

## Trip Report Easter 2004

### Trip Dargo to the Snowy River.

#### Trip Leader: David Sidebottom

#### Attending Vehicles:

- Col and Narelle Brown Nissan
- Clayton Bryant Nissan
- Geoff, Erica Ashley, Brittany, Jemma Smythe Nissan
- Andy Kass and Daven Toyota
- David, Cheryl and Jodie Nissan

The meeting place was Dargo at 10.00hrs Friday morning so some of us departed Thursday night so we would be there on time.

We were packed left Lilydale at 17.30hrs and headed to the Princes Highway via Monbulk and Emerald.

As we went down David hill Rd just opposite the Secondary Collage I felt a problem with the vehicle and the rear wheel went flying past.

Last service I asked FTG to rotate the Tyres when you pay the experts to do the job you get complacent and don't check things like wheel nuts.

Nissan extra care was totally useless, so with the help of two jacks I was able to limp around the Craig's garage, with all the bits he has I was hoping he had 56 No wheel studs and nuts, as a back up I called Rod who grabbed his spare wheel nuts and 2 hour later I was back on the road a bit shaky but I was back on the road.

#### The TRIP

We all met at the Dargo pub, re fuelled and headed north along the Upper Dargo Road to Jones road to a place called Jones.

Here we got off the good road on to a 4x4 track this was fun as it worked its way east then north to meet up with the Mount Bald head Road. We followed this until we met Boomerang Spur Track and started dropping in to the Haunted Stream area. we followed this to the haunted Stream Track until we found a nice camping spot South east of Stirling. The track is similar to the Crooked River track but the stream is smaller.

Not many vehicles and not many camping sites.

## **Saturday.**

We headed to the Omeo Hwy via Dahlstrom Track.

From here it was up to Ensay for Morning tea then catch a couple of Wineries then back in to the bush

We headed up the Nunniong Rd passed where the fires went it was interesting to see the regrowth, after seeing them during the fires I thought that they would never grow again but they look good and healthy with lots of new shoots.

We stopped at Washington the Steam driven Winch that was used to haul timber from the forest then to Moscow villa Hut for lunch.

We then headed north along Escarpment track, to Garron Track and finally Native Cat Track.

Approx. 4 km down this track we found a nice Camping site for the night. It was 1600hrs and we wanted to cook roasts.

## **Sunday.**

We followed Native Cat Track to Benambra road where we split up the Smythe's headed west towards Falls creek, Clayton headed home as he had to work and the Browns had a better offer at Lakes.

So Andy and My crew headed up Macfarlanes towards the Snowy we found the remains of Macfarlanes Hut and the track was very interesting. We arrived at the Little River campsite on the Snowy at 1600hrs, set up and went for a swim as nice the water level was down.

It was interesting to see that all the creeks along Macfarlanes track were dry not a drop of water, the whole area had been devastated by the fires and as you now don't have a tree canopy you can see for miles.

## **Monday.**

Early rise had breakfast and headed home.

In all a good trip if I say so myself.

PS: I got home with all four wheels on.

The replacement studs were Toyota ones, as I now had Toyota nuts I had a **Nissan with BALLS**

Sid