

**Trip Report – Day 1 January 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**NSW High Country/Australia Day Weekend**  
**Author: Jen Mason**

**Participants:**

Chris and Mary Keys – Patrol (Trip Leader)  
Ian and Rhonda McKinley - Rodeo  
Pam and Jack Simpson - Pajero  
Roger and Jill Sheath – Patrol  
Colin and Gaby Ellis and family -  
Stan and Noelene Kynoch – Defender  
Ron, Jen and Toby Mason- Patrol  
Leona Wade and Brian - Patrol  
Ian, Luisa, Jordan and Leah Reid

**Micalong Creek near Wee Jasper**

We all met at the designated park in Yass at 11:00 am on Saturday morning of the Australia Day weekend, the sun was shining and we were looking forward to a good weekend. It was nice to see some Australian Flags flying for Australia Day on a few of the cars.

After a briefing from Chris we headed off towards Wee Jasper. Chris and Mary kept us informed as to the changes they could see in the scenery since they were last down here at Easter the year before when there was just bare earth and the stock were starving. The area has certainly responded to some good rain. The drive took us just over an hour before we arrived at the Micalong Creek Reserve camping area where we would spend the night camped right beside the creek.

There were a few campers already set up but there was plenty of room for all of us to camp within an area close to both the creek and the amenities.



The 2 camper trailers set up in what was to become known as "the North Shore", while all those in tents camped along the creek.

After we had all set up the sun was out and it was getting quite hot so most headed for the creek where we sat in the water and chatted for a while.



Some of our group then went walking and the rest of us congregated under a nice big tree with drinks and snacks. Mid afternoon the clouds came over and the thunder started and we had a nice high country storm which was, strangely enough, quite pleasant. As we all huddled under various tarps the conversation turned to where Pam and Jack had decided to pitch their tent which was just downhill from a storm water drain – perhaps not a great spot when it was raining hard. Remember that these people are known as the “Fair Weathers”



At this point people drifted off to cook dinner; the rain continued off and on and in the early evening all those camped in the tents came to visit those on the North Shore. Much talking, many stories and more red wine and other beverages were consumed before all retired to bed with the hope that the rain would stop and we would all dry out before packing up the next morning.

All was good, by morning the sun had come out, there was time to pack up, pick more blackberries and dry out before going on into the National Park to make our way via the Broken Cart Trail to the Blue Water Holes for our next night of camping.

