Bank gun club which is the only natural trainee range to shoot in Tasmania, most arrived Friday arvo and some had a few to many beverages. Ryan, Stephen, Jack and Emily did a quick lovetts flats trip. Brett and Shayne didn't go to bed till five am as Lyndon left to go to work. Brett and shayne had the biggest hangover- Poor Brett didn't get out of bed till early afternoon. The girls (Michaela, Kimmy K and Nicole stayed back for a relaxing day with cheese and wine) 10am- Warrick (trip leader) was still slowly waking up we ended up leaving camp at 10:30 to go down The Deep Creek track. Mat needed a tow at the entrance, a few meters down that track Wack and Stephen were the only ones that got through ( I reckon cause they were in 105s. 😊) Warrick proceeded on the drive and popped a tyre! We towed a few cars through then decided to make an easier track around. We all slowly all caught up at the deep creek crossing, Wack and Lyndon helped guide everyone over the tricky river crossing and Erin was yelling at them. We then headed out up a hill that we all got up and then had to go back down. We then went to smith and others and most people went back to camp, we got stuck in the mud pit for what felt like 29262639 hours. Wack's cruiser over heated during a winch out. Erin was driving. Not sure if it was the car or Erins driving skills?? Mat & Jimmy used an axe to move mud around so Wack could eventually get out. Then Ryan made a track around where Wack was and Ryan winched everyone out because no one else had a winch. Wack's winch broke trying to tow himself out. Finally all out and back to camp @7pm for bbq tea that Dave cooked. Tame night that night after a big eventful day for all! Emily





# Performance Packages

Call in or give the team a  
call for more info



## OFFROAD

**4x4 Accessories**

**Phone 6427 3266**



## Coal Mine Track - 27th February 2021

Mark and Gavin - GU Patrol

Kurt and Kimbra - GU Patrol

We met up with Mark and Gav at 9am at the Calder Rd round-a-bout Wynyard. After a quick inspection of new tyres and blocking up door drain holes on the patrols, we headed off to Zig Zag Rd then onto Coal Mine Rd. We found the start of the track and aired down and not far into the track I tried to drive around a mud hole but got bogged. With a small winch, I was out, then Mark drove through the middle of the hole. We proceeded to the next bog hole, we pulled up and a quick walk around and it didn't seem too bad, so I drove straight into it and was bogged again. With another winch I was out ok. Then Mark drove it with no worries, his new tyres were gripping well.

The track hadn't been used for a while, so we had the chain saws out quite often to clear the track. At the next mud hole we hugged the bank and got past it easily. Mark was following us and next we heard on the radio "you there Kurt, you better come back, we didn't quite make it through". Mark had almost come past the hole but decided to cut back to the track towards the end and slipped into a wheel rut and the Patrol was on a very bad angle with the left hand side in the water. After a lot of digging and both winches pulling, we finally had the Patrol back on level ground.

The next few mud holes were driven with no worries and we made out onto Pinnars Rd and made our way to Spider Monkey Tree and West Takone Post Office ruins. After this we drove through a couple of logging coops and up to the West Takone Weather Radar.

After discussion around maps and other interest points it was too late in the day to go looking for these, so we headed to the Yolla Tavern for a drink and a few laughs about the day.

It was a great day with a few interesting challenges.

Kurt and Kimbra



# Marquee for Hire



**Club Marquee for Hire**

**9 metres x 7 metres plus 4 sides**

**Financial member private use - \$100**

**Not for profit club - \$200**

**Other Hire - \$250**

**\$250 deposit reimbursed on return of marquee in good condition.**



# Club Merchandise



Head around to Maveric  
workwear in Ulverstone to  
get your club merch.  
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**\$649**

### Adventure Pack

Experience the breadth of Australia's wide open spaces with this Adventure pack.

#### The Pack Includes:

- HX-1 Navigator (RRP \$699)
- HX-1 Sun Visor (RRP \$39.95)
- 4WD Adventures (RRP \$69.95)

### Victoria High Country Pack

Tackle the Vic High Country with the High Country Victoria Pack!

#### The pack includes:

- High Country Victoria Atlas & Guide (RRP \$49.95)
- High Country Victoria Map (RRP \$14.95)
- Victoria State Map (RRP \$12.95)



**\$60**

# HEMA'S 2020 ULTIMATE GETAWAY GEAR

*We stock a large range of maps and navigation tools to help you explore Australia and overseas, including travel maps, wall maps, atlases, travel guides and books, GPS navigation products & mobile apps. Here is our guide to the ultimate getaway gear in 2020!*

### Where To Camp Guide Spiral Bound (A4)

Travellers can browse comprehensive site listings across all states and territories, or select sites along their path using detailed Hema maps. Listings are categorised making it easy to find the perfect destination, while an intuitive design ensures stress-free trip planning.



