

TRIP REPORT

Newnes 5th & 6th May 2007.

Trip Leader **Steve Passfield**

Participants:	Steve, Jacinta & Oscar Passfield	Pajero
	Jack & Pam Simpson	Pajero
	Roger & Jill Sheath	Patrol
	Roger Pollett	Prado
	Robert & Christina Pollett	Patrol
	Ian & Rhonda McKinley	Rodeo
Visitors	Uwe Reimesch, Leanne, Lisa & Lara	Jeep

Twice in a row this is not good, I suppose I will have to set the alarm earlier so someone else can experience writing the report next time.

The meeting points were varied as some went to Newnes on Friday and others opted for the Saturday Morning. Rhonda and I met the Sheaths, Simpsons and (visitors) opposite the Richmond Air Base at 9.00am. After a quit chat we headed off to meet again at the BP service Station at Kurmond as Jack required fuel and I needed a tape for the video camera. Once in a group we headed for Lithgow which seemed to take forever as we were stuck behind a slow red vehicle most of the way.

Approaching Lithgow we decided to visit the super market for various items including milk, fruit, and beer, once again we regroup and head of towards Newnes happily chatting on the radio. Roger takes the turn off towards Mudgee and suddenly there appears to be smoke coming from underneath Rogers trailer, so over to the side we pull. After taking a look it's decided an inner wheel bearing has collapsed. Uwe just happens to have a spare bearing so Roger with help quickly completes the required repairs and we are on our way again in less than an hour.

It's not Rogers day as he drives straight past the turn off for Newnes. A quick turn around is made and without further incident we make it to the camp area by about 1230pm.

Introductions are completed, camps are erected and lunch is devoured before setting out for a drive (Roger runs over tyre gauge case) to Bale Bone Gap and a couple of look outs then returning to camp by 530pm.

By this time the sun has set and the air is quite chilly so we gathered around the fire the Ladies had lit and enjoyed happy hour while cooking dinner and listening to various stories and yarns. Finally we all retired to bed by 1130pm for a good nights sleep.

People began rising around 7.00am to find a heavy dew had settled and that possums had managed to destroy any items that had been left out overnight.

After breakfast some of the group went for a look at the ruins while others stayed in camp and enjoyed the peace and quite. It is discovered at this time Jacinta is not well it is suspected she has picked up a bug from last nights dinner. After returning from the ruins camps were pulled down and we departed for home after stopping off at the Newnes Hotel for a look and chat with the bloke behind the bar (interesting person).

Most of the group said their goodbyes and headed for Sydney via the black top however the Simpsons, Sheaths and the McKinleys went via Blackfellas Hand Trail and finally airing up at the Zig Zag Railway and departing for home.

Rogers weekend has not improved as it appears he has a bad earth in the wiring on the trailer, it looked like you were following a disco, lights were flashing everywhere.

On behalf of the group I would like to say thank you to Steve for leading his first trip and on all accounts great weekend was had by all.

Trip Reporter

Ian McKinley