



WYPERFIELD NP - PATCHEWOLLOCK (30th March – 2nd April 2018)

EASTER Weekend, March 30th – 2nd April 2018

Woke up to a beautiful autumn morning. Blue skies with 15 degrees at 0910h. With Bob and Pauline as our trip leaders, we left Patchi Sunset Retreat and headed off toward the Patchwallock Silos.

The Silos were painted by Fintan Magee in October 2016. The farmer featured is Noodle Hulland chosen because he was slim enough to fit on the silo.

After a group photo, we headed towards Wyperfield National Park in the Big Victorian Desert. Through our travels, we saw camels, Wedge-Tail eagle chasing a flock of galahs. There were a few kangaroos jumping about one decided to take a quick hop in front of Max and Lyn's car.

We stopped for morning tea about 11:00am. After a quick feed and water, we were off to our next destination, O'Sullivan's Lookout. It was a short 1.1km walk to the top of the sand dune for a spectacular view.

All made it three quarters of the way up and a few more went for the top view.



Silo at Patchewollock

And a view it was, looking out over Werrengan Plains. Low level shrub with green and gold foliage, sand dunes and dusty tracks were visible as far as the eye could see.

Time to head back along Gunners Track towards the historical marker of a timbered water well. Early settlers had to obtain and store water as best as they could.

The wells were in use from the 1870's to the 1930's.



O'Sullivan's Lookout over Werrengan Plains



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Lunch was eaten at the Rabbit Hut.

The original Rabbit Hut was a tent in 1873 and was replaced in 1988 with a tin hut by the Ferguson family who were rabbiters in the area.

Rabbits were a big problem in the Mallee area and even now are still under rabbit control.

So many tracks to go down.



Rabbit Hut (1988)

Our last stop for the day was Snowdrift. It was a large sand dune that was being used like a snow hill. With make shift sleighs with old tyres, plastic bags and Frisbee, anything the kids could get hold of to have some fun to slide down the sand dune.



Our driving had come to an end. After a day that was enjoyed by all it was time to head back to Patchi Sunset Retreat for happy hour followed by tea at the Patchiwallock Pub.

Thank you to our trip leader Bob and Pauline and to the members that were there for their great company.

[Jo Wuttke]



Couple of the locals spotted hanging around the caravan park!