



# Central Queensland Offroad Club Inc.

Bulletin 204

March 2014

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Affiliated with  
Four Wheel Drive Queensland  
and  
Australian National Four Wheel Drive  
Association



# THE TIME HAS ARRIVED

# CQ Offroad Club's

# 20th Year Anniversary

# AT SEEONEE PARK

#### Central Queensland Offroad Newsletter Submissions

\*As a general guideline for all wishing to follow and contribute... Stories, For Sale items,.. etc.Submissions for CQ Offroad newsletter close the last day the month.

Email Alison on [editor@cqoffroad.org.au](mailto:editor@cqoffroad.org.au) All submissions are reviewed prior to monthly meeting (Held on the First Tuesday of the Month)

any further additions by committee are made and publication occurs to the website [www.cqoffroad.org.au](http://www.cqoffroad.org.au) by the first Friday of the month.

Central Queensland Offroad Newsletter Shall in no way be held responsible for misprints, so please check all details are correct before submission.

CQ Offroad also reserves the right to not publish any inappropriate submissions.

## Note from the editor

Well Hello fellow 4wdrivers.... You made it I see..

Excellent ! Happy 20 YEARS !

This newsletter is for All 4wd enthusiasts  
and magnifies what has driven this great Club for 20 years! do read on..

I trust you are strapped in because this Muddy Month of March we celebrate that 20 years !!  
Ok so there is no mud Yet!

But hey .. there is still a chance and there is a Huge Party after all !

**Our Anniversary Party on The 29th of this month to be exact!**

RSVPs should be sorted and money for food has to be all paid by now. No money shall  
be taken on the night. You have a week left, extended up to the 15th!

It **will** be guaranteed fun so I shall see you there for all the antics the band and the poet!  
BYO Alcohol , bed and 4wd if you want to drive on Sunday!

Yes March is the wet season apparently and some heads were also wet at our AGM. Our committee was  
thrown up in the air and fell down to the new and old alike. The last page contains most of our New  
Club Committee names and contact details. If any are missed please email me to place you!

I don't think many were spared in the filling of positions and I believe for the first time ever some  
positions are now held or shared between two or more .. thus lightening the load! Sometimes more fun  
is to be had in good company as well ! So the 2014 should indeed bring about some fresh mud!

Ok find a little traction guys because in the coming months as a club we shall be locking in a new logo,  
new trips and continuing to raise money for various community groups. Notably Relay for Life and our  
Capricorn Rescue Helicopter!

Yes we are consistent supporters of this community required machine and her pilots!

We also want winches, tow ropes, snatch straps and probably bullbars are best .. to coax in newbies!  
More to assist us in continuing to educate lovers of the outdoors on safe but fun, recreational 4WDiving  
and camping and raise funds and community support for keeping our bush tracks and parks open!

New and Old members who wish to start our next 20 years on this positive path will indeed enjoy!

We drive responsibly in our chosen outdoor drives and on the less ventured bushy tracks as well. We  
pick up our own and **others** rubbish, taking care of .., and educating each other. We also do  
like to test, but do try not to render our vehicles useless, and we always avoid sensitive vegetation  
whilst being respectful of wildlife and domestic stock.

These moral attitudes and high grounds are required and respected  
and are indeed something to be proud of .. as they are what keeps  
Australia's leisure parks and reserves **free and open** for the enjoyment of all !

As a very special memento and thank you to all who support these essentials values and the core of  
a good community and its spirit .. and given its our 20th Anniversary this Year ... I have some  
wonderful contributions that give a taste of camping, adventure and great company... and  
spotlighted this newsletter is The Central Queensland's Offroad Clubs Founding Member!  
Enjoy and see you at the Birthday Bash !



General Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2014

Meeting Opened: 8.27pm

Correspondence:

LROC Newsletter

Telstra Phone Bill

Four Wheel Drive Queensland Meeting Minutes

Trip CoOrdinator's Report:

Car Wash Fundraiser for Relay 4 Life March 9

Anniversary Party March 29 - 30

Eungulla / Finch Hatton April 16

Relay 4 Life May 17 - 18

Birdsville Races August 31

Newsletter Editor's Report:

Keep sending stuff for the newsletter to Alison. Also the logo: get back to Alison with your choices.

Merchandise Officer:

Stickers, stubby coolers, bucket hats, blue caps for sale. Still have yellow shirts for sale as well as green shirts. If you want one speak to Joy Jung.

Public Liaison Officer:

Jeff has been trying hard to get a piece of land for our club. There is however, bumps in the road and he is fighting hard to get us a palce of our own.

Historian:

Please send stuff to Karen Westgarth if you have anything that needs to be archived.

At the anniversary, if people can help, it would be appreciated. Also there will be people wearing fluro vests, so if any one would like more information on the club and what we do, send them to someone with a fluro vest on.

General Business:

- For the monthly meeting, Jeff has been trying hard to get us a room upstairs so that we can conduct our business without having to worry about disturbances, no such luck at the moment, but he will keep on them about it.

- Grant would like to suggest the committee meeting on the Monday at Jeff's shop at about 5:30pm. This way, we aren't having the both meetings on the same night, and we aren't going until 10pm.

- If you have any trips see Nathan about them. More people need to put trips up, there are only a couple people who constantly run trips and we would like to see more than just these few people suggesting trips. PLEASE PUT MORE TRIPS UP! Even if they are just a day trip or a weekend trip, put them up!

Meeting Closed: 9.26pm

## Membership Corner

Currently there are 22 members and their families for 2014 and if you know of any interested people, please pass on our contact info and steer them to the web page!

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

All new members will be forwarded a Membership Pack with important information in it regarding the club.

Please take the time to read this information allowing you to be aware of

your rights and responsibilities you now have as a club member.

Remember if any of your personal details have changed or you need anything checked...

please contact our **Membership Officer - Paul Westgarth on 0749 342 062**

# Members Spotlight

**We welcome past and present members stories and experiences and of course trips and monthly 4wd awareness days provide tales to tell**

Text or email pictures and words to 0448 426 733 or [editor@cqoffroad.org.au](mailto:editor@cqoffroad.org.au)

## Introducing Graeme .... Our Founding Member !

With this month being our 20th Anniversary Party Month .. I think now is the time to introduce our originating member Graeme Filer. Graeme shares a few words on why he started The Central Queensland Offroad Club and it is interesting to note that the same motivation for starting this Offroad Club, is still, as strong today within the club, as it was.. when in 1994 at the age of 25 Graeme began it!

Through a series of texts and finally a phone conversation I was able to piece together the following..

His level of experience ?? ..... his parents had always owned 4wds.

..and on Starting the club..?

... his first short reply was....

'Cause there was no club and we enjoyed the new friendships and the ability to gain land access and teach the right values of 4wding and camping and "enjoy not destroy" rg

Ok... What was your first car?

'My first 4wd was a suzuki sierra then s111 landrover which I had for 16 years.

Then a range rover 6.5lt v8 diesel chev auto .. still got it.

Now a 110 defender 3.9 turbo diesel wagon and a denning landseer coach motor home.'

We later spoke and he elaborated a little more on his experiences of being in and around Brisbane for a few years with clubs and noting how these clubs were run. Apparently there was a 4wd club of sorts already here but it was folding at the time. But perhaps most notable....

It was from this conversation that he spoke of the friendships and memories that are formed .. the shared experiences and love of 4 wheel driving and camping... appreciating and caring for the great outdoors .. the Driving to Enjoy.. Not Destroy ! motivation that is so poignant and the main reason, one would assume, as to why this great club has succeeded.

It is then very evident that "Yes" this 4wd club here in Central Queensland still carries the same motivational energy and is to be applauded.

