



Dwellingup Weekend Trip Report

Peel 4x4 Club



Saturday 22nd March 2025

The Dwellingup Trip started off as a weekend trip, however due to other commitments, I was the only one staying the weekend in Dwellingup.

Getting to the Nanga Brook Camp Ground on the Friday after work, we set up camp, and got dinner sorted. It was a lovely clear night, with a great view of the stars.

The next morning, those joining us on the day trip to the Captain Fawcett Track & Fireline Trail, all met up at the camp site.

With the camp site being only a couple of kilometres from the start of the Captain Fawcett Track, we decided to air down at camp.

Followed by a quick trip briefing, we were on our way; although it wasn't long before it was realised that it was actually a Pajero Trip being led by Landcruiser!!!

It wasn't long before we reached the fun section of the track – for those who know, yes, where I drowned the Ranger. The famous mudhole was however now almost completely dry, so I decided to make my way through it. Although dry, it was still very tight, and a very steep sideways angle. I had to keep my front wheels turned just to keep the front guards off the bank.

We went down a couple of the side tracks which were found to be slightly overgrown. One of them had a zipline, but no-one volunteered to try it out.

Followed by a spot of morning tea, we made our way back up the last of the side tracks. Straddling the rut seemed to be the best approach – even for the landcruiser which made it up without the centre diff locked in 😊

We then made it to the end of the Captain Fawcett Track, where we decided to start the Fireline Trail, and have lunch along the river. Once at the start of the Fireline Trail however, we were greeted with a dirty (but very clean & new) sign – Attention. ROAD CLOSED, due to dangerous road conditions.

Although many would see this as a challenge, I played the responsible card, and we went back to the bridge to have reassess, and have some lunch.

Checking some maps, I found a section where the Captain Fawcett Track & Fireline Trail met up, and decided to check that out. The pre-determined plan with the group was that if this did not work, we would do the Captain Fawcett Track in reverse. Unfortunately, we could not find this elusive track, so continued with the plan.

It was quite strange doing the track in reverse, as everything just seemed so different.

It was also a good eye opener as to the different skill levels of many drivers. We had to pull over for a group of approximately 9 vehicles to get through a section of the track. This section was somewhere that took us 30 seconds each to navigate earlier in the day; however due to differing levels of experience, took each of the inexperienced drivers minutes to get through.



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Once we got to the end / start of the track, everyone aired up their tyres, and we had we had a trip debrief.

As many of you know, I like to finish my trips at somewhere exciting – you know, a pub, brewery, etc... Unfortunately, being later in the day, everyone had to get back home, and do homely things. As we were still camping, I decided to call into the Wine Tree Cidery in Dwellingup, and have a sneaky beer. There were quite a few emus around, and you could actually be forgiven for thinking it was an emu breeding facility. There were emus everywhere – young and old.

The following morning, on the way home, we stopped off at the Marrinup Prisoner of War Camp (No. 18). There is some very interesting history here, and is somewhere I would recommend everyone to come and check out.

The bit I find most amusing though, is the prisoners that would escape, only to be found at the Dwellingup pub having a beer.

Thanks to those that joined me on this trip, and I look forward to the next one.



Start of the Captain Fawcett Track

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Pajero at home in the ruts



The infamous mud hole

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The cruiser getting ready for the drop in



Cool pic 😊

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This is the area that showed the differing levels of experience. We did it well.



