

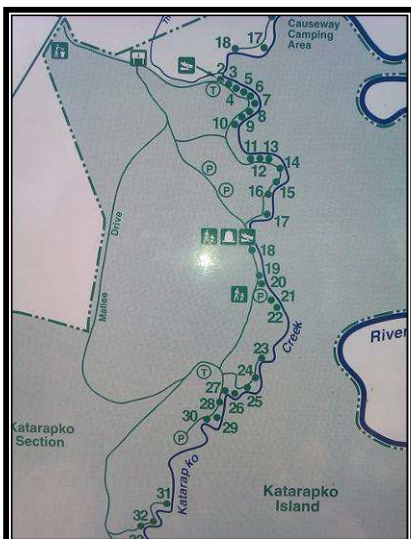
**Kataraptko Creek National Park (25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> February 2012)**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2012

Our meeting place was set for the Caltex car park in Truro, opposite the Bakery, leaving at 7.30am. Our home alarm went off at 6.30am but I rolled over for another ½ hour sleep causing us to arrive late. (Yes, it's always my fault!!) Now everyone knows the penalty for late arrival is writing up the trip report but I thought by courteously phoning Dave, our trip leader, to say we were on our way, would warrant us getting out of it. NO SUCH LUCK! I was busy writing all my notes as we travelled but lost the lot when we arrived home.



So please, any of these people listed below that came on the trip, correct my ½ forgotten stories. You must all agree with just one word:- HOT, HOT, HOT.



Club members that attended were Dave, Michele & Jessica, Stephen, Paul & James, Marie, George, Chris & Julie, Bronte & Norma, Max & Lyn and Pete & Jo arrived about lunch time.



Our 1st stop was at the lovely air conditioned Waikerie Bakery. On our travels Dave was showing and talking about the many different paddocks he and Michele used to work at Woolpunda, between Kingston and Waikerie. Travelled to Berri Estate Winery where we turned off the main highway to the Kataraptko National Park. Can't remember the arrival time we but we all signed in and paid our camp site fees.

Checked out the map showing many lovely camp sites, not realising the area was so big. Dave had a favourite site for the 16 of us already picked out but several other vehicles liked it as well and arrived before we did.



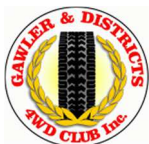
After driving for nearly an hour looking at many other spots, a nice area at site no 24 was chosen for us all to set up to try fishing, yabbing, kayaking, reading a book, relaxing and enjoying the sunshine (although we chased the tree's shade to get out of the sunshine!).

Dave, Chris & Julie often took the kayaks for a paddle both up and down stream. This activity looked a bit exhausting so we

decided to do totally "nothing" which we enjoyed as well. Campsite 24 did not have a toilet close by so we found it was hard to use the shovel in the near concrete dirt. Others found it easier setting up their own toilet tents – very wise.







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The water was very muddy with a strong current flowing. The water level was neither rising nor falling at this stage. I believe we were a little too early to catch lots of yabbies, but a few were caught anyway. Dave showed us his magical powers how to put a yabby to sleep and in the end we let them all go back in the water again hopefully to breed more yabbies.

As I said before it was HOT, HOT, HOT so several braved the muddy, slimy water to cool off. Not me, I kept thinking of mud oozing between the toes or even slipping over which one person did but luckily didn't hurt himself.

If prizes were given out, young James would have received the dedication prize for patience in fishing – I think he caught 19 in total ranging from carp to Callop in various sizes. I can't remember seeing him eat many meals, just waiting for the big fish to latch on.



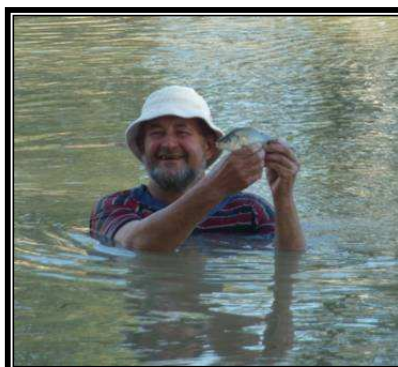
Dave brought a good supply of worms from home while others used shrimp they caught as bait.

Jessica enjoyed her first time fishing and was very proud to catch several fish but dad had to come to the rescue in taking them off the hook.



Another prize could have been won when Jessica caught a catfish. Max found a different way of catching fish ,,,, with his hands!!

Sunday morning most of us were lifeless because of the hot night trying to sleep. The heat got the better of a few who left just before lunch. Chris & Julie were in no hurry enjoying the relaxation and stayed on a little longer.



The rest of the convoy slowly travelled home enjoying the rain from Waikerie to Accommodation Hill to complete a nice weekend.

Thanks everyone for your very pleasant company and from the look of these pictures we still all had a lot of fun in the sun.

***[By Lyn Leske]***