

# Trip Reports:

## High Country Late November 2012

David Robinson (Robbo) ... GQ Patrol  
Tim and Bill Meeks ... Mitsubishi Pajero

I met Tim Meeks and his father Bill in Sheeppyard Flats around 9pm, after trying to get fuel in Mansfield (apparently there is a diesel shortage).

We spent the night there before setting off early the next day (Sat) along the Bluff link road, with a view to stop at the Bluff hut, but alas, the link road was closed at the junction of the 16 Mile Jeep Track for track repair. (It had been open three weeks previously.) So I recalculated the journey and back tracked to the Refrigerator Track, Brocks Road, Cairn Creek Road and up to the second hut on the list, Lovicks Hut.

After Lovicks Hut and lunch, we carried on along the track (King Billy No 1), only to find our way blocked by a Nissan ute and an overturned trailer.

The trailer was recovered by another traveller, with a drag chain, whilst the Nissan continued slowly along. Our next problem was, where would we go to give the on-coming traffic space, on such a narrow track? Pretty easy really, just place your vehicle in a precarious position off the track, either downhill in Tim's case and uphill in mine. We got through successfully.

King Billy was uneventful except for some running repairs to Tim's Pajero, (luckily both Tim and his father Bill are mechanics). King Billy led to Howitt Road then down the Zeka Spur Track into the Wonnangatta camping area, just across the Dry River on the left (Dry River/Wonnangatta River).

It was a hot day and it had taken 8 hours of driving to get to the camp site.

We were alone in the camping area, and now I know why this particular spot is so popular; there is a single drop toilet and a very expansive flat area surrounded on three sides by trees and good access to the river, with swimming holes, which are quite deep (I know because I tried them).

An early morning start (Sunday) due to a thunderstorm and lightning, the full works! It was an easy decision to scoot out of the valley via the Wonnangatta track, Van Dammes Track, Harry Shepherd's Track.

I asked Tim if he wanted to try the Razor Track. It starts just below Harry Shepherds (he wanted to).

What a track! In the slightly wet conditions there were some challenging ascents and the track is virtually overgrown along its route. This track is definitely a must for the club (dry conditions). In full wet conditions, it will be a winching exercise for those who are suitably qualified, if they attempt it from the Harry Shepherd's end of the route. (We got through safely).

We finished the morning at Hiener's Bakery in Myrtleford. Good trip! I will do it again soon. Hopefully a few more members will pluck up the courage to join me.

Well done Tim and Bill Meeks for putting up with me for two nights in the Bush. Robbo.