

# Fraser Island Clean up

23/5/14 – 26/5/14

## In attendance:

Dick & Sheila	Toyota 80 Brown		
Dick & Sheila	Discovery 4		
Dick & Sheila	Discovery 2		
Dick	Patrol		
Dick & Sheila	Patrol Ute		
Dick	Prado	Dick	Toyota 80 White Wagon
Dick	Mitsubishi	Dick & Sheila	Toyota 80 White Ute
Dick	Toyota 79	Dick, Dick & Dick	Toyota 100 White
Dick	Toyota 100 Brown	Dick, Dick & Dick	Toyota Surf



On Friday morning, 8:30am, all the above members of B4WDC (except Dick in the Mitsubishi, and Dick & Sheila in the 80) met at BP Caboolture looking eager to roll on up to Fraser Island. The travel north to Gympie was un-eventful but the clouds overhead had us weary of what might lay ahead. Luckily, when we arrived to let the tyres down and wait for the barge to arrive, the clouds parted and the sun was out as we made our way slowly across the water.

When we finally made it onto sand, we ventured around Hook Point. Fortunately, the tide was low enough for us to drive on the sand all the way to our destination Dundubara Camp Ground, approx. 76 kms north. We passed Dilli Village, Eurong, Happy Valley, and Cathedral Beach on our left, luckily the water stayed on our right.

Arriving at camp mid afternoon, tents were erected amongst the Mitsubishi Club members who had arrived earlier that day. The entire camp ground was surrounded by a dog proof fence, I was unsure whether it was there to keep the Dingoes out or the Dicks in!

A mention was made by Dick to go for a drive, but this idea was quickly off the table as Dick cracked a beer. The sound and smell of beer had everyone intrigued and we all completely forgot about the cars. Happy Hour started early on this trip but nobody seemed to care, then Dick and Sheila arrived in the 80 White Ute so more drinks were consumed. The night grew dark and me personally, I forgot all about dinner, the night was a blur after that and I went to bed.

I believe that Dick and Sheila stayed up till about 11pm, nothing I knew about? I was comfortable in my little camp and fell asleep very quickly, awakening in the morning to a heavy head.

Plans had been derived during the night to venture to the other side of the island, to see places we had never been to before. Dick was well equipped and had GPS maps showing how to get over there, so he was placed in front to lead the convoy.

A late start by Dick & Sheila (probably from all the action during the night), we headed off south to Poyungan Valley turn off, then west was the chosen route. We all followed along the undulating sandy tracks via Postans Road to Bellerts Old Hut ruins.

Just prior to arriving at Bellerts Old Hut ruins, a miss-adventure was had by Dick & Sheila. A small puddle across the road was not "walked" prior to entry and the consequences kept us entertained for quite a while. Firstly the 80 Ute had to be recovered, without the engine working which Dick did a great job in snatching the 80 out backwards. Then it was a case of letting all the water out of the car and drying the electrics. After the leads had been sprayed, distributor cap sprayed with the lifeline liquid WD40, the motor spluttered into life and we were off. Walking the crossing revealed a path left of a branch thoughtfully placed by Dick, we all ventured through without drama. Dick, Dick and Sheila have video footage of this recovery, so there will be plenty of copies available for inspection.

Soon we arrived at Moon Point Beach which was as far as we could go east, a swim was had by a few, lunch was eaten and repairs done to Dicks ute. A large area of sand to play with and nobody else there but us! We ventured a little north along the beach until we could go no further where we found a half buried Toyota (I think) which was a tell tale sign not to go any further!

We retreated back to Moon Point Road, threw a left turn up Bullock Road and then onto Woralie Road, making our way back to the east coast. Half way along this single "two way" track we were met by a larger group of 4wd's, so we took the challenge to park off the track to let them through. Once we hit the beach again it was a

simple drive straight up the beach back to camp where we met the remaining members of our club. More Dick's and Sheila's!

Another Happy Hour began and lots of chat arose about the day's events, especially the bog. An early night for me and that was that. 8:30am start for Clean-up Day!

First day beautiful, next day fantastic! 6:30 am and I'm feeling on top of the world, yeh ha!

Breakfast done, we are off south to Cathedral Beach where we split into four groups. We covered the area from Cathedral Beach to Eli Creek using the Maheno Wreck as a half way point. Bags and gloves were given out and how difficult it was to walk the beach, picking up rubbish, watching the Dingoes, hearing and watching the surf, sand between the toes (some of us) not a care in the world! Could almost do this for a living but the pay is crap.

Sometime later, the groups reunited and those who were intending to leave us made their way back to camp to pack up. The remaining pack met at Eli Creek for a swim and a feed. The water was a bit chilly and only the adventurous ones dared to go in.

After a bit of lunch and a chin wag, 5 cars ventured south to meet the barge for the return trip to Brisbane. The remaining lot stayed for a BBQ run by 4WD QLD, another night and possibly more adventures.

You will have to talk to Dick to find out what happened on Sunday night as I went home but I'm sure they got up to all kinds of mischief during the night. He probably won't tell you too much ;)

Overall a great weekend was had by all, Fraser Island just a little bit cleaner than when we arrived which left us all pretty proud of what we had achieved. Many, many thanks must go to the organisers of the event - Four Wheel Drive QLD. 1169 bags of rubbish were collected in total by more than 20 clubs.

Well done by Dick (Toyota 80 Brown) for another fine trip; to be done again next year, no doubt!

**Barry Janetzki**

**(AKA DICK)**



