



## OUT AND ABOUT 4x4 CLUB



### Trip Report – Ningham Station Easter Long Weekend 2016

Nancy & Shayne

WHAT A GREAT WEEKEND!!!!!!

Most of us gathered at Gingers Roadhouse on Good Friday where we were on the road by 7am. The group included Paul & Terri with their visitor Jessica, Kimmy & Tristan with visitors Nikita & Cameron, Mike & Clare, Doug & Wynona, Shayne & Nancy and Richard and Jemi and the two boys joined us in Wubin. After some refreshments at Wubin we headed off.

Straight after departing from Wubin the Trip leader (Paul) went the wrong way and was soon informed of this, so convoy waited for them to turn around, along with Shayne and Nancy (they didn't know they were just following).

We soon came to Ningham Station. Once locating farmer (Don) we agreed to park around the back near the donga's (which turned out to be a good choice) as Don had informed us that there was a storm approaching and they are predicting rain. Once we made camp we decided to head up Mount Singleton for a look before the rain.

From up there we could see the storms around us, so we decided to head back to settle in before the rains hit us. On the way we collected firewood. We were not long back when a strong dust storm hit us, this was followed by the rain storm. Once the storm eased we found quite a bit of damaged was done to some tents and a set of solar panels.

Don the farmer came around to check on us and said that due to the situation we could use the donga's for those whose tents were damaged, and also we were welcome to use the kitchen. We soon moved in. Doug and Wynona had found all their gear was soaking wet so they decided they would return home.





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Tristan had discovered that somewhere he had lost his wedding ring also he had lost his brakes and power steering.

That night there was card games to play and time to talk about the day. Saturday morning found still more rain and wind. Don(farmer) came over and informed us there was a RED WEATHER ALERT. Wubin was blocked in due to the roads flooding and We are stuck there.

The rivers on either side of the farm house that were dry only the day before when we arrived were now flooded and running fast, there were also big puddles of water everywhere.

Dons extended family got stuck on the other side of the now raging river, and after many ways of looking at how to cross over, they did manage. Don even got the tractor out to pull the cars over but unfortunately that got stuck in mud.

The family had hot showers and we gave them some food, dry clothing and blankets, (there was quite a few of them -at least 30) while they waited for the water to subside. Once the waters had subsided the all headed off home.

Richard worked on Tristan's vehicle but with the roads flooded they had no way of getting the fluid required. Tristan and Kim stayed at camp for the day. (later in the day Richard and Tristan checked the sheds for Brake fluid and found both brake and steering fluid, after borrowing some fluid they were able to fix Tristen brakes and power steering).

Once the river subsided a little Richard, Shayne & Tristan went off to help Don get the tractor unstuck out of the river. They put a battery into the tractor behind the shed and Richard drove it down to the river. They hooked it up with wire cable (tractor idea of snatch strap) to the other tractor and after a few attempts they got it out. Happy farmer!

We decided to go for a drive and only got 10km along the track and decided it was too mushy with big long puddles, so we turned around and came back.

A few of us kept going back up to Mt Singleton to find another track, but didn't find it but stopped where we had picked up firewood the previous day to look for Tristan's ring. It wasn't found there but on the way back Mike and Clare spotted something on the side of the road and after investigating it was Tristan's ring and fishing wire.

Sunday we woke to no rain. Issac and Deno had a great time with an Easter egg hunt and indulging in Easter eggs.





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After breaky we went off for a drive. There was still a lot of water around so we were careful. We found Coonigal Well and after coming to difficult spot turned around and went back to a different track. After long puddles we decided to go right to follow a track.

This track turned into a fence line which we followed. It wasn't on the GPS's.

As we went along there was a lot of bogging and retrieving, Shayne says he got bogged at least 4 times. The retrieving skills got a good work out. Thank you for all for help. Shayne went sideways many times and collected the fence once. Luckily not much damage.

On one of the retrieval's Paul's winch didn't seem to retract properly so after pulling it out to re-align it, it was discovered that the bolt that holds it in had come out. Paul said it was a good excuse to get a rope winch. We all agreed. We stopped for lunch and decided we didn't want to go back the way we came, so after lunch we carried on following the fence line. But we were still not sure where we were.

We came across Joe & Theresa, who said their vehicle was bog down the track, so we gave them a lift to their vehicle. We discovered we were close to Barley Well but looking wasn't an option. We found Joe's vehicle and Richard volunteered to use his vehicle to pull them out, as they were a fare way off the track.

Once they were freed we headed back to camp for drinks and talk of our day.

Monday morning still no rain so we packed up and headed home and after a stop at Wubin (someone mentioned fisherman's basket) Shayne and Nancy said goodbyes.

Richard and Jemi headed off at their turn off and everyone else got thinking about how much the vehicles needed cleaning.

Great weekend.

Thanks to everyone we had a great time.