Thank you to you Graeme



... enjoy not destroy ..rg



**Past and Present Members**

**ITS HERE**

**The CQ Offroad Club's  
20 Year Anniversary  
Camp Over at Seeonee Park**

**LIVE BAND  
BUSH POET  
BYO**

**Saturday 6pm  
March 29th**

# C.Q. OFFROAD CLUB – Member Submission

For those electrical and power savvy minds the following power point was submitted by a member.



## CTEK D250S DUAL CTEK SmartPass

A revolutionary solution for 12V Dual Battery systems



1

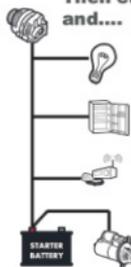
It all started simple....



One Alternator  
One Battery  
One Starter Motor

2

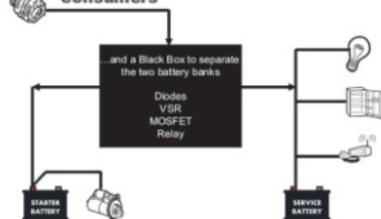
Then came a fridge, lights, navigation and....



and suddenly the battery was dead.

3

Well, let's add another battery for all consumers

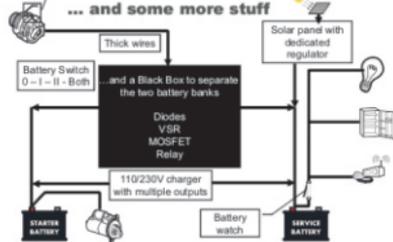


...and a Black Box to separate the two battery banks

Diodes  
VSR  
MOSFET  
Relay

4

3-step alternator  
... and some more stuff



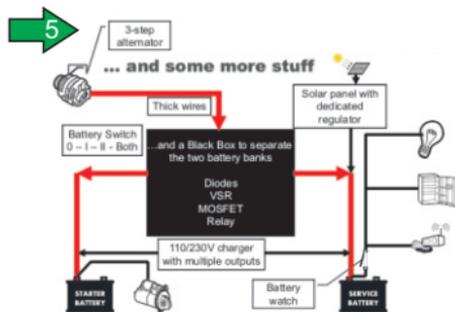
...and a Black Box to separate the two battery banks

Diodes  
VSR  
MOSFET  
Relay

110/230V charger with multiple outputs

Battery watch

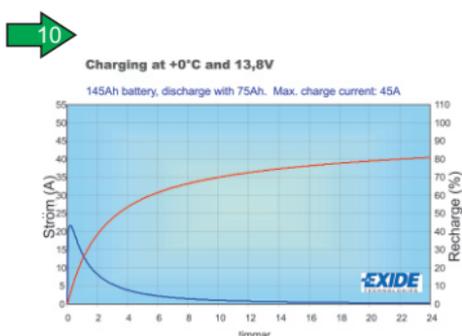
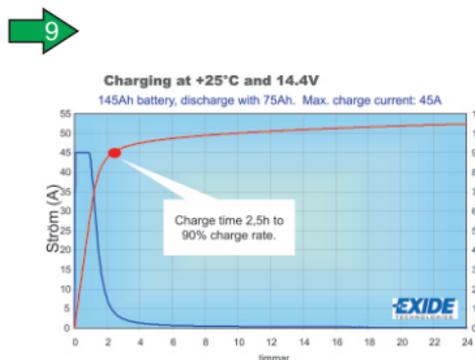
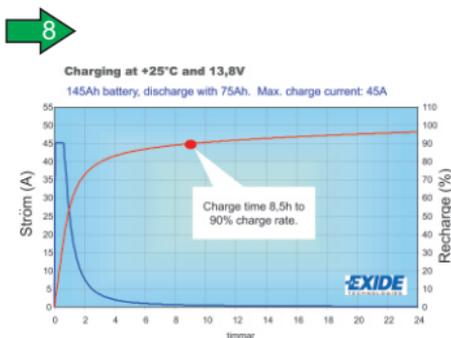
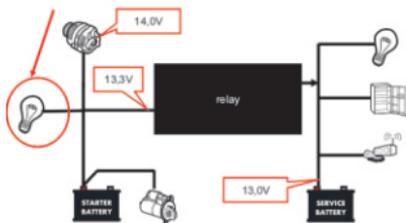
Solar panel with dedicated regulator



