



Something for Everyone

Date: 11th August 2018

Trip Leaders: Kerry and Steve

Participants: Chris and Robyn, Paul and Alex (tail end)

At 8:45am a group of members met outside Kerry's Yard Art and Vintage Items, no relation to our Prez as far as I am aware. Alex had a dig through a table of old rusty tools then we ventured inside to find a shop full of old rusty tools. Looked a bit like your Grandads old tool shed that would have been full of his Grandads old tools. Then we ventured next door to the Country Living Unique Gifts Shop which was a slightly more up market junk shop than the one next door with some interesting relics and art work.



After that we all made our way back to our vehicles and headed out of the car park turning right on to Gt Eastern Hwy then immediately right into Cole Rd. Wasn't long before the bitumen turned into dirt and a few puddles started to appear. A few k's later we turned on to another dirt road and eventually came across the course that Kerry described in her email. We made our way up a rutted hill, up over the top then twisted our way back down that finished in a very slippery muddy puddle and a

little further up the road were two quite deep and large puddles. We made our way back to the entrance of the same track where those that had passengers switched drivers so that everyone could enjoy the course. Once we got back around to the slippery puddle again Kerry made a point of asking me if I had my camera running of which I replied "yes". Upon approach to the two very large puddles her right foot went down and she proceeded to water the forest with the spray from the puddles. We then made our way to a clearing in the forest just off Oak Gorge Rd where we enjoyed a bit of morning tea.



After morning tea, we turned right back onto Oak Gorge Road and headed up the road and wended our way through the bush until we came across the rock that we were invited to attempt to climb. Kerry had a go and made it up a little bit of the way before sliding sideways and stopping. She tried again, and again, and again and again until eventually, we came to the conclusion, she wasn't going to get up it as it was way too slippery. Chris was the next one to give it ago and he tried, and tried again, and again, and again and even with both diff locks in he couldn't get any further so we decided that the rock had defeated us.

We then made our way along a few more dirt roads traveling through where the fire had gone through last year until we came across the most challenging track of the day. It was time to hit low range first gear and make our way down this deeply rutted track until we came to a stop. Steve wanted to get out and have a quick look as there were some very deep ruts and large rocks on the track and the challenge just get very interesting. Kerry announced over the radio that "it should be fine"

and they started to make their way further down until Steve got a bit stuck in a hole. Chris and I got out to take a look and guide him through but unfortunately the front wheel slipped into a deep hole and the back right wheel lifted off the ground about ten metres, well it was more like a metre but probably felt like ten to Steve and Kerry.



After guiding them out of the hole and a bit of weight redistribution, my 85kg standing on the side step, the wheel came back down and Steve made his way down to the bottom of the hill. We all now knew what line not to take and made it down the bottom without further incident. Track of the day this one and was very tempted to turn around and go back up it but maybe save that for another day.

After a bit more of a drive around we popped out of the forest just East of Sawyers Valley onto Gt Eastern Hwy and made our way to Lions Mill Winery where a bit of wine tasting was done. Well a fair bit of wine tasting was done until everybody was satisfied what wine they were going to purchase. Once all purchases were finished we made our way out of the car park and down the road into Mt Helena where we stopped at Pioneer Park for a well-deserved lunch break.



Once lunch was over it was starting to get a bit late and people in the group had some things they needed to do so we ended the trip there. Steve and Kerry decided they would still head to the nursery for a bit of a look and the rest of us headed off home.

Thank you to everybody that participated it was a great day out and looking forward to the next Out and About adventure.

Report by Paul Gunton.