

Australia Day Trip To Windy Harbour

On the Friday while most of us were traveling down to Windy Harbour, the few members that arrived the day before went for a drive to some tracks and onto the beach where a few recoveries were needed apparently.

At the trip briefing on Saturday I warned everyone that I was prone to wrong turns, the newer members thought I was joking until I missed the first turn off to Chesapeake Road but it was the only one for the day (I even surprised myself). Our first stop was at the start of the Coodamurrup Track where we aired down and had morning tea, continuing on to Coodamurrup (Moore's) Hut. Surprisingly for a long weekend there were only a couple of campers and no one was using the hut. Soon we were on our way again to West Cliff Head through the sandy dune tracks arriving on the beach in time for lunch. The beach was firm making the short distance to the exit track quite easy but we had to do a recovery half way up. The rest of the trip back to camp was uneventful arriving late afternoon for beer o'clock.

Sunday's weather gave us a persistent drizzle for most of the morning just enough to be annoying. As I decided not to go on the trip Bucko kindly volunteered to lead it, I think he may have had enough dust as Tail End Charley on the previous day. Instead I went on a scenic tour on the bitumen to Point D'entecastreux to get some photos of the coast.

The trip for today was supposed to be a couple of hour return to the mouth of the Gardner river via the dune tracks. After about 3 hours the returning crew had tales of recoveries and tides chasing cars up the beach. Fortunately there were no injuries or significant damage. In the afternoon a few members went for a hike up Mount Chudalup and got back in time for the BBQ dinner.

The Australia Day dinner started with missing out on the camp kitchen so alternative plans kicked in, luckily the rain had stopped so we could set up under the trees. We were all spoilt with a variety of meats and salads with some very delicious deserts for good measure. The conversation was random and light hearted until the rain started, putting a dampener on things.

Many thanks to the club for providing the meat, the members for supplying salads and deserts and a special thanks to Steven and Julie for organising the trip and working tirelessly behind the scenes

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