



Windy Harbour Out and About 4x4 Club Camping Trip - New Year's Eve

29th December 2018 to 7th January 2019.

Report By Jan Eldridge

Woody, Mike and Clare, Steve and Kerry, Andrew and Hearther plus Terry and myself met up at Donnybrook for morning coffee fix, then the convoy proceeded to Northcliffe to meet up with Frank and Rosa, Doug and Wynona, Alex and Maria. Some members adjourned to the pub for lunch, others joined them for a drink. Kerry and Sue had contacted us to let us know they were about 40mins away, so we all enjoyed relaxing in the shade waiting for them before heading to the camp ground at Windy Harbour.

We located our designated camp site and set up with a lot of moving and adjusting as we had five caravans, two camper trailers and two tents and a roof top tent, but we all managed to settle in. John, the caretaker of the camp brought us a camp fire pit. Great to have a fire to sit around in the evening with lots of chitter and chatter and "of course" numerous fines.



In Chris's absence Terry became fines master. Chris arrived on New Year's Day, so he then took over fine master but on one trip designated Hertha to be fine master. For the whole trip the money for the RFDS came to over \$60.



One morning some members drove to Cathedral Rock while others walked along the beach and meet them at the base of the rock.



Click for video of Woody crossing the Gardner River



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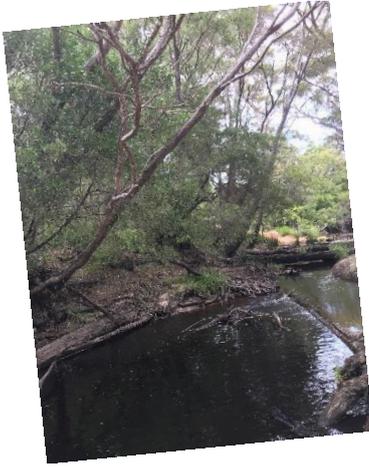
Some 4x4 driving was undertaken along the beach to the Gardner River, some went across but discovered that the sand dunes went right to the water so that put a stop to further sand driving. Another trip was a long day trip to Crystal Springs then on to the Broke Inlet, which is where we were not able to get to last trip as the track was closed due to flooding.



Those that went on the trip enjoyed the challenge, no hiccups but views were magnificent, and the ocean rough and spectacular. Around the fire that evening those who did not go on the trip got to hear about it, but it was an early night as they left at 9am and did not get back till after 5pm.



Another trip we tried to find Lake Florence which is north of Windy Harbour, however the track was very narrow and boggy so was given a miss. Still we continued along Chesapeake Track to the Gardner River crossing, not a problem getting across the stony river bed to a sheltered spot for morning tea. The track continued through the Gardner State Forrest, beautiful drive into Northcliffe.



Northcliffe Op Shop enjoyed our visit as most of us ladies and a couple of the guys did buy a FEW items. We then headed to Pemberton 20kms away for lunch at the Bakery.



Kerry introduced some of the members to Geocaching. This proved to be a fun way to see some of the local sights with a treasure-hunt style challenge, keeping them busy for hours.



New Year's Day was spent at camp and Terry introduced a new game "Dice" you had to play with 5 x 20c. It has four dice with a L, R, C, K on each side L for left, R for right, C for centre the money pot, and K for keep. Each player throws the dice, which ever shows up they put a 20c to the person L or R of them, K they keep their 20c, C they put 20c in the money pot. Each player has a turn throwing the dice and even if you run out of 20c you are still in the game as the person next to you may have to give you back a 20c. The game ends when one person has either one or two 20c left, they then must throw either one or two C to take the money pot. Woody won the first game and donated the winnings to the RFDS funds. The game caused lots of hurrays and arrhs whichever way your money was going. It was played several times and each time the winner donated the winnings to RFDS. Mexican Dominoes also got members' brains on the go. Even Bocci games were played.

The New Year's Eve Communal Dinner was a great success, the beef and lamb cooked on Woody's big hooded bbq and members provided the vegies, desserts. Once the dishes were out of the way we sat around the fire with Rosa's real thinking game "What will you bring to the Party". Some members got the concept of the game early but others took till the end to discover the concept, but fun was had by all and it kept us going till midnight – so we all saw 2018 out and 2019 in.



There were pancakes for breakfast on one of the mornings, skilfully prepared and cooked by Mr Leddin.



One of the afternoons highlights of Windy Harbour is the walk to the Ice Cream Van, he is there nearly every day and always has a queue of people waiting. A tub of soft serve with different toppings and nuts, or cones with chocolate and flakes on top – YumYum - his vans number plate.

A great week away with excellent company, some good 4x4 driving, cooler weather although the nights did get very chilly, only one really windy day. Fish were not biting so the fishing rods stayed locked away!!!!!! Lots of little birds flying around – bright blue male Fairy Wrens and paler fawny female Fairy Wrens.

