

# Baal Bone Gap - 10 May 2009

Trip leader: Glenn & Mitchell Evans - Patrol

Attendees:

Carl & Colleen Bleazard - 80 Series

Alan & Mark Kenny - Challenger

Chris Gribble - Hi-Lux

Dave Sutton - D22 Navara

Hedley Hall - Pajero

Ron, Sam & Henry Vollema - R51 Pathfinder

Tim Greenway - D22 Navara

Andrew, Glenda & Mark Stowell - Landcruiser

A total of eight vehicles gathered in the Zig Zag railway car park on this cool but dry day out. Everyone but Dave in his Hi-lux aired down and around 9:20am Glenn led the party to the Bungleboori camp ground where we joined Carl and Colleen who had camped out at the Brasserie site the night before. Carl took over the lead to take us all down to Lost City for the mandatory photo opportunity and a short walk to these fantastic rock formations.

Back in the cars, we travelled down Blackfellows hand trail. The first few kilometers of the track were smooth enough for Carl to suggest that he should have taken his Commodore instead. Now a Commodore might not have made it all the way to Hand Rock but if the logging continues any further I reckon he'd be right.

At Blackfellows Hand Rock we stopped for drinks and a stretch of the legs, some of us walked up to admire the Aboriginal painted art that has been around far longer than Dulux will ever guarantee their paints.

Glenn then took the lead of his own trip, making a right turn then immediately left for the second part of the trip, Ball Bone Gap.

After about 500 meters we stopped to make sure everyone had engaged 4WD as the next section would be fairly steep. No-one had any problems up the steep section, that included the Hi-lux who was still in 2WD for the start of this section. I think this is due to the flares .

Continuing on we met a party from the Central Coast 4WD club at one of the lookouts, with all those cars the track resembled the M4 Eastbound on a Monday morning.

We set off to take a track to the right which we knew was a dead end, with a few rock steps towards the end maybe a little too high for non-lifted vehicles. Glenn, Carl and Alan did drive on to the end while the rest of us walked the last 30 meters. After another photo opportunity we returned to the main track





down to a small grassed area close to the Gardens of Stone NP, where we had lunch. Although we didn't see any, there must be some massive kangaroos around judging by the size of their excrement.

After lunch we continued towards Ben Bullen, only another 12 kilometers. The track takes a few bends and has some steep sections but nothing too hard. Glenn was upfront clearing the wildlife off the track so he was the only one to see the kangaroos. To our amazement we drove past a lookout area where a small 2WD Toyota was parked. Tourists in rental cars will get anywhere!

At the end of the track we aired up and headed for the pub in Cullen Bullen for a sanitary stop and refreshments, only to find it was closed. We continued on to Maccas instead.

Thanks Glenn for organizing this trip, we all had a great time.

Ron (Ed).

