

Trip Reports

2010 Coffin Bay Trip

SATURDAY 23RD JAN

Finally the day has come. Coffin Bay here we come. Keryn and Brent, double kayak on the roof racks, Clarentyne and the mystery bag of tricks. Bronte, Norma and a trailer to transport 'SS NORMA' and its (now - one wheeled trailer), and Roy and Bron – yes they made it. A good trip over via Gladstone, Whyalla for lunch, Pt. Neil for a look at Electroplating (mainly gum leaves, sea creatures), Pat and Roy's for afternoon tea at Cummins (just after finding out how much fuel Bronte's tank holds). Met with Barb, Allan and James and Max and Lyn at the shack for Yiros tea. [Keryn]

Max & Lyn left early to deliver a wide load to Lock and when turning into Yorkey's crossing at Port Augusta, a 4WD owner (brand new) panicked when he nearly lost his bull bar cutting the semi short on the corner". Highlight of the day – Arriving at the caravan park to begin our holiday - long waiting. 1st night, ripped the bed sheet! [Max]

SUNDAY 24TH JAN

Took in the magnificent views from the Coffin Bay lookout with Keryn and Brent, who gave us the history of each area and of the Coffin Bay oyster farms. A fabulous way to start our day. Next stop was the Coffin Bay markets where we were able to relax and enjoy some of the locals produce and find a bargain. The remainder of the day took us to the Coffin Bay National Park where we all enjoyed cockling at Gonyah Beach for a few hours with lunch on the beach. Once we were all completely wet and our buckets full, we drove to some of the other lookouts and beaches in the park. Back to the shack for Happy Hour and a combined BBQ tea. A wonderful day was had by all. [Barb]

Allan's trip highlights

- Memory cove at Lincoln National Park
- 4WDing through the Coffin Bay National Park
- Tuna Fishing!!!!
- Driving down 7 Mile Beach
- Cockling on Gonyah Beach
- Shopping in London
- The Company

James' Highlights

- Going out on the boat
- Catching more fish than Mum and Dad!!!!!!
Go James!!
- Getting to know the 4WDing Club better.
- Catching a puffer fish (that thing was just weird)
- Going to the Tunarama

MONDAY 25TH JAN

Highlight – Roy's fishing charter and catching fish which I cleaned – ready for a meal. [Max]

Brother Brenton took Allan out fishing for the day. You should have seen Allan's smile when he got home!!!! I think he is still smiling. He caught a 10 kg Tuna. Bet he hasn't stopped talking about it yet. Brenton showed him how to clean it and we all had a taste of raw tuna (It was surprisingly good). The rest marinated and BBQ'd, also made into mornay with a bit left to take home. Father Roy took Bron, James and Max out whiting fishing. They got a mixture of about 12 fish. Others relaxed, kayaked, slept or talked at the shack. [Keryn]



TUESDAY 26TH JAN

“Well here it is Jan 26th 2010 AUSTRALIA DAY . It all began with BBQ breaky (pancakes, bacon, eggs on toast etc.) After breaky we all headed to the ‘Beachcomber’ (service station and general store) for fuel, nibbles etc, where we experienced the 1st flatty for our trip. After sorting everything, we headed to Coffin Bay National Park for some 4WDing fun. Just before leaving the Black top we came across a permanent resident of the park – a goanna. That got all the cameras clicking. We Arrived at Seven Mile Beach around lunch time and enjoyed the crashing of waves as we ate. It was there that the activities started. We were asked to carve a map of Australia from a cuttle fish bone. Continuing on to ‘Sensation Beach’ where we had the Tuna Toss, but first we had to guess its weight and makeup. Bronwyn was spot on with the weight of the fish, 5.5 kgs and Allan threw it the longest distance of 8 metres. Roy had the last throw where we all saw the contents of the fish!! Nobody guessed that right. Well done.

From there we returned to Black Springs. A few went for a swim while others relaxed on the beach. After that we all returned to ‘Pearly Shell’ for happy hour and evening meal. After tea the fun began – games included making tea cups from biscuits and lollies, blowflies on the hat game and ‘I went to London to Shop’. Everybody had an excellent day. Thank you very much to Keryn and Brent. [Bronte]

It was fantastic to see everyone get into the spirit of Australia Day. We had a ‘sauce gun’, Australia shaped toast, eggs, cheese, and froth on coffee, all double yolker (one triple yolk eggs), aprons, singlets, PJ’s, T-shirts (Where the hell is Boinka), lantern, tiny, large and really huge Australian flags, Australian shaped biscuits and cuttlefish. Pancakes, bacon and juice. Oysters natural and Kilpatrick were enjoyed at happy hour along with ‘misfortune cookies’ Dene and Lea came to visit. [Keryn]

WEDNESDAY 27TH JAN

I slept in and rose around 8am. We all had a leisurely breakfast and lazed at the shack all morning. We had lunch and then decided to go for a drive. We went to Dutton Bay Woolshed Museum then to Farm Beach to see the tractor grave yard. These old tractors have been used for launching and retrieving boats from the beach. The brands and years are extensive. From here we went to Gallipoli Beach and saw where the beach scenes were made for the movie ‘Gallipoli’. Then we did a scenic drive which included an antique shop and Kellidie Bay. Back to the shack to get ready for tea at the Yacht Club. As we were ordering, the power went off. We still got tea and then went back to the shack for a cuppa, boiling the water on the BBQ. An early night with no reading. Power came on about 4 am next morning. [Norma]

Allan, Barbara and James said their goodbyes in the am, even though there was still much to do. We will visit the brumbies next time! Bron got her way, and we visited an Antique shop near Kellidie Bay. Max was interested to find out that the piggery's stock came from his neighbour at Sheoak Log. Bronte was puzzled how he could possibly get his ‘butt in bin’ outside the yacht club – and why you would want to!!! [Keryn]

THURSDAY 28TH JAN

Keryn, Brent and Bron started the day with a walk to the Coffin Bay Look Out via the Oyster walk. We stopped for a look at the local cemetery. Later we gave ‘SS NORMA’ a scrub up then launched her in a fashionly manner. Brent, Keryn and Lyn practised their rowing skills. Roy took Lyn, Keryn, Bron and Max for a leisure ride in the boat around the bay and Kellidie Bay to look at the mansion from another angle. After landing on ski

beach and exploring the point, we headed back to the shack for the very important part of each day - Happy Hour. [Keryn]

FRIDAY 29TH JAN

Highlight – Went to Port Lincoln. Bought fresh vegies from the only fruit and veg shop in Lincoln. Joined the rest of the group, walked the street and had early lunch at a bakery. Whalers Way coastal scenery - could have spent another hour there. Cooked tea in the cabin and loaded up ute with hot meat and vegies. **Birthday cake for Max** was served as sweets. (Mixed fruit, flour and orange juice) [Lyn]



Travelled to Port Lincoln via Winters Hill lookout, saw statue of Mikybe Diva on Lincoln Foreshore, and did a tourist lap around the Marina. Clarentyne accompanied us to Whalers Way. The weather was perfect to spend time viewing the fur seals (sur feals if you say it too quickly!), the blowhole, sinkhole, wind farm, and crevasse. Unfortunately we ran out of time to venture into the caves, but not through lack of trying. Next time! We bought crayfish spiders on the way home for happy hour!! [Keryn]

SATURDAY 30TH JAN

No plans were made for today, but we managed to fill in the day nicely after a sleep in. Clarentyne lazed back in the shade during bacon and egg breakfast. It was time to start packing up after we had been for a walk, launched 'SS NORMA', been out fishing, been to Koppio, been out fishing, going out for tea.....tomorrow. Max and Lyn decided to visit the Koppio Museum. Brent took the kayak out paddling, exploring areas not seen for many years. [Keryn]



Norma, Bron and Keryn went for a long walk along the oyster walk. The wind had by then dropped completely and the water was now like glass, so we phoned Roy to launch the boat one last time. He took Norma and Bron for a leisure trip before going out fishing with Keryn. Sure wish father Roy was with us to show us the good spots! We caught about 7, and lost some gear, but it was fun. At the end of the day, we all went to the Coffin Bay Hotel for tea to help celebrate Roy and Pat's 56th Wedding Anniversary.

SUNDAY 31ST JAN

0600 rise with packing up and cleaning in full swing. We left beautiful Coffin Bay after a wonderful week of perfect weather. The boat was tucked back into the shed at Cummins. Goodbyes to Mum and Dad and a quick visit to see Lea's art work before heading back to Adelaide. No time was wasted on our return trip, arriving home at 7.30 pm. Thank you all so much for the wonderful company and great time we had. [Keryn]