



Windy Harbour Out and About 4x4 Club Camping Trip

27th December 2020 to 3rd January 2021.

Report By Kerry Gillies

On the day after Boxing Day 2020, Woody, Mike and Clare, Steve and Kerry, Andrew and Hertha, Alex and Maria, Frank, Chris R, Karen and Damian, and Mark Wheeler met Terry and Jan at about midday in Northcliffe in the car park opposite the café, which was a handy place to grab a lunch if we hadn't already taken care of that.

After a convoy trip out to Windy Harbour we located our designated camp site and set about fitting in to an area that was probably too small, but that meant we were camped close to each other. Not far to walk. So, with a lot of moving and adjusting we managed to fit five caravans, three camper trailers and a tent into the area.



The big attraction this year was the erection of Chris's new Camper Trailer. It was a magical mystery tour which culminated in a semblance of bondage with Jan attempting to tie her forearms into the fittings. I guess you had to be there.



Chris became the self-appointed fines master and did extremely well for the RFDS. For the whole trip the money for the RFDS came to \$95.

Our first day trip was along the Summertime Track, a long winding drive from the black top to the beach through the wilds of the south west bush. We made it through and successfully accessed the beach. Driving along the beach was a joy with our tyre pressures down nice and low the 4x4's ploughed through the sand with ease...



Until... someone got bogged. Thank you, Andrew, for the entertainment and the exercise. It is always fun to help recover someone from a bogging. We drove along the sand up the beach towards the Doggerup Creek. Unfortunately, it was too deep to cross this year, so the convoy headed inland on the nearby track which came out just by the entrance to the town. Again, it was windy on the beach, and getting out of the car was unpleasant for some.



New Year's Day was spent at camp and Terry and Jan re-introduced the game "Dice" where each person paid a dollar to participate and was given five bottle tops, gracefully gathered by Jan. The game uses four dice with an L, R, C, K on each side L for left, R for right, C for centre the money/bottle top pot, and K for keep. Each player throws the dice, whatever they roll, they put a bottle top to the person L or R of them, K they keep their bottle top, C they put one in the money pot. Each player has a turn throwing the dice and even if you run out of bottle tops you are still in the game as the person next to you may have to give you back a bottle top. The game ends when one person has either one or two bottle tops left, they then must throw either one or two C to take the money pot. The game was played several times and each time the winner donated the winnings to RFDS.



The New Year's Eve Communal Dinner was a great success, the meat was cooked on Chris's bbq and members provided the vegies and desserts. It was all lined up on tables outside the Leddin Caravan on tables. An amazing buffet for a wonderful meal. Unfortunately, the wind was just a bit too strong for the lovely decorations that Maria had organised. The thought was a good one. Maybe next year. Once the dishes were out of the way we sat around and played Rosa's

Real Thinking game “What will you bring to the Party?”. Most members got the concept of the game early but others took a while to discover the concept, fun was had by all and it kept most of us going till midnight. Most of us saw 2020 out and 2021 in.



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

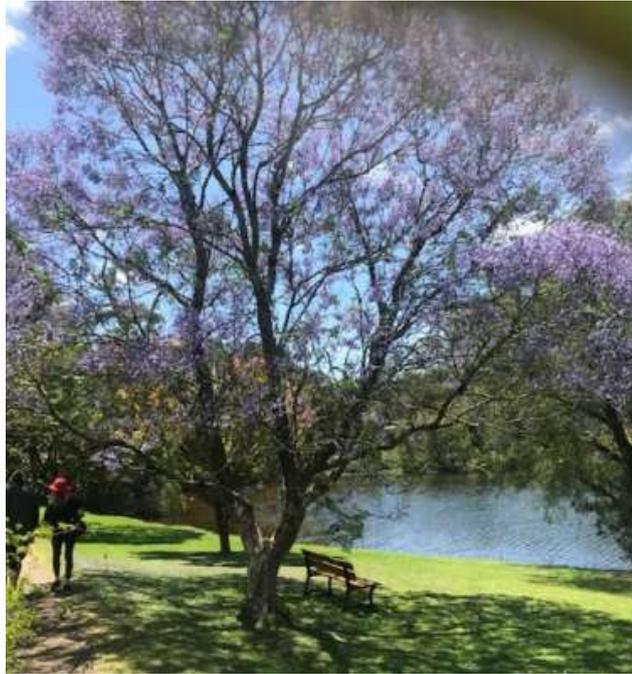


One of the afternoons highlights of Windy Harbour is the daily walk to the Ice Cream Van, the van is there nearly every day and always has a queue of people waiting. A tub of soft serve with different toppings and nuts, or cones with chocolate and flakes on top. He certainly lives up to the name on his number plate “Yummyum”

There were lots of little birds flying around – bright blue male Fairy Wrens and paler fawny female Fairy Wrens. There were also lots of New Holland Honeyeaters and the occasional Wattle Bird. There were regular visits from the local indigenous animals too.



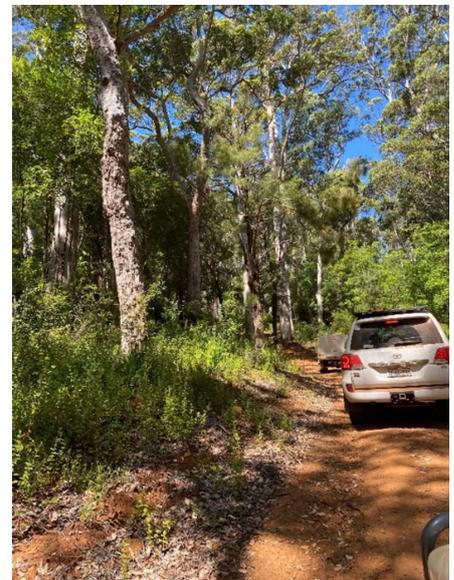
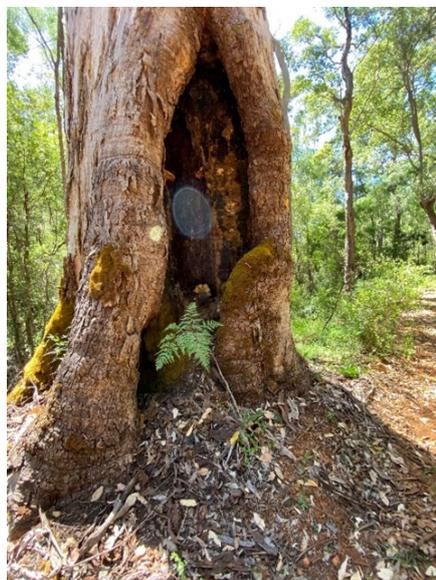
On the Saturday before we left, we had a day trip to Pemberton to the Lavender and Berry farm. It was an indulgent morning tea/lunch visit with beautiful scenery and except for the incessant wind it was a beautiful day.



Our drive home included another opportunity to shift into 4WD. Terry lead us through the Yeagarup Forest off the Vasse H'way and out on to the Pemberton-Northcliffe rd. It was a journey through the tall, majestic trees and the dappled light gave it all a mystical hue.



Terry found us a river crossing that actually had water in it. It had a steep incline at it's exit and 4WD was indeed useful at this point. We stopped to examine a spectacular tree on the roadside, and we took a track down to a superb riverside camping spot. The track in was quite steep and 4WD had to be employed to get up the road again.





A great time was had by all and at least one couple hardened their resolve to upgrade, in the near future, to the luxury of a caravan rather than a camper. Chris was happy with his new camper and continued to discover new and interesting features each day.

0000 "Camping – because therapy is expensive." 0000