

Trip Report – Best of Newnes State Forest

20th January 2008

Author: Lachlan Michie

Attendees:

Ian & Jordan Reid with friends Stuart, Shirley, Ashley & Jordan (Prado)

David Ellis, Ayesha Williams, Axle and Bob the dogs (Triton)

Allan Kenny & Val Kenny (Challenger)

Heldley Hall (Challenger)

Ron & Henry Vollema (X-Trail)

Tony, Charmaine, Matthew & Tony Yong (Pathfinder)

Alan Willingale (Pajero)

Lachlan, Bronwyn, James and Elissa Michie (Navara)

Despite reports of possible rain on the forecast, we drove to the Zig Zag railway admiring the views of the Blue Mountains. After airing down, a quick chat and a wave to Thomas the Tank Engine we headed off under Ian's guidance with Alan

Willingale bringing up the tail.



First stop was the common Lost City lookout before heading up Sunnyside Ridge road to it's end for a view of the Wolgan Valley. This track had a fair number of "puddles" after the recent rains that required care and after stopping to check a rutted section before proceeding, we found that they had claimed a couple of number plates.

Next stop was the trig point on Birds Rock Trail where we had lunch. After lunch, some of the party descended from the trig point via a steep rock section while the more cautious drivers came back down the track we had gone up to follow Blackfellows Hand Trail down to Blackfellows Hand

Rock after passing through a magnificent gorge.

After a walk up the hill to inspect Blackfellow's Hand Rock, a few vehicles headed for home while the rest of us went across Wolgan Road and up Moffat's trail to some more lookouts across the Wolgan Valley from the other side. The trail then drops down into an even more spectacular gorge than the one earlier, before the run up Baal Bone Gap through to Ben Bullen to air up.

