



OUT AND ABOUT 4X4 CLUB

NIGHT DRIVE POWERLINES

24TH OCTOBER 2015

Trip Report by Stephen Braddow

A group of 13 cars assembled at the Lakes Roadhouse at around 5.30 and after a chat and procedures briefing from the Trip Leader we headed down Flynn Road to the powerlines track turn off . The general consensus was that a good tyre pressure setting for the trip ahead was between 24- 30 kpa depending on the capability of the vehicle you owned.

During tyre deflation the kids decided to collect the food for dinner ..



It's been a few years since I last drove the track and I must say some of it has been made easier but also some of the sections that I remember taking last time seem to be nothing more than panel killers due to the ruts and almost square walls.

The great part about this track is that it offers something for every level of driver and car and during the day light you could pick your track and lines easily and I was great to see everyone challenging themselves.



Once the sun disappeared that's when the heart rate and fun level increased as what appeared to be the track from 50m away just became a big pile of rocks when you got to the bottom of the climb ,this added a whole new aspect to the way you approached each hill or rock face .



On this section we had to do our only recovery even though the person being recovered didn't seem to keen on being winched out by his boss and on the other hand it was so good to see the enthusiasm of his boss who I believe had the winch hook in place on the Triton before the driver had even said he was stuck.. **Got to love bragging rights.**

It was also good to see the Club president offer his jacket as a winch road dampener not sure Terri dropping it in the dirt 3 times was something he planned on.



After stopping for dinner and on the top of a nice rocky outcrop we headed further East to a flat muddy section. The day trippers from a couple of weeks before had also visited this same spot and one of the club members had to wash the dust out from the inside of his car (so the story goes).

Well for those there that night watching Terri in her Patrol stalk the mud puddle in question like a little kid watching a bag of lollies on bench top was almost to much to handle ,she would drive up to it , then drive around it then drive next to it going should I, should I .

When Paul finally said go for it Terri she was in attack mode and in she went and ploughed her way out the other side. Cheers from the crowd who has been egging her on for the past 30 mins.

This opened the door and soon there was a Triton and Land Cruiser splashing their way through what could only be described as a stinky sloppy mess. Well done to all who gave it ago and glad it's you cleaning the car in the morning.

From here we endured the corrugations that West Talbot Road has to offer and stopped just before the black top to air up ready for the trip home.

Thanks for a great night and looking forward to the next night challenge.

Stephen Braddow

