



## OUT AND ABOUT 4X4 CLUB

TRIP: Gnangara Pines Night Nav **Day Time** Run

Date: 28 November 2020

Trip Leader: Woody

Report: By Hertha

Participants:

- Mike and Clare
- Chris and Robin
- Damian and Karen
- David and Margo
- Andrew and Hertha (Tail End Charlie)

Arriving at the 4x4 meeting area off Gnangara Road, we spent a bit of time chatting and after airing down we were on our way by 9 am.

The sand was very soft, but unlike on the night run, nobody got bogged on the section just after the first sharp left-hand turn. Generally, we followed Woody without stopping to check or answer the questions on his Night Navigation Directions Sheet.

It went something like this - The number on the Tower ??, got that, turn left, straight on, turn right, turn left, straight on, what was the object on the right ??, straight on, what was the colour of the bike ??, can't remember, what happened to the sign on the right? Got that – it was full of bullet holes!!

So, in a shootout don't ever think your safe behind a car door like you see on TV.

Woody advised that there had been a clean-up done since the night trip (mainly old car bodies) so some of the questions and clues were no longer relevant.

The numbered poles on the left were still there but the upturned wreck with a drink can wedged into the steering arm was gone.

We came to a nice sand bowl where Chris had a play in Robin's new Suzuki, got into difficulty but got himself out. No one else seemed to want to have a play so we watched another group having fun in the bowl's soft sand. One got bogged and Chris in his Prado came to their rescue.



So we headed off again - more left, right, left, straight on. So simple when you can see where you are actually going.

The symbol painted on the concrete rock was of course a skull and cross bones. We did not have any problems getting to this point on the night trip so all good so far. We turned here onto what was basically a narrow off-road bike trail track. Soft sand, pin striping, bouncing, sharp turns and more pin striping was the order of the day. Off the bike track, straight over the intersection and crossroad so still all good.





It was at this point during the night trip, after about 16 kms, that things went wrong for us. Veer right, follow the blue markers the directions said. What blue markers? – where are they? On the night trip we drove up and down several tracks to no avail. As the driver and navigator were

by then barely talking to each other it was decided that it might now be a good time to call it quits and head back to the starting point and wait for the poor lost souls who were still persisting out there. Note: Some of the souls were not lost and managed to complete the course admirably.

So, what a difference it was to do this trip in daylight with the added bonus of having a trip leader to show us the way.

The last 4kms of the trip was straight forward. There was a nice avenue of gum trees which was unusual in the middle of a pine plantation. We were disgusted to see all the rubbish dumped throughout the area, the worst being asbestos, some wrapped in plastic, some not.

The trip was approximately 20 kms long and after arriving back at the start point, we aired up, did a bit more socializing and were on our way by about 11.15, a bit different in time to the night trip.

Thanks Woody – an enjoyable little trip and good to see where we went wrong at night.

Also, lots of brownie points to Chris for relocating the Bobtail from the track into the bush where the little guy would have been much happier. Thanks Chris.