

Capertee Reccie

Exploring some tracks around the Turon River System looking for possible campsites and in the Gardens of Stone/Mt Airlie area. Base camped at the Diggings Campsite.

Participants: Carl and Colleen Bleazard
Ron, Jenny and Toby Mason
Stan and Noelene Kynoch

Trip Report by Noelene

Friday 10th – At 10 am we met Ron, Jenny and Toby at Maccas Richmond and headed off, but at 11am Ron was experiencing the motor overheating. After the third stop Ron and Stan went back to the garage to get some coolant and we were off again. We arrived at the Diggings Campsite at Lochaber Creek which was a nice large flat area.

After setting up camp we had a late lunch and then proceeded to gather firewood and had a nice fire going as there was quite a brisk wind. Toby Ron and Jenny played soccer for a while, and then afterwards Toby was getting quite confused as he was calling Ron Mum and then Jenny Dad.

Carl and Colleen arrived at 4.30 pm after setting up their camp we settled down around the fire and after the beer, wine, whiskey and scotch we were all up dancing and singing around the fire, but was also trying to keep warm as there were icicles forming.

Saturday 11th – The night was freezing and we woke with the tents iced like igloos and the hand basin water had frozen over. The maps came out to discuss our routes for the day when Toby came over and looking at the map asked,





“Where’s the pub?” That’s Rons son for sure!

We checked out the Woolshed Flat camp site, then the Pinnacle Fire Trail loop to Ben Bullen, had lunch at Capertee, then down to cross over the Zig Zag and followed the tracks to find the other end of the loop track. We did a lot of backtracking as most of the tracks were either a dead end, closed gates or private properties.

When we arrived back at camp there was a large group of neighbours with kids that Toby made quick friends with. Ron and Jenny made use of the nice fire to dry off Tobies clothes after he fell in the creek, and Carl feeling a little under the weather dozed by the fire.

Noelene sat up by the fire whilst everyone went to bed, but then later on in the still of the night heard movement close by and upon shining the torch found a dozen pairs of eyes staring in her direction. A small herd of cute black cows has wandered into our camp and came so close to the fire on one side and Noelene on the other.....off course they had woken Stan up munching right outside our tent.

Sunday 12th – Colleen used Rons magic shower tent in the morning and came out with red hair???

We checked out a possible campsite for the future, and then headed off through Wollemi National Park towards Glen Davis and some spectacular landscape where we stopped for lunch and picked mandarins for desert. We entered the Gardens of Stone to try and find the tracks on the map, but after going through 2/3rds of the way had to turn back with yet another locked gate. Ron was disappointed that he couldn’t find the abandoned tramway, but the 4 x 4 driving was fantastic.

Monday 13th – Carl made his morning coffee but the mug wasn’t washed from the night before so his coffee was quite soupy tasting. Luckily the skies were clear when we packed up camp as it rained all the way home.

We were really blessed with the weather holding out with just a few light drizzles on the Saturday night and the week end was relaxing with great laughter and company with friends.

