



Black Range Recce trip

4WD CLUB

Dates	Sunday 18 January 2009
Event Organiser	Vince Bosua

Attendances	<p>Vince & Sue Bosua – Toyota Prado Neil & Sharon West – Landcruiser 80 series Clayton Bryant & Vickie Griffith – Holden Rodeo Wylie McGinnes – Toyota Hilux</p> <p>Apologies Brian & Helen Watson – gone to Tamworth Graeme Linaker – gone to help a CFA group exercise Paul & Maxine Burke – gone to run a family function Nigel Jones – gone to take the family caravan to the beach (with family in tow)</p>
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Thanks to all those that responded at short notice for this day trip.

The run was held to locate some likely day training locations in the Toolangi/Murrandindi area and we found some nice spots.

We met at McKenzie Park in Yarra Glen and after stocking up our lunch supplies from the local bakery headed off towards Dixons Creek and Pauls Range at 0930 hrs as planned. Initial thoughts were to take the Old Toolangi Road but at last minute opted for Pauls Range Track, entering from Beaches Lane and Link Track. Good choice this. Link track was dry and dusty having recently been worked on (so it seems). The uphill sections had large areas of what can only be described as deep bull-dust in long runs, interlaced with rocks, but an easy climb. Once on top, turned left onto Pauls Range Track for an easy run into Toolangi.

Next section was Monda Road. Headed up past Mt St Leonards fire tower and had a coffee break about 1 km north of the fire tower track. All was good until I decided to entertain the group by feeling not well, but after clearing breakfast came good (so I thought!). We traveled the length of Monda Road, which is a DSE strategic firebreak and has some great picnic and camping spots along it. There were a number of groups camping this section as we traveled through. Past the Monda Yard where there are some picnic tables onto Block Six Track. We traveled on a bit further up Monda Road until we reached the No Through Road sign where we turned around and returned to Block Six Track. This top end of Monda Road has some good, quiet locations where we could do some training sessions, (more to come on this soon).

Block Six Track and onto Black Range Track where we met a logger heading the other direction not expecting traffic on this track. There is a lot of logging happening in this area at this time. Black Range Track took us to Siberia Extension Track, then Siberia Road and onto Sylvia Creek Road

just north of Mt Tanglefoot car park. Across Sylvia Creek Road to Kalatha Road saw us into an old logging coupe and a locked gate. Back 2 km's had us on Horesyard Creek Road out to Marginal Road and north into Murrandindi and the Murrandindi Scenic Reserve for lunch.



After a restful lunch break we departed the lunch spot at 1430hrs for the run down Sylvia Creek Road to Toolangi. Once at Toolangi, Clayton & Vickie headed down Chum Creek Road for home the back way, Neil and Sharon turned off at Yarra Glen for the run home through Christmas Hills, while Wylie and we headed for Lilydale and Chadstone respectively.

All in all, a pleasant trip with some good but not difficult sections, lots of dust, good weather and good company. Thanks for coming and will try to give more notice next time.

Report by Vince Bosua