- 6**
- But problems remained with:
- \* Very long recharge time from alternator
  - \* Engine idling just for battery charging
  - \* Batteries rarely fully charged, which reduced the useful time
  - \* Regular battery replacement
  - \* Solar panels conflicting with other sources, which reduced output
  - \* No charge of starter battery from solar
  - \* Overheated service batteries
  - \* Costly, difficult to trouble-shoot, expand, modify, ...
  - \* ...

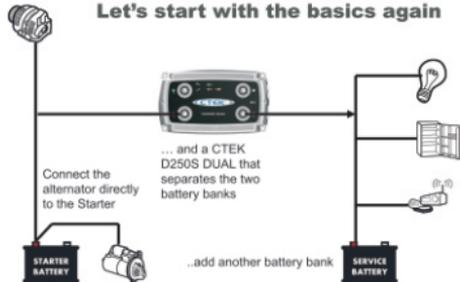
**7**

For a motor home have also large load on the starter battery!  
This gives rise to voltage drops

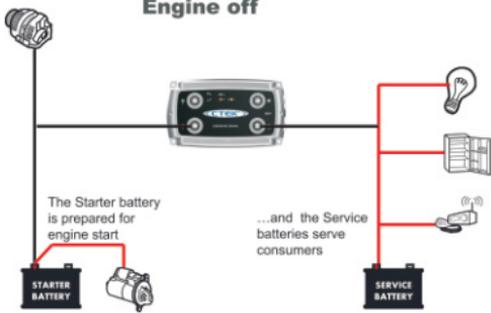


One alternator

Let's start with the basics again

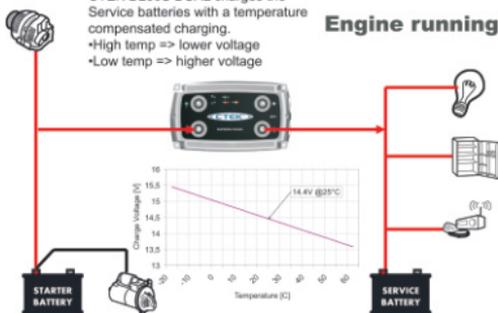


Engine off

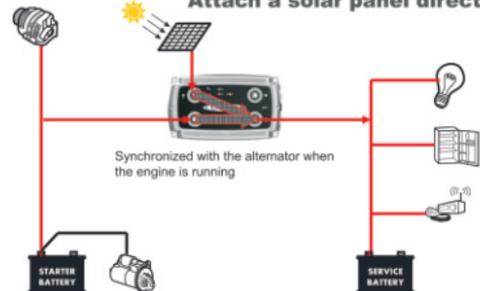


CTEK D250S DUAL charges the Service batteries with a temperature compensated charging.  
 •High temp => lower voltage  
 •Low temp => higher voltage

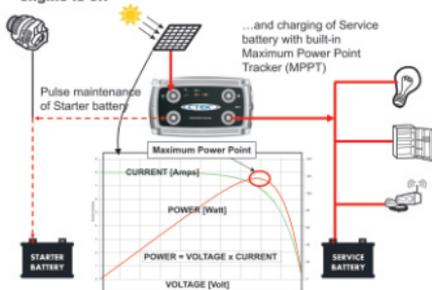
Engine running



Attach a solar panel directly

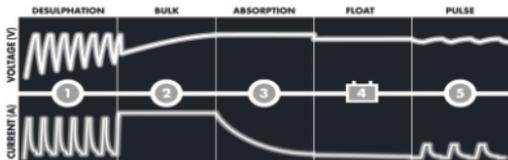


The panel serves both batteries when the engine is off



CHARGING PROGRAM D250S DUAL

The charger starts charging the target battery when the supply voltage exceeds 13.1V for 5 sec (engine on). The charger stops charging the target battery when the supply voltage drops below 12.8V for 10 sec (engine off).