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**\$12.95**



### Australia Large Map

A folded map of Australia that is ideal as a reference and trip planning tool, with the country's major road networks featured along with Outback fuel, distances and major national parks marked on the map. On the reverse are CBD and through road maps of Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Darwin, Hobart, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney.



**\$195**

### Australia Mega Map

A huge laminated map of Australia (1686mm x 1481mm) that features the country's major road networks, Outback fuel, distances and major national parks, along with an index and distance grid for trip planning and quick reference. We also stock a wide range of wall maps for trip planning, decoration and education. These include worldwide international maps and world maps as well as Australian city, state and regional maps in various sizes and finishes.

For full product range visit **shop.hemamaps.com**

\* conditions apply. Not combinable with any other offers.

Free shipping for orders over \$50\* is for individual orders and Australian residential addresses only.

## 4WD Outdoor Light Pack

Experience the outdoors with 4WD Outdoor Light Pack  
Back in stock due to popular demand

### The pack includes:

- Australia Road & 4WD Handy Atlas - RRP \$24.95
- Australia Handy Map - RRP \$9.95
- 4WD Adventures (Latest Edition) - RRP \$69.95



## Hema HX1 Navigator

Explore somewhere new with Hema's HX-1 Navigator, the ultimate GPS system for on and off-road navigation.

### Package Includes:

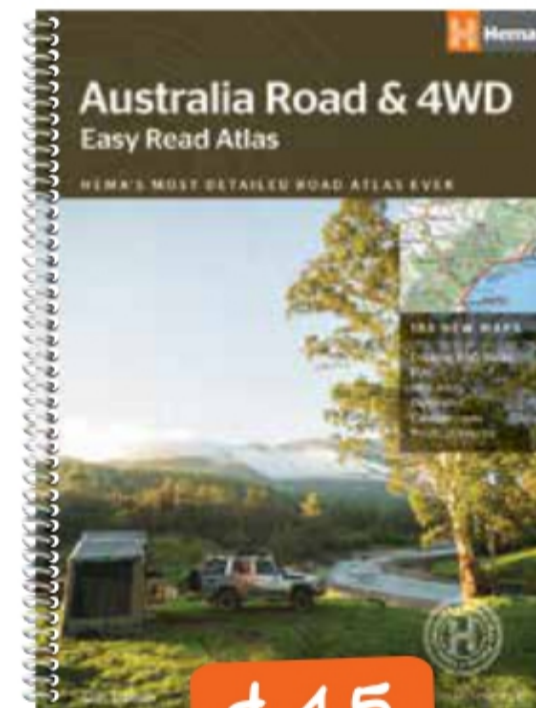
- Hema HX-1 Navigator
- Cradle and windscreen mount
- HX-1 drawstring pouch
- 12-24V 2A car charger
- USB cable
- Quick Start Guide

**\$699**



## Great Desert Tracks Atlas & Guide

Explore the arid centre with this comprehensive guide to traversing Australia's desert regions. Whether you're a 'desert lover', or just looking to tackle some of Australia's favourite 4WD destinations, this informative guide is an indispensable companion to this country's arid centre. There's also plenty of essential pre-trip reading on how to prepare for your trek, safety in the outback and driving techniques, making this the 'must have' guidebook for travelling Australia's deserts.



## Australia Road & Easy Read Atlas

Featuring trusted Hema mapping for all of Australia, the Hema Road & 4WD Easy Read Atlas is the definitive travel guide for tourers and adventurers. Hema atlases feature more information useful to travellers, including 4WD tracks, campsites, caravan parks, rest areas, 24-hour fuel and points of interest. Including a handy distance grid, national park guide, list of accredited information centres and a complete index to assist with trip planning and navigation, making it the perfect tool for guiding tourers, campers, road trippers and off-roaders throughout Australia.



## The Thrill Seeker Pack

The Thrill Seeker kit is an action-packed bundle curated for the off-road enthusiast who loves to tackle the bumps and dips of Australia's most challenging terrain.

