

## Gapsted and Surround Trip Report

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2015 started with a crisp morning but fine after showers the previous few days.

In total 10 vehicles turned out for the drive with two prospective new members Richard Allen and Dean & Jeanette Goodsell turning up to join Damo and young Tom, John Haring, the French's, the Burke's, Dee Brown and Indi, Tim Meek, Tony & Jill Millar and the Martin's.

Meeting place was Graeme and Helene Martin's residence for a BBQ lunch then the afternoon drive.

After lunch all vehicles headed towards Gapsted Winery cut across the Great Alpine Road and headed into the Gapsted State Forest.

First stop was at an abandoned mine that Graeme and Helene found 6 years ago while looking for firewood.

After a parking all the vehicles and a short walk into