**STEP 1 desulphation**  
 Detects sulphated batteries. Pulsing current and voltage, removes sulphate from the lead plates of the battery restoring battery capacity.

**STEP 2 bulk**  
 Charging with maximum current until approximately 80% battery capacity.

**STEP 3 absorption**  
 Charging with declining current to maximize up to 100% battery capacity.

**STEP 4 float**  
 Maintaining the battery voltage at maximum level by providing a constant voltage charge.

**STEP 5 pulse**  
 Maintaining the battery at 95-100% capacity. The charger monitors the battery voltage and gives a pulse when necessary to keep the battery fully charged.



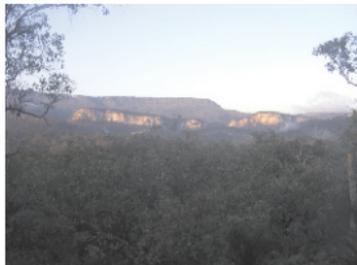
# Member Story

The following story and pictures (some pictures supplied by the Ed.) was submitted by Kev and Joy Jung

Carnarvon Gorge is hidden right here in Queensland!  
I the editor will also vouch for it as being .. 'truly amazing..  
A humbling place to visit'.

Words or pictures cannot quite capture this place so  
Full credit goes to Kev for his organised and appropriate  
description of this breathtaking piece of Queensland.

This place is highly recommended for a reason! and did I mention  
its here in Queensland.. the Central Highlands to be exact!

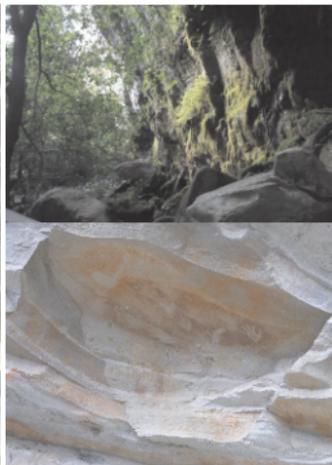
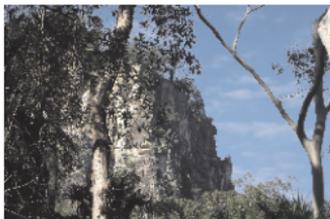


## Carnarvon Gorge Trip Report

We set off at 7:00 am on Friday morning with Paul, Karen and Kye towing their Conqueror and Kev and Joy towing their caravan. The trip out to Carnarvon Gorge was uneventful. The morning tea stop was at the Dawson River west of Moura and Rolleston for lunch. We arrived at Takarakka Bush Camp, around 3:00 PM. By the time we had set up camp it was time to listen to Simon Ling, a local, who briefed us on the gorge and what to expect on the walks. Takarakka was a great place to camp with powered sites and all the usual amenities of your average caravan park set in a bush setting.

Day two we all set off walking bound for the Aboriginal Art Galleries, a return trip of 14 kilometres. An indigenous park ranger was there to explain the meanings of the aboriginal art. It really was a record of a bygone era frozen in time. The return walk was broken as we diverted in to Wards Canyon, the Amphitheatre and the Moss Gardens.

It is believed Wards Canyon has the only known stand of king ferns this far south however they are very common in the north. At one time it was possible to walk to the end of the canyon and view the majestic waterfall in the cave. This has been stopped to assist in the preservation of the king ferns however it is still a cool and scenic place.





The entrance to the Amphitheatre is via 42 steep steps which have replaced the old ladder system it once had. Once entering the cave you can't help being astounded by the grandeur of this huge sink hole. You are surrounded by 300 ft vertical sandstone walls. You could be excused for thinking you were in an Indiana Jones movie. The acoustics of this place were amazing.