### The Pack includes:


- Australia Road & 4WD Atlas - Spiral Bound (RRP \$39.95)
- Cape York Atlas & Guide (RRP \$49.95)
- Flinders Ranges Map (RRP \$14.95)
- Western Australia Road & 4WD Track Atlas (RRP \$34.95)
- Kimberly Map (RRP \$14.95)
- High Country Victoria Map (RRP \$14.95)
- Great Desert Tracks (Latest Edition) (RRP \$69.95)



DEVONPORT  
**AUTO**  
**ELECTRICS**



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03 64245049



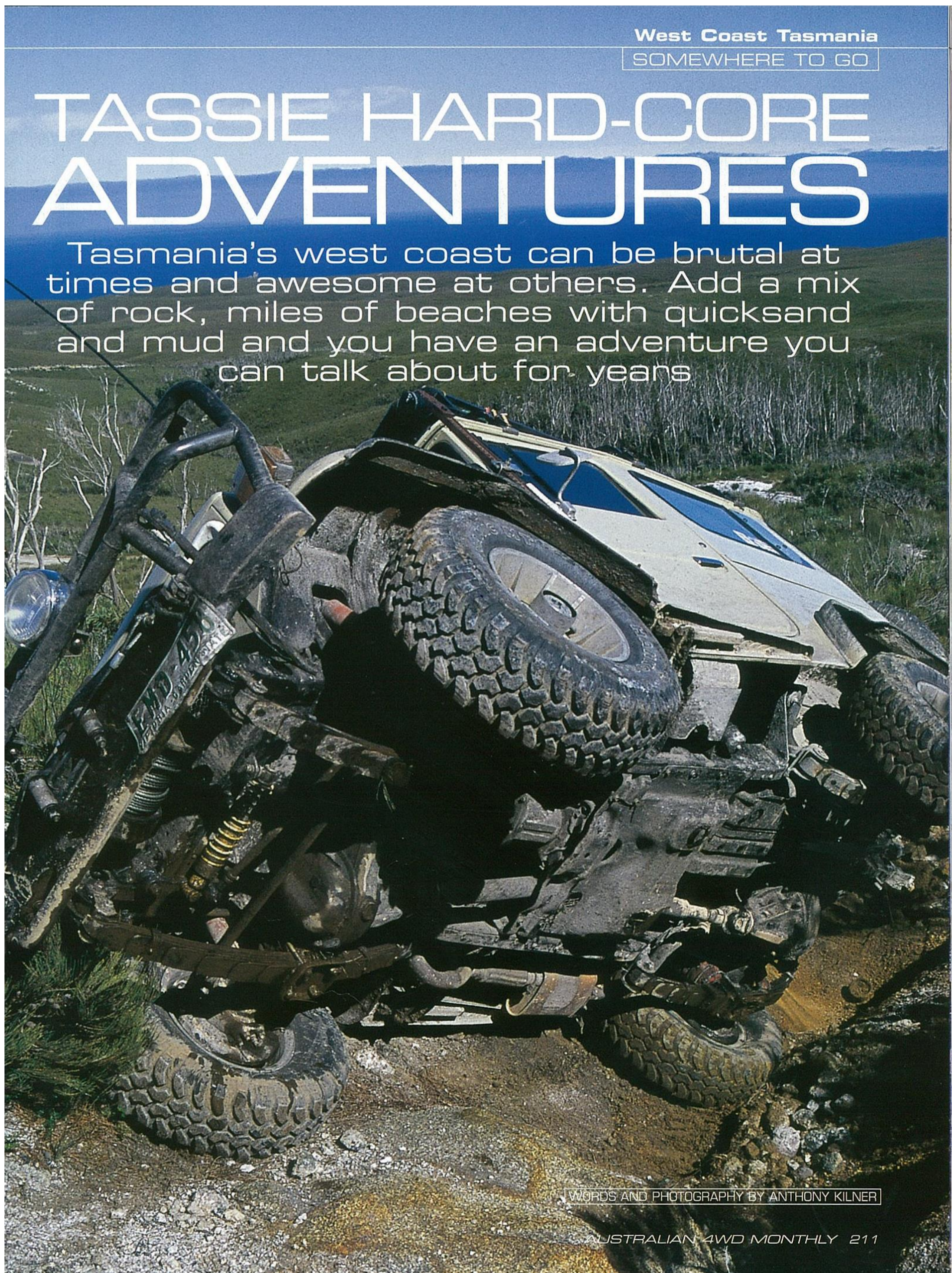
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# From the Archives



West Coast Tasmania  
SOMEWHERE TO GO

## TASSIE HARD-CORE ADVENTURES

Tasmania's west coast can be brutal at times and awesome at others. Add a mix of rock, miles of beaches with quicksand and mud and you have an adventure you can talk about for years

WORDS AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANTHONY KILNER

AUSTRALIAN 4WD MONTHLY 211

## 4WD Monthly

## Issue 49 2003

Joining up with the Devonport 4WD Club, our journey began at Arthur River Ranger Station to fill in paperwork for permits and pay camping fees. The rangers wouldn't allow a large group to go all the way to the Pieman River, which was a bummer, but they did give the okay to go to Interview River, which was still a pretty spot to visit.

The camping spot for the first night was at Sandy Cape in a secluded, treed area half a kilometre from the beach. Only one track runs to the beach from Arthur River to the Cape, although there are myriad tracks leading to huts, light houses and rocky coves.

