



TIANJARA PLATEAU – 16 & 17 FEBRUARY 2013

Trip Participants

Glen & Kim Coddington – Trip Leader	Hilux
Michael & Adrienne Roper	Prado
Stefan, Tracy, Kaelan, Summer Fisher	Discovery
Brent, Darcy & Hugh McIntosh	Prado
Marion, Michaela, Michelle, Maks Markov	Patrol

Although the trip officially started on Saturday morning, Stefan and family camped at Milton Thursday and Friday and Glen & Kim joined them on Friday afternoon. Brent and his kids stayed at Nowra as he didn't want to be the last one to arrive and get the trip report duties!

Saturday – we met at the bakery for the mandatory breakfast. Meeting time was 8.30am. Brent arrived at 7am just to be sure. We all gathered around after a delicious breakfast while Brent made his kids watch us all eat pies because he left his credit card at a service station and discussed the trip as there had been a few changes due to track closures. Glen, Kim and Stefan had done some replanning the night before after Glen got a call from the ranger at 10am Friday morning advising that the first part of our trip was closed! Nice notice! At the trip briefing we discussed the standard first aid, safety and allergies. Michaela said she feared leeches.

We headed off down Martins Ridge Rd at Conjola and after a few turns, we made the George Boyd lookout. The walk up was beautiful, walking through lush rainforest and moss covered rocks. The views were great with the fog still rolling around. All back to the cars and a call came over the radio that Marion and Michelle had leeches! Once we dealt with them we started moving again. Then Mick called he had to stop and remove a leech. By this time everyone was getting creeped out and checking their arms, legs etc. We continued on to Tianjara Falls where we had an early lunch and a quick talk about our next leg of the journey. Since our original plan was ruined, we had decided that Monkey Gum fire trail would be good to kill a little time. 4 hours later and after much track walking and guidance from Glen all cars made it through pretty unscathed. Unfortunately Mick's car had an arm wrestle with a tree root and lost, resulting in not one but 3 damaged panels and a loose brush bar. Marion managed to pop out a bumper bar light and drag it most of the track but nothing that a bit of tape and rope didn't fix back at camp.

The track challenged everyone driving it and I know that without Glen's experience and guidance things could have gone bad very quickly so a big thank you to Glen for getting us all through safely.

We finally made it to Yalwal camp area where we set up camp and had a well-earned beer. Michaela and family gathered up some sticks for a fire while the kids were running around having a great time. We were all talking about what a great day it had been and had a quick chat about the drive out on Sunday.

One by one, each family had dinner. Some went to bed early after such a big day and others stayed around the fire. Lots of chat and laughing was being had and we discovered that if we were lost in the bush, Adrienne was our best night navigator – but only if there are stars! Mick had no idea!

Sunday – Up nice and early. Breakfast was cooking in most camp sites while some had to eat muesli. We were due to roll out of camp at 9am. That was to give everyone time to eat, pack etc. Brent started packing at sunrise and after what looked like a garage sale at his camp site, was finally ready to roll at 9.30am! We headed out, down a nice track through Moreton National Park and followed the river along. We eventually came to the road where we aired up. A quick discussion on what we would do and decided to head to Fitzroy Falls. Brent had to leave us at Nowra to pick up his credit card that he left at a service station on the way down but the rest of us detoured towards Kangaroo Valley.

The weather was starting to get a little cooler and the rain started. We arrived at Fitzroy Falls where we decided to do the other track another day. The falls were beautiful and we all said our goodbyes and headed home for a nice hot shower!



A banner for 4SPORT 4WD CENTRE. The logo features the word "4SPORT" in large, bold, blue letters with a red outline, and "4WD CENTRE" in smaller, white letters on a red background below it. To the right of the logo, the contact information is listed: "4/915 Old Northern Rd", "Dural 2158", and "02- 9651 4144". The background of the banner is blue with a grid pattern. On the right side, there is a close-up image of a metal bolt or screw.