The Moss Gardens were formed by water dripping out of the sandstone causing the moss to grow on the stone. Different shades of moss were growing making it a spectacular sight of fluorescent greens. I could not help thinking the water coming out of the rock had not seen the daylight since the pyramids in Egypt were being built thousands of years prior. The water has been travelling in an underground aquifer for thousands of years seeping out at the moss gardens.

There is a ten kilometre track leading into the gorge ending at Cathedral Cave making it a 20 Km return walk however most things can be seen if you trek as far as the Art Gallery. The track deteriorates to a grade 4 track past Big Bend. There are several more remote tracks for experienced walkers such as Battleship Spur, Devils Signpost and The Ranch.

After Karen and Joy playing with 2 different snakes, we arrived back at the ranger's station at around 5:00pm feeling exhausted. It was good to get back to camp for a plate of Jungies wilderness stew which had been cooking all day. (To tenderize the toad and lizard the stew needed to cook all day.)



*Text or email pics and words to 0448 426 733 or [editor@cqoffroad.org.au](mailto:editor@cqoffroad.org.au)*

# CQ OFFROAD CLUB TRIP & EVENT CALENDAR

| TRIP EVENT   | DATE   | MEET TIME & DEPARTURE                    | RATING           | REGISTRATION CLOSE   | LEADER/ CONTACT  |
|--|--|--|------------------|--|--|
| 'Relay For Life' CARWASH   | March 2014<br>Sun 9th                            | Enzed TBA                                | N/A              |  | Paul & Karen Westgarth<br>0413 731 341   |
| <b>WORKING BEE</b>   | March Sturday<br>15th 2014                       | SEEONEE PARK                             |                  | <b>Sat 15th<br/>THIS MONTH</b>   | Grant Whittaker<br>0419 168 997<br>Jeff Winter<br>0407 211 199   |
| <b>CQ Offroad Club<br/>20 YEAR<br/>ANNIVERSARY</b>   | <b>THIS MONTH</b><br>March 2014<br>Sat 29th-30th | <b>SEEONEE<br/>PARK</b>                  | FUN TO<br>BE HAD | Historical Facts<br>and Photos on USB<br>to Karen Westgarth<br><br>4934 2062<br>0413 201 249 | Veronica Tattan-Allen<br>0423 324 313<br>Grant Whittaker<br>0419 168 997<br>Paul & Karen Westgarth<br>0413 731 341 |
| General Meeting<br>All Welcome<br>Once Monthly   | April 2014<br>Tues 1st                           | 7.30pm Rockhampton<br>Leagues Club       | N/A              |  | Grant Whittaker<br>0419 168 997  |
| Landcruiser Mountain Park<br>'Rothy Farewell'  | April 2014<br>Fri 11th -14th                     | CQP Southside Highway                    | N/A              |  | Dean Pearce<br>0438 122 132  |
| 'Relay For Life' CARWASH   | April 2014<br>Sun13th                            | Enzed TBA                                | N/A              |  | Paul & Karen Westgarth<br>0413 731 341   |
| Eungella<br>Finch Hatton   | April 2014<br>Wed 16th- 22nd                     | 7am The Caves Store                      |                  | 9th April  | Paul & Karen Westgarth<br>0413 731 341   |
| 4WD Fun/ Awareness Day<br>Members Only<br>Visitors by Prior Arrangement<br>Last Sunday Monthly | April 2014<br>Sun 27th                           | 8am Seeonee Park                         | N/A              |  | Veronica Tattan-Allen<br>0423 324 313  |
| General Meeting<br>All Welcome<br>Once Monthly   | May 2014<br>Tues 6th                             | 7.30pm Rockhampton<br>Leagues Club       | N/A              |  | Grant Whittaker<br>0419 168 997  |
| 'Relay For Life'   | May 2014<br>Sat 17th-18th                        | CQ University Oval<br>15 people Required | N/A              | Now  | Paul & Karen Westgarth<br>0413 731 341<br>4934 2062  |
| Glassford / Many Peaks   | June<br>7th, 8th, 9th                            | TBA                                      | Black            | 1st June   | Kev & Joy Jung<br>0488 942 241   |
| Rockhampton Home<br>Caravan & Camping Show   | 22nd-24th<br>August 2014                         | Showgrounds                              | N/A              |  |  |
| Birdsville Races<br>3500km   | August 31st -<br>Sept.14th 2014                  | 7am Kabra Hotel                          | Green<br>Touring |  | Paul & Karen Westgarth<br>0413 731 341<br>4934 2062  |

**Note: Fun Days 4WD awareness days held last Sunday of each month, are for members ONLY. Visitors are welcome by prior arrangement with the Trip Leader or our**

**Trip Coordinator Nathan Boon – 0411 259 950**

# Trip ideas



Trip Coordinator Nathan Boon – 0411 259 950

## Day Trips

## Weekend Trips (2-3days)

## Longer Trips

|                           |                            |                          |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 5 Rocks                   | Blackdown Tablelands       | Fraser Island            |
| Byfield                   | Canarvon Gorge             | Desert Trips             |
| Upper Ulam                | Cania Gorge                | Cape York                |
| King Solomon Spur         | Kroombit Tops              | High Country of Victoria |
| Copper Climb              | Kalpower State Forest      | Tasmania                 |
| Night Run                 | Frazer Island              | Birdsville Races         |
| Mystery Trip              | Deepwater National Park    | Gemfields                |
| Kroombit Tops             | Cap Palmerston             | Porcupine Gorge          |
| Mt Scoria                 | Notch Point                | Undarra Lava Tubes       |
| Lady's Day Comp at Seonee | Country Meetings           | Kimberley's              |
| Barefoot Bowls            | Goodnight Scrub            | Lake Eyre                |
| Clean Up Australia        | Salvator Rosa              |                          |
| General Clean-ups         | Ka Ka Mundi                |                          |
| Styx River                | Eurimbula National Park    |                          |
|                           | Mt Moffit                  |                          |
|                           | Baffle Creek               |                          |
|                           | Eungella                   |                          |
|                           | Cape Hillsborough          |                          |
|                           | Isla Gorge                 |                          |
|                           | Landcruiser Mountain Park  |                          |
|                           | Relay For Life             |                          |
|                           | Copper Climb / St Lawrence |                          |

NB. If you have any suggestions or are interested in organising a trip or event, whether it is a 4WD event or just a social day out, please forward your ideas to

**Nathan Boon – 0411 259 950**

➔ **Spotlight**



**Smile**  
Life is what you make it

# COME AND PLAY



From the internet : Offroad memes

## **Members.. it's Muddy March**

Thanks go to Isaac from Victoria for these mud loving pics.. Like us they have a Paddys Swamp !.. 'most of them have been taken in some local bush land down here called "paddys swamp" and also in our beautiful otways..

We go out in groups ranging from 2 cars to the most we have had in a single group of friends and family is around 30 to 35 cars... but that's not to say you may want to just take a stroll to get out of the house and go by yourself..' a muddy sentiment shared by Offroaders Everywhere ! ... and he has more.. wait until next month ! Thanks Isaac

## **2014**

## **It's Our 20 Year Anniversary**

## **Happy Birthday**

## **Central Queensland Offroad Club!!**

# Technical and Safety Information

**PLEASE NOTE:** ON THE LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH OUR FUN AND BASIC SKILLS DAYS AT SEEONEE PARK ARE FOR CLUB MEMBERS. VISITORS ARE WELCOME BY PRIOR ARRANGMENT WITH THE TRIP LEADER OR TRIP CO-ORDINATOR. IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS OF A PLACE YOU WOULD LIKE TO VISIT PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DISCUSS IT WITH THE TRIP CO-ORDINATOR OR A COMMITTEE MEMBER

## GENERAL – Driver and Vehicle CQORC Trip Standard Guide

All drivers shall have a valid and current driver's licence and should have successfully completed a driver awareness course. Club By-Laws shall be followed. All vehicles shall have at least Third Party Property Damage Car Insurance and be registered. All vehicles on Blue trips and above shall carry the minimum recovery equipment and be fitted with suitable solid recovery points fitted to the front and rear of the vehicle. All vehicles should be in sound roadworthy condition.

These ratings are based on the vehicle being a late model mid-sized 4WD and the driver being reasonably confident in their and their vehicles abilities. All drivers must adjust the ratings to suit their own conditions. It is the responsibility of any participating driver who wishes to seek further clarification regarding the grading of a trip to contact the Trip Leader or Trip Coordinator. The preferred CLUB RADIO CHANNEL is UHF - Channel 30.

## TRACK RATINGS.

### GREEN TRIP - EASY

All-wheel drive, high range and standard road tyres.

**Vehicle:** Suitable for a standard unmodified four wheel drive (4WD) vehicle in good mechanical condition.

**Driver:** Suitable for novice and beginner four wheel drivers.

### BLUE TRIP - MEDIUM

Mainly high range, but low range required and standard road tyres.

**Vehicle:** Suitable for a standard unmodified four wheel drive (4WD) vehicle in good mechanical condition. Front and rear recovery points are mandatory for this trip.

**Driver:** Suitable for the more experienced driver who **shall** have successfully completed a driver awareness course.

### BLACK TRIP - HARD

Mainly low range and standard 4WD ground clearance; all terrain tyres; driver training or assistance is a benefit. Recovery situations are likely. The trip leader must ensure adequate recovery equipment is carried.

**Vehicle:** The vehicle should be in good mechanical condition. Suitable recovery equipment should also be carried in/on the vehicle (as specified by the Trip Leader).

**Driver:** Suitable for the more experienced and competent driver who **shall** have successfully completed a driver awareness course and with capabilities that satisfy the Trip Leader and the Trip coordinator.

### RED TRIP - EXTREME

Low range and high ground clearance; Mud terrain tyres; appropriate recovery equipment and experience required.

**Vehicle:** The vehicle will have raised suspension, improved wheel articulation, larger than standard and more aggressive tyres. A full recovery kit is to be carried by all participants.

**Driver:** Suitable for the experienced and competent driver who shall have successfully completed an advanced driver training course and satisfied the Trip Leader and Trip coordinator that he/she is able to perform in all recovery situations.

## MEMBERS OBLIGATIONS WHILE ON CLUB EVENTS

All members and visitors alike, including passengers, are reminded that their attendance or participation in any club event is of their own choosing and that they accept full responsibility for their own actions and consequences. In Queensland under the Work Place Health and Safety Act 1995 all event attendees have an obligation not only for their own safety but for the safety of others.

All members and visitors alike, including passengers, are reminded that although the Club attempts to conduct trips and events in the safest possible manner, there are many changing factors and unforeseen circumstances that the club and its members have no control over.

Each person knows their own capabilities and therefore is the only person who knows if they are capable of participating or continuing to participate in a club event/trip. If any person feels that they or their vehicle is incapable of participating or continuing in a safe manner, then they need to withdraw at that time from the trip. Convoy Rules and Procedures are for the safety and enjoyment of everyone on the trip/event.

# FYI



No matter how shallow the water looks it pays to walk them?



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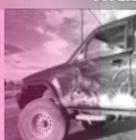
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## CLUB COMMITTEE 2014

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**General Meeting :-** ***The First Tuesday Night of the Month***  
***next*** 1st April 2014  
7.30pm Rockhampton Leagues Club, George Street, Rockhampton.

Committee Meeting:- New time Monday 5.30pm at the CommsCentre Musgrave St  
General Meeting