Next stop was Interview River, before heading into an abandoned tin mine and, eventually, fun in the dunes that run for miles along the beach.

The beach and dunes around Sandy Cape are awesome. The sand varied from firm to very soft, from flat as a pancake to heavily undulated, which meant just cruising along carefully and picking your way through. There were also creek-type crossings to negotiate where fresh water meets the sea.

At Interview River, some time was spent exploring Aboriginal middens, just off the beach in an area covered low undergrowth. Aboriginal occupation along this stretch of coast is as old as anywhere in Tassie. In fact, the whole Arthur Pieman Conservation area is under review with regards to four-wheel driving, recreational activities and grazing. Hopefully, a management plan will reflect the practicalities and not block access to the pristine piece of bush, but still protect the sensitive areas for all people to enjoy.

Leading the crew on this trip was Brian Imlac, who has been exploring and playing along the west coast for years. After the beach run, he took us through some very tight, overgrown tracks to the Interview Mine Hut ruins, then on to the Interview River Mine.

Heading back onto the beach, we experienced quicksand for the first time. It looked like a wet sand patch until you drove over it and the surface rippled like a waterbed. Brian became caught in it and only just managed to free himself, while Glenn Williams got his 4Runner well and truly stuck. With another successful recovery job, it was back down the beach.

*River crossings where the fresh water meets the salt water required patience and timing to avoid strong tidal flows*

#### SPIRIT OF TASMANIA REVEALED

TT-Line operated the Devil Cat and the Spirit of Tasmania but both have been relieved of duty by two new, faster, better-equipped boats. These boats – Spirit of Tasmania I and Spirit of Tasmania II – are now running to a new and improved timetable.

There are many horror stories going around about seasickness. On the Spirit, though, there was no such feeling. There's plenty to occupy passengers, such as pokies, music and sport on screens in the lounge, plus a variety of bars and restaurants in which to enjoy a meal.

The museum cum info centre cum tourist shop was worth spending time in. It traces the history of Tassie with video displays and 3D models. Also, there was a bucket load of information on the rest of Australia.

There is a range of accommodation from cabins for singles and families, to backpacker accommodation and sleeper chairs. The new Spirit ships will be faster and more luxurious according to TT-Line.

find some dunes to play in before an evening around the fire. There was plenty of action on the dunes for the 'boys' in the club, which relieved the tension of the slow-going inland tracks.

Quicksand moves from area to area for no discernible reason. We were told about a ranger who was caught alone in quicksand and watched helplessly as his Tojo sunk to the floor pan within minutes. He walked out for help and, when he returned six hours later, there was no sign of water – he simply drove his 'Cruiser out! Scary stuff for the lone traveller!

## Balfour to Strahan

Balfour, or what's left of it, was a great spot for lunch. There are ruins here to wander around, old gravesites that are quite a walk from the old town, and several walking tracks for the more energetic, including one that leads to the Franklin River. There's very little left, considering the town boomed in the early 1900s. It was first populated in the 1880s and eventually had a horse-drawn rail link between Balfour and Temma on the coast. In its heyday, there was a


school, pub, police station and more, with tin mining the main source of employment.

At Zeehan there was plenty of activity as people filled fourbies, grabbed supplies and joked about the day's action and who had gotten through which bogholes. About the only thing still lacking on this trip so far was some sunshine and warmth.