Jacob exiting the morning tea area

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The end of the Captain Fawcett Track



That sign you don't want to see

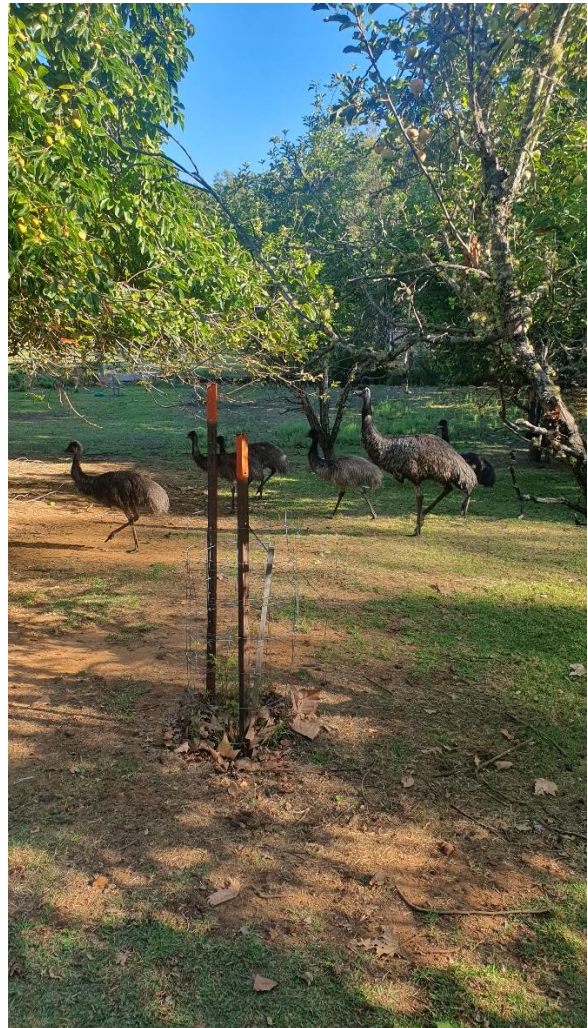


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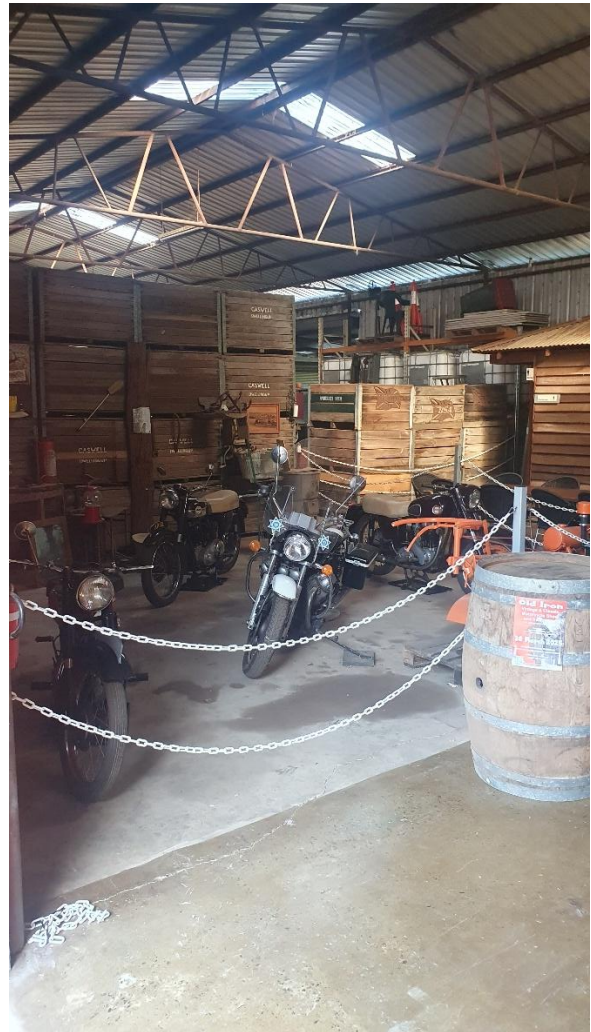
The view at Wine Tree Cidery



Emus at Wine Tree Cidery



(No words needed 😊)



Some of the relics at Wine Tree Cidery



Beautiful flowers at the Nanga Brook Camp
Ground



Beautiful flowers at the Nanga Brook Camp
Ground



Entrance to the Marrinup No.16 POW Camp