

Yadboro Flat Weekend Trip – Fri 5th Sept to Sun 7th Sep 2014

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Participants:

Johnny – Toyota Prado

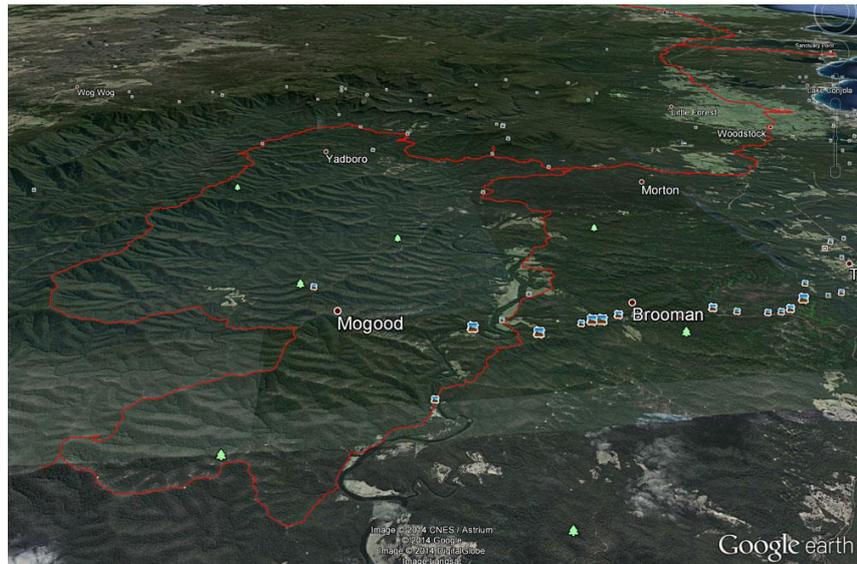
Richard – Toyota Landcruiser

Peter & Heather – Mitsubishi Pajero & Cub Camper Trailer

Planning:

This trip had been postponed from June 2014 due to lack of numbers and most likely the cold weather. The participants that had registered for the trip and spoke to Johnny during the week preceding the trip about where to meet.

In the end Peter and Heather planning to get to Yadboro Flat mid Friday had this plan



curtailed when dreadful weather rolled in. This saw them book into a motel in Milton and they would meet the rest of us in town on Saturday morning. Richard planned to use this excursion as a shakedown trip for a three week journey starting the following Saturday. He planned to travel down to Sussex Inlet after work Friday afternoon to catch up with and stay at a mates place in Sussex as he was unable to make his mates 60th birthday two weeks hence as he would be away on the Bourke Outback Trek. He enjoyed the hospitality of a BBQ, refreshments and a warm bed on this atrocious night and met the others in Milton the following morning.

Johnny noting the bad weather on Friday afternoon decided to stay in Sydney and meet up with us in Milton the next morning.

The Journey:

We all met at Milton at 9.30am on Saturday morning and looked around town by way of walking up the main street and then back down the other. Richard loaded up two bags of firewood for the campfire that evening and we set off with Johnny leading the way. It wasn't long before we were on dirt and we travelled through scenic countryside into the mountains behind Milton. These mountains make up the Great Dividing Range being the backbone of the East Coast of Australia. We continued through Flat Rock State Forest and then into Yadboro State Forest skirting the south side of Morton National Park. Many of the tracks in this area are in the Boiling Billy publication written by Lewis and Savage.



We arrived at the beautiful camp site of Yadboro Flat around lunch time to find the wattle trees in full bloom with their glorious yellow blossoms in flower and which stood out against the vibrant dark green foliage. We set up camp on lush green grass within cooe of the upper reaches of the Clyde River and unloaded our bags of firewood beside an existing fire place.

As it was early we had lunch then headed off on an afternoon trip exploring the area. We travelled a short distance north and found a good position to view Pigeon House Mountain. Richard climbed onto the roof rack of the Landcruiser to get a better photo.



Heading south, south west on fire tails through Mares Hill lookout and forded a couple of small creek crossings. We continued on through Shallow Crossing and then returned to camp



late afternoon. At shallow crossing we were lucky enough to observe an Azure Kingfisher sitting on a post and scouring the fast running water for food. Adorned in its striking colours of an azure back and orange front it glistened in the sunlight.

It was happy hour and as someone always says 'it's happy hour somewhere in the world' so we enjoyed shared plates of snacks and a few refreshments. Everyone

cooked their own dinner before we stoked up the campfire and yarned around the fire with some more refreshments before retiring.

The following morning we were up at a reasonable hour and headed back the way we had travelled in. We made a short stop for morning tea at the main Pigeon House Mountain

viewing area for a closer view of the mountain. We decided the walk would take too long as it was a fairly arduous climb and we wanted to be home at a reasonable hour.

Leaving the parking area we continued on and arrived back in Milton late morning. We decided to split up there for return home as we were travelling different ways and bid each other goodbye. Peter and Richard stopped off at Kangaroo Valley for lunch before continue home on our separate ways.

Another excellent adventure with a great bunch of people and thanks to Johnny for leading it and the camaraderie of all.