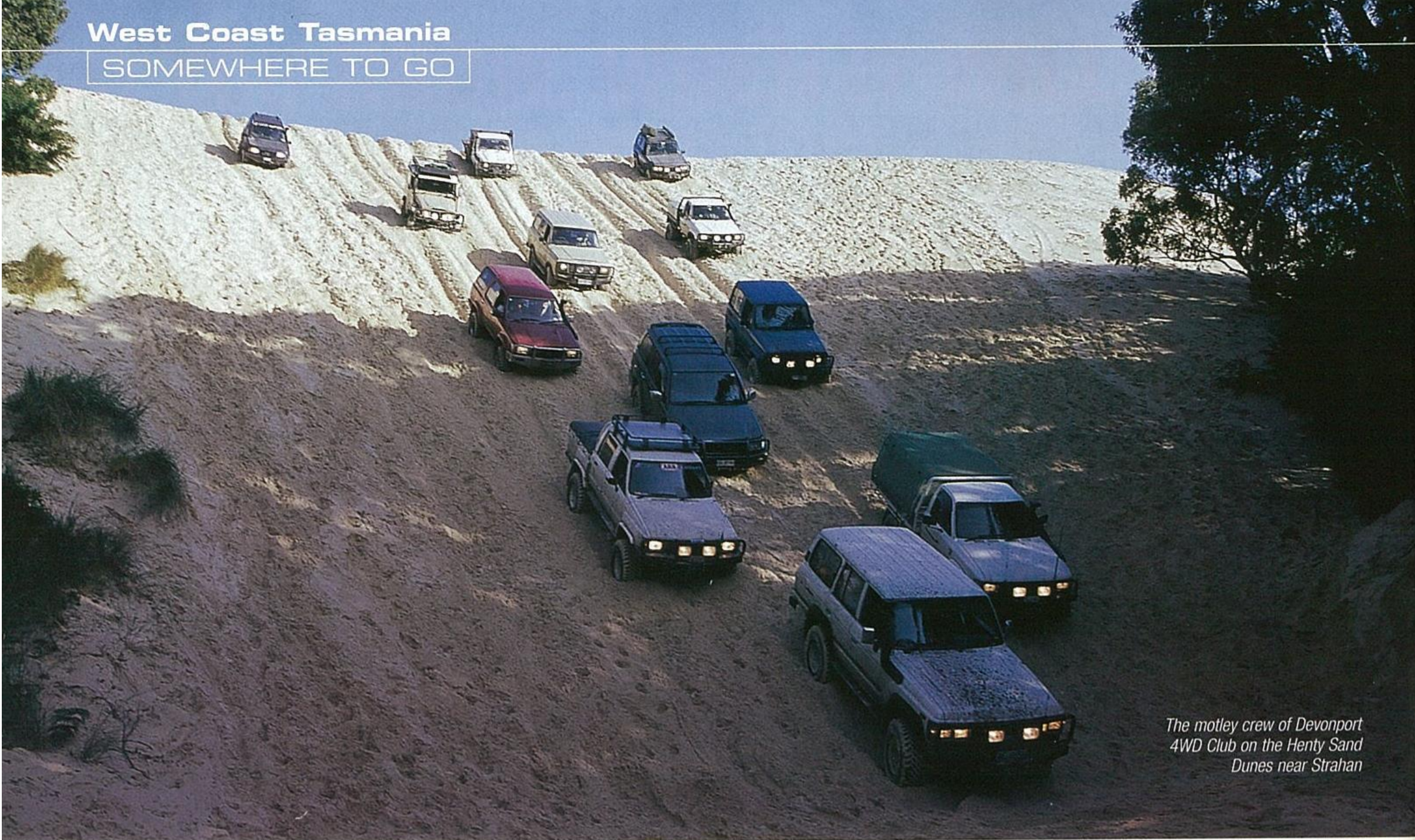
The track from Granville to Trial Harbour is one that has undergone a lot of work by the 4WD clubs of Tassie. Bridges have been repaired and a fight has been ongoing with the Tasmanian Government, which wants to close the track to all traffic.

The track is stunning, tight and rocky in places as it winds between rocky sections of coast and the Mount Heemskirk range. The really hard-core stuff – if you don't count the beaches and quicksand – starts at the turn-off to Lake Cumberland near Trial Harbour.

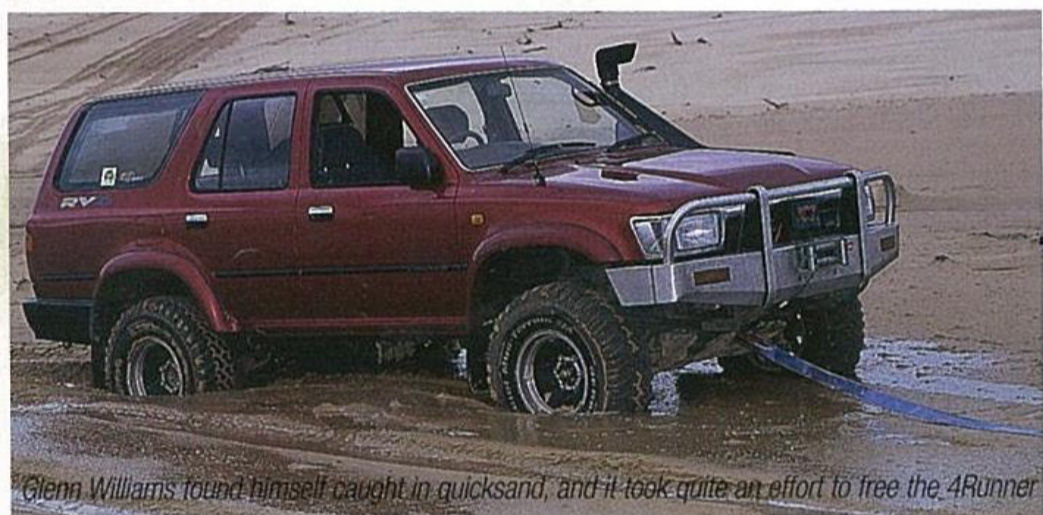
It was on this track that 'Shorty' in his 40 Series shorty rolled onto his side twice. Good suspension travel and tyres are a prerequisite before tackling this track, and lockers would definitely help.



