



The Challenge is organised each year by the Pajero 4WD Club of Victoria and has become one of the best and most challenging self guided, off road navigational events in Australia. Entry is open to members of four wheel drive clubs affiliated to 4WD Victoria.

The Pro Comp Pajero Challenge is a 24-hour 4WD navigation competition, split into four sections, each of which allows 3-4 hours of driving. The driver and navigator find their way from point to point, answering questions as they go. Many teams have multiple navigators and also swap drivers; it is a team event!

Checkpoints are manned by club members, some are known to the competitors but secret checkpoints are added.

Special stages include written or navigational test or other activities designed to test the teams and get them out of their vehicles.

There are compulsory rest stops at each quarter point.

The focus of the event is on teamwork,



observation and navigation, not speed or hardcore driving. This year the Challenge returned to its original format with a standard class of vehicle, fitted with good off road tyres.

The starting point was the Big River Camp on the Big River Road in the State forest beyond Marysville. Vehicles are inspected prior to the start and competitors received a briefing from the organisers which provides last minute information and advice.

Instructions for the first quarter were handed out to the teams at one minute intervals, starting at 9.30 am. The first vehicle departed at ten with others following in order. There were four stages with the first quarter point sighted at the top of Mt Duffy. Here the Wanderin 4 Wheelers checked the drivers in, provided refreshments and sent them on their way after the compulsory rest break. The club has proudly helped with every Challenge except the first.

WICEN Victoria provided the essential radio



Left: Competitors at the event briefing being addressed by Ian Salmon, one of the event coordinators.

Bottom left: Section planning, plotting and navigation are serious parts of the event. Pictured, Roger Smith with Warren Cleland and Stuart Schoof.

Centre: Quarter way and the start of Section 2 manned by Terry Roberts and the crew from the Wanderin 4 Wheelers.

Below: The Lillydale SES halfway point included a Billycart competition where competitors had to negotiate a course with the 'pusher' giving directions to the blindfolded passenger who was steering.

coverage for the event with a base station at Big River and a relay point at the top of Mt Duffy.

Early evening the competitors returned to the Big River camp at the half way stage, with a minimum of a one hour rest break and the promise of dinner. First they had to negotiate a track in a 4 wheel buggy supervised by the Lillydale SES unit.

At 10pm, twelve hours into the event, the competitors started to leave Big River for the third leg, departing in the order they arrived. They had another seven or more hours driving ahead of them before the return to Big River in the morning, to finish the event and enjoy a cooked breakfast.

A team of members of the Pajero and other clubs organise the event, check the routes and decide the time each section is expected to take. The Pajero Club runs many of the checkpoints and their catering team provided over 200 dinners and breakfasts for the competitors and volunteers.

Seventy six people competed in the 36 vehicles which started at Big River. There were a further 120 volunteers coordinating the event, running the check points and doing the catering.



2008 CHALLENGE PRIZE WINNERS

Overall 1st PLACE \$3200 Voucher for Pro Comp Products PRO COMP 4x4 Shayne Barkley, Alison Grant, Alan Cuthill 24 DANDENONG RANGES

Overall 2nd PLACE 40Ltr Fridge Spring Special WAECO Aaron Carlton, Darren Blitz, Shiloh Hoel 1 CFA 4x 4

Overall 3rd PLACE Hi-Country Franklin Dome Tent x 1 AUSSIE DISPOSAL Ben Croft, Peter Butcher 7 VIC KRAWLERS Hi-Country Aluminium Stretchers x 2 Hi-Country Swag Bag Sleeping Bag x 2 Hi-Country Compact Resort Chairs x 2 Aluminium Deluxe Slat Table x 1

Section 1 Winner PerfectView RV-250 / LCD WAECO Richard Picone, Darren Van Heel 20 PRO COMP 4x4

Section 2 Winner Hi-Country Woodland Dome Tent x 1 AUSSIE DISPOSAL Ben Croft, Peter Butcher 7 VIC KRAWLERS Hi-Country Banksia Jumbo Hooded Sleeping Bag x 2 Hi-Country 3 Position Table x 1 Hi-Country Aluminium Resort Chairs x 2

Section 3 Winner TJM Ox Recovery Kit TJM Shayne Barkley, Alison Grant, Alan Cuthill 24 DANDENONG RANGES

Section 4 Winner Hella Mega Beam Work Light HELLA Wayne Jackson, Lyndon Ackland 30 MURRAY BRIDGE 4x4

Best Check Point 10 x \$50 Vouchers AUSSIE DISPOSAL SES LILYDALE & PAJERO CLUB PIRATES SES LILYDALE & PAJERO CLUB

Quiz Master TJM Emergency Kit TJM Shayne Barkley, Alison Grant, Alan Cuthill 24 DANDENONG RANGES

Activity Champion Luxeon LED Deluxe Head Lamp x 1 AUSSIE DISPOSAL Greg Smith, Justin Worden 33 LROCV

Primus Portable Cooker x 1 Gas Canisters to Suit Portable Cooker x 1 First Aid Kit x 1

Hi-Country 3 Position Table x 1

1st Pajero Home Luxeon LED Deluxe Head Lamp x 1 AUSSIE DISPOSAL Bob Aitkin, Carl Turpie, Paul Turpie 8 PAJERO CLUB

Primus Portable Cooker x 1 Gas Canisters to Suit Portable Cooker x 1 First Aid Kit x 1

Hi-Country 3 Position Table x 1

Rookie of Year Free entry to 2009 Challenge Pajero Club Eddi & Vera Lacanau 13 NISSAN CLUB

Phil Viney Award Most Spirited Competitor Simon Garraway/Alberto Pamintuan & Vincent Tsoi/Alistair Salmon Cars 25 & 29 PAJERO CLUB

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Left: Winners of the Pro Comp Pajero Challenge 2008, from L-R, Alison Grant, Shane Barkley and Alan McMullen MD of Pro Comp presenting the winners with a voucher worth \$3200. Pictured on the right is Alan Cuthill. Above: Car No1 Aaron Carlton and Darren Blitz in the ATOC Nissan GQ Patrol in Section 2 around the logging area below Mt Duffy. They finished overall second in the event.

Checkpoints

- Barry Walker, Wrenford Brown Pajero Club & LROCV
- Russell Bredmore Pajero Club
- Brian McLaughlin Pajero Club
- Mark Andrews Citywest 4x4
- Alan Mai Pajero Club
- John & Katrina Palmer Pajero Club

Secret checkpoint

- John Simonton & Chris Rizonico, Pajero Club
- Michael Jones Dandenong Ranges, Russell Chatfield Pajero Club
- John Wallbridge Yarra Valley, Ron Reed Pajero Club
- Russell Bredmore Pajero Club

Car No.	Driver	Navigator	Vehicle
01	Aaron Carlton	Darren Blitz	Patrol GQ
02	Adam Stratton	Stuart Russell	Patrol GQ
03	Alan Norton	Bruce Hillbrick	Patrol GU
04	Andrew Norman	Rob Norris	Landcruiser 80 Series
05	Andrew Burke	Justin Snell	Maverick Ute
06	Anthony Kilner	Nathan Hastings	Patrol GQ
07	Ben Croft	Peter Butcher	Patrol GQ Ute
08	Bob Aitken	Carl Turpie	Pajero NM
10	Cliff Finch	Tony Currell	Patrol GU
11	Dallas Roberts	Steve Hobbs	Patrol GU
12	Daniel Brown	Steven Eccles	Landcruiser 80 Series
13	Edward Lacanau	Vera Lacanau	Patrol GQ
14	Graham Eland	Greg Sinclair	Patrol GU
15	John Lewis	Clinton McDonald	Patrol GU
16	Michael Farrugia	Chris Roche	Pajero SWB
17	Paul Djuric	Stuart Alman	Landcruiser 80 Series
18	Peter Bailey	David Lawrence	Landcruiser 100 Series
19	Peter Crothers	Kathryn Crothers	Patrol
21	Roger Smith	Warren Cleland	Range Rover
22	Russell Cairns	Steven Holland	Patrol
23	Shane Thompson	Simon Booker	Landcruiser 80 Series
24	Shayne Barkley	Alison Grant	Patrol GU
25	Simon Garraway	Alberto Pamintuan	Maverick
26	Steele Perkins	Greg Foot	Pajero
27	Steve Shaver	Darren Nicholis	Patrol
28	Tom Shire	Adam Bennett	Toyota FJ40
29	Vincent Tsoi	Alistair Salmon	Pajero
30	Wayne Jackson	Lyndon Ackland	Patrol GQ
31	Jan Cowley	Tony Heasley	Hilux
32	John Whithorn	Michael Piegert	Landcruiser 80 Series
33	Greg Smith	Justin Worden	Maverick
34	Keith Phillips	Louise Noonan	Patrol
35	Christine Hummer	Chris Hummer	Discovery
36	Keiran Quigley	Amanda Quigley	Patrol GQ