



**Argadells October Long Weekend (29<sup>th</sup> Sep – 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2012)**

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**Trip leaders: Dave, Karen and Angus**

The October Long weekend saw 14 vehicles go to the Argadells for some camping, driving & bush walking. Eight vehicles met at Yacka with Darryll & Joan being the last to arrive & we travelled in convoy to the property.

Some 6 vehicles had made their way there on the Friday or early Saturday morning.

There was an assortment of accommodation from caravans, campers to tents etc. The campsite was at Cockroach Creek and after setting up camp and having lunch it was time to hit the trails.

Karen had told us that yellow footed rock wallabies were on the property, so you can imagine our surprise when we spotted one quite near the gate to the property.



The drives during the afternoon were split into 2 groups as the earlier arrivals had been for a drive that morning. It was also easier to manage 7 cars due to the slow going. A nice leisurely drive saw us go to South Gorge and up around some back tracks. More yellow footed rock wallabies and kangaroos were spotted.

Back to the camp ground for "happy hour," which saw every one relax and talk about their day. Then it was time to prepare the evening meal and gather back around the campfire. Did I forget to mention it was quite cold? The

weather was fine but got colder as the evening wore on, hence a rather large log was put on the fire as a buffer.

The next morning (Sunday) saw people up and about getting breakfast early so that we could be out and about by 9 am. We were to split into 2 groups again, with the objective being to drive to the summit of Mount Arden - the plan being for one group to get there and be away before the second group arrived.





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This was necessary due to limited parking at the summit. Travel was slow but not too demanding of the vehicles or tyres. In fact, the vehicles were more capable than some of the newbie drivers (like me).



Back to camp for lunch with more 4wd tracks to conquer after 1.30pm. This afternoon only 7 vehicles went out as several of the group wanted to do walking trails or relax. Much of the driving this afternoon was spent doing previously traversed tracks in reverse direction.

Quite a few kangaroos, euros and the odd yellow footed rock wallaby were spotted on this trip out.

The weather improved each day and the cliffs and gorge walls did look spectacular in the afternoon sun. We did spend some time at the Bunyerroo Gorge lookout admiring the view.

Back to camp for the evening meal and more tales around the campfire. We did have an exploding rock, which sent sparks flying in all directions, unfortunately, Jane was hit in the eye with one but due to the attention of quick thinking by many a disaster was averted.



Monday saw people packing up to leave at various times due to their work commitments. As the weather improved each day some travellers decided to stay on for another night.

Most of us seemed to eat our way home - coffee at the Quandong Café in Quorn, pies at the Stone Hut bakery and ice creams (Golden North) at Laura

A good weekend with some easy driving which meant no damage to tyres and vehicles.

Thank you Dave and Karen our efficient trip leaders and to all our fellow 4WD travellers for another fantastic weekend.

Look forward to many more in the not too distant future. Cheers,

**[Darryll]**