



## MECKERING FARM TRIP

**Saturday June 5th to Monday June 7<sup>th</sup>**

Participants - Kerry and Steve (Trip Leaders)  
Terry and Jan  
Woody  
Paul  
Les and Carol  
Roger and Jo  
Frank  
Steve King (and visitor Mat Brush)  
Hertha and Andrew

Trip Reporter – Andrew

Hertha and I arrived at the farm around 12.30pm on Friday and surprise, surprise, there was no rain or wind as on previous visits. We were soon joined by Kerry and Steve, Terry and Jan, Woody, Paul and Les and Carol.

We all spent Friday afternoon and evening relaxing and socialising with a few drinks around a beautiful fire. The evening included a couple of games of Dice and Mexican Dominoes. Steve was rather exited after winning two games of Dice in a row. The games winnings were generously donated for the RFDS collection.





Neville, the Farm owner, dropped off a couple of ladders and a plank during the afternoon. These were to assist us in our endeavours to bird-proof the shed, but more on that later.

Saturday morning was quite chilly but most of us were up early and ready for our day's busy bee activities. The exceptions were Terry and Jan who unusually had slept in, as normally they are the first up and about – certainly, a fineable offence.

The main objective for the day was to clean up bird droppings and feathers from inside the shed and fix bird-proofing around the eaves. This involved a lot of scraping, raking, sweeping and shovelling with great assistance from Paul who had brought along his motorised blower. The couple of Pigeon eggs we found were offered around for anyone wanting a late breakfast but there were no takers. We also did a big clean up on the verandah and around the site. The girls did not get a chance to do much so sat around gossiping and offering advice.

Terry and I proceeded to fix gutter guard around the eaves, climbing on the ladders and plank supplied by Neville, and with able assistance from the other guys mainly picking up dropped screws and supervising!! We hope the bird proofing will do the job but success or otherwise will not be known until our next visit.



The toilet that we fitted a new cistern to last trip is still working fantastically well and the tubs we reattached to the wall are still in place.

Roger and Jo arrived on Saturday, this being their first outing in their new Camper. A few setup hiccups ensued, including cold showers, but eventually all was sorted.

Some of the girls visited the local Quilting Workshop on Saturday afternoon.

We had a great communal meal on Saturday evening and were joined by past members Ian and Nola from Toodyay. The recently acquired butane cookers were put to good use doing the roasts and baked vegies.

Following the meal, we all enjoyed some frivolity, drinking, joking and telling of tall tales while sitting around the wonderful fire, that was being stoked admirably by Les.

Another chilly morning on Sunday and the butane cookers were again put to good use on doing bacon and egg breakfasts.

Steve King, his friend Mat, and Frank arrived on Sunday morning ready for a day's outing. Kerry and Steve led us on a 4WD trip around part of the Farm, including driving up our favourite rock to admire the vista of surrounding farmland and green crops. All except one, who shall remain nameless, ventured up and over the rock without difficulty. He also kept us waiting while he caught up – definitely a fine. We had been looking forward to a little bit of mud but even though the Farm has had adequate rainfall there were no muddy patches to be found.





Back to camp for a late lunch and then some more Dice and Mexican Domino games. Frank and Steve King left to go home on Sunday afternoon. Some of us watched part of the Eagles defeating Carlton AFL game. Sunday evening around the fire included some quiz questions from Paul and Jo and then Hertha proceeded to rip some dollars off us in fines for the RFDS collection.

Again, very cold on Monday morning and after a leisurely breakfast most packed up and headed home. Woody, Terry and Jan, Hertha and I headed into Meckering and had coffee and a feed of nice crispy chips at the Shell Roadhouse.

Tuesday morning – Terry, Jan and Woody were extending their trip and departed to head North into warmer pastures. Hertha and I returned to Perth.

Thank you Kerry and Steve for leading us on another very enjoyable trip.

**Observations from the weekend:**

Do not wear Westrac beanies or Jackets when Jo is around. She works for Komatsu. Terry and Jan seemed happy after erecting and using their new KickAss Shower Tent. Paul copped a bit of flack because of his noisy Blower and Generator (to run his Microwave??) After seeing the gear that Paul carries in his Van, he may start to be called “Gadget Man”. A first – Paul incinerating years of accumulated old documents in a fire pit. Les to be complimented on his firewood gathering. The pile just kept getting bigger and bigger.

Les did a sterling job keeping the campfire stoked. Be careful Mike – you may lose your job as Club Pyrotechnic.

Senior's moments – Frank, Les and Carol forgot their chairs when returning home.

Overall, another great weekend.

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