

The Hunter Range Trip – Saturday 4th to Sunday 5th July

Participants:

Team Leaders - Jack and Pam Simpson
Noelene and Stan Kynoch
Jill and Roger Sheath
Louise, James, Harrison, Ryan and Thomas
Trip Report – Noelene

Saturday 4th -

9am - We met at The Butterfly Farm Wilberforce, so with Jack and Pam's new toy (T Van), we started our trip traveling up the Putty Rd. turning left onto the Hunter Range dirt tracks at Bakers Rd. We drove along the border of the Wollemi National Park and the Putty State Forest, and along the ridges heading to "The Sheepskin Hut" which is a camping ground 57 ks along the top section of the track.



11.35 - We stopped for a tree removal which took 15 minutes, thanks to Jack having his chainsaw, but that was only the beginning..... 15 minutes later we were stopped by a small forest blocking our way. The heavy winds from the previous night had caused a landslide of rocks



and trees, so with lots of consultation on how to tackle this obstruction, we set about the removal. 1 hour of good team work saw us on our way again. Jack earned himself a Scout Award for his chainsaw skills. **1.20** - Stopped for a well earned lunch break. Pam asked Jack, "Where are our chairs?" Jack replied, "I didn't bring them!" Luckily we had spare stools. Then Roger loaned them their chairs as they weren't staying the night. We continued on, coming across another felled tree, which we removed with ease.



3.05 – Arriving at our campsite later than planned, Roger and Jill left and took Jack's chainsaw just in case more pruning had to be done. We set up camp whilst the damp forest air closed in and we warmed ourselves by the fire. Noelene didn't get to finish her tea before we were interrupted by a visitor getting stuck into our curry pot. The possum was a beautiful golden

colour. Everyone went to bed early due to the pruning exercises earlier along the track.

Sunday 5th –

8.45 - With glorious sunny skies, we left camp and traveled through stunning lush green country.

10.30 - Met with Jack and Pam's family at Putty and Commission Rd. and the 2 boys did a quick jump into Grandpop and Grandmas car, because they had chips and chocolates. We proceeded up the Howes Trail into the Yengo National Park via the Yango and Finchely tracks.



Noon - After some kangaroo spotting we stopped at Finchley Trig Lookout for spectacular 360° views and a photo shoot.

1pm - Arrived at

Wollombi Pub for lunch with great atmosphere and beautiful sunshine for the biggest hamburgers on earth. Yummy! Said farewells to all as we were going to take the opportunity to look around the village, then head off to The Central Coast.

A great trip with friends in exceptional weather and the T van performed very well, especially over the numerous woopy doos. Thanks Jack and Pam.