Heading back onto the beach  
we experienced quicksand  
for the first time



*The motley crew of Devonport 4WD Club on the Henty Sand Dunes near Strahan*



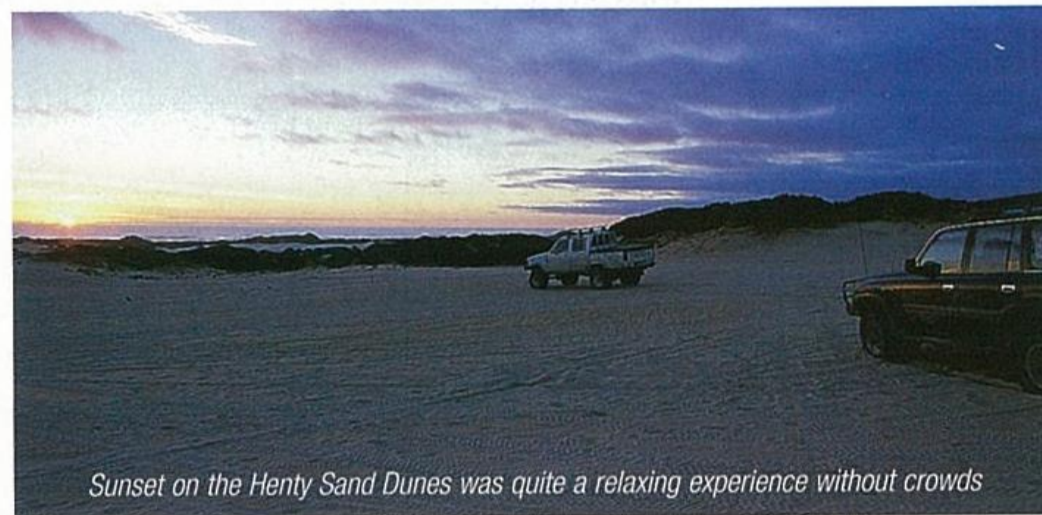
*Glenn Williams found himself caught in quicksand, and it took quite an effort to free the 4Runner*



*Lyndon Kettle pushed his V6-powered Bundy up the dunes, enjoying the view from the air*



*While most of the Balfour Track was dry, there were several huge waterholes to negotiate*



*Sunset on the Henty Sand Dunes was quite a relaxing experience without crowds*

There are rocky sections out in the open that will test most people, plus a stretch that goes through thick rain-forest-type bush that leads up to a plateau. From here, you walk for a kilometre or so to the lake. It's an easy walk and well worth the effort.

Back at Trial Harbour (itself a delight to explore), it was time to air down again before hitting the beach and the run to Strahan. There are several tidal river crossings along this stretch, so waiting for tidal currents to be just right before tackling them in twos and threes is a must.

Hitting Strahan late in the afternoon, it was time to explore this picturesque town. There are full amenities here with plenty of accommodation from B&Bs to bush camping areas. As a large group, we camped out near the Henty Sand Dunes, a spectacular set of dunes not far from Strahan. After playing on the dunes the next morning, it was off to Devonport and onto the Spirit of Tasmania back to Melbourne.

If you're after a bit of hard-core Tassie action combined with magnificent scenery and views, this area is highly recommended.



FACT FILE



**Getting There:** You can take your fourby to Tassie from Melbourne on the new Spirits of Tasmania. Bookings are made through TT-Line, which operates both vessels.

**Attractions:** Beach driving with four-wheel drives or motorbikes (vehicles must be registered), fishing, bushwalking, photography, snorkelling, horse riding, canoeing, diving and bird watching.

**Camping:** Camping is in designated areas only; all fires must be in the fireplaces provided and you must bring your own firewood. All rubbish must be taken out with you. Refer to the camping guides for more info.

**Permits and Restrictions:** Camping and driving permits are required. A fishing licence is required. These can be obtained from the ranger station at Arthur River.

**Fuel and Supplies:** Marrawah, Strahan and Zeekhan have fuel, supplies and a range of accommodation services available. Redpa has fuel and basic supplies.

**Contacts:** TT-Line reservations and general enquires – Ph: 13 20 10

TT-Line accommodation packages – Ph: 1800 811 580

TT-Line website: [www.tt-line.com.au](http://www.tt-line.com.au)

Parks Office Arthur River – Ph: (03) 6457 1225

Parks & Wildlife Service, Hobart – Ph: (03) 6336 5312

Tassie Tourism – Ph: (03) 6230 8233 or [www.tourism.tas.gov.au](http://www.tourism.tas.gov.au)

Arthur River Canoe Hire – Ph: (03) 6457 1312

Arthur River Cruises – Ph: (03) 6457 1158

Strahan BP Service Station – Ph: (03) 6471 7218

Strahan Visitor Centre – Ph: (03) 6471 7622

**Maps Used:** We used a range of maps to cover this area. *Tasmania North West* 1:250,000 put out by the Tasmanian Government; *Nelson Bay* 1:100,000 topographic map; *A Camping Guide to Tasmania* by Boiling Billy Publications; *The Visitors Guide to Tasmania* supplied by Tassie tourism; and *Explore Tasmania* from Penguin.

We used *4WD Tracks in Tasmania* by Chris Boden as a main source of trek information. Boden's book is a must for anyone travelling this area. He has detailed trek notes, warnings and history on the whole of Tassie, but it was most valuable for the west-coast run. For those with time, there's a hell of a lot more to do in the areas we visited and it's all in his book. It costs \$34.95 and can be obtained by sending a cheque to Roving Tasmania, PO Box 30, Rosny Park, TAS 7018. Alternatively, you can order by Ph/Fax: (03) 6244 2491.

These maps and books are available from all good map shops including Melbourne Map Centre (Ph: (03) 9569 5472), or from the respective publishers. Tassie Tourism also has loads of info on these areas.



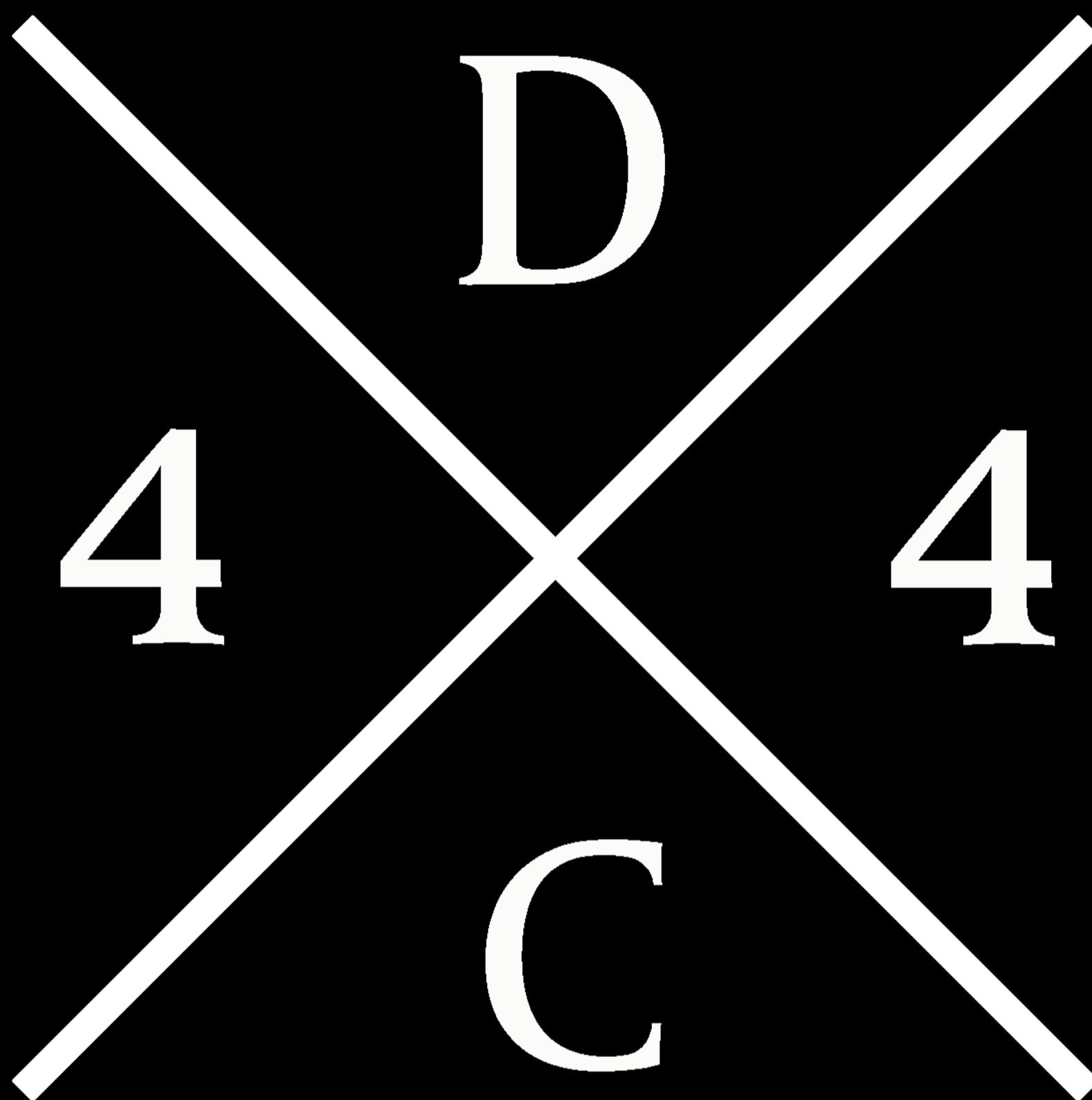
Scott Anderson in his Vitara showed that a small fourby could keep up with the big boys



With 35-inch muddies and a V6, the Balfour Track stopped Lyndon Kettle in his tracks

## Devonport 4WD Club Officials

<u>Year</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
1978	Gary Hay	Ian Rockliff	Jim Flanigan	Jim Flanigan
1979	Brian Templar	Neville Rice	Jim Evans	
1980	Bill Templar	Neville Rice	Brian Woodhouse	David Ingram
1981	Bill Templar		Brian Woodhouse	David Ingram
1982	Bill Templar	Neville Rice	David Ingram	Brian Imlach
1983	Bill Templar	Bill Rockliff	David Ingram	Brian Imlach
1984	Bill Templar	Bill Rockliff	David Ingram	Brian Imlach
1985	Bill Templar	Brian Templar	David Ingram/Andrew Smith	Ian Lehman
1986	Bill Templar	Brian Templar	David Ingram	Brian Imlach
1987	Bill Templar	Bill Rockliff	Jenny Weeks/Dean Rodgers	Joy Walkden
1988	Bill Templar	Bill Rockliff	Jenny Weeks/Dean Rodgers	Joy Walkden
1989	Bill Templar	Bill Rockliiff	Rachel Mack	Teresa Templar
1990	Mike Cassidy	Bill Rockliiff	Duncan McCreddie	Bill Rockliff
1991				
1992	Brian Imlach	Bill Rockliiff	Michael Donohoe	Scott Rockliff
1993	Brian Imlach	Scott Rockliff	Michael Donohoe	Philip Napier/Maryanne Brown
1994	Brian Imlach	Scott Rockliff	Michael Donohoe	Philip Napier/Maryanne Brown
1995	Scott Rockliff	Michael Donohoe	Janie Gower	Philip Napier/Maryanne Brown
1996	Bill Rockliff	Scott Rockliff	Janie Gower/Maryanne Brown	Philip Napier/Maryanne Brown
1997	Bill Rockliff	Scott Rockliff	Peter Holman	Scott Rockliff
1998	Michael Donohoe	Bill Rockliff	Peter Holman	Scott Rockliff
1999	Philip Napier	Nigel Palmer	Lyndon Kettle	Scott Rockliff
2000	Philip Napier	Nigel Palmer	Glenn Williams	Scott Rockliff
2001	Philip Napier	Nigel Palmer	Glenn Williams	Scott Rockliff
2002	Peter Cosmetto	Nigel Palmer	Glenn Williams	Lyndon Kettle
2003	Peter Cosmetto	Darren Mitchell	Glenn Williams	Lyndon Kettle
2004	Peter Cosmetto	Darren Mitchell	Tim Hanson	Lyndon Kettle
2005	Peter Cosmetto	Greg Turner	Angus Piercey	Lyndon Kettle
2006	Peter Cosmetto	Greg Turner	Angus Piercey	Lyndon Kettle
2007	Peter Cosmetto	Scott Rockliff	Angus Piercey	Lyndon Kettle
2008	Peter Cosmetto			Lyndon Kettle
2009	Peter Cosmetto	Scott Rockliff	Angus Piercey	Lyndon Kettle
2010	Peter Cosmetto	Scott Rockliff	Richard Picone	Lyndon Kettle
2011	Glenn Williams	Peter Cosmetto	Adrian Woodberry	Lyndon Kettle
2012	Glenn Williams	Peter Cosmetto	Adrian Woodberry	Lyndon Kettle
2013	Glenn Williams	Peter Cosmetto	Robert Kingston	Lyndon Kettle
2014	Glenn Williams	Peter Cosmetto	Lani Pike	Lyndon Kettle
2015	Glenn Williams		Lani Stevens	Lyndon Kettle
2016	Lyndon Kettle	Glenn Williams	Lani Stevens	Craig Palmer
2017	Lyndon Kettle		Sarina Reid	Gavin Stebbeings
2018	Lyndon Kettle	Scott Beecham	Sarina Reid	Gavin Stebbeings
2019	Lyndon Kettle	Scott Beecham	Sarina Reid	Gavin Stebbeings
2020	Lyndon Kettle	Scott Beecham	Sarina Reid	Michael Redpath



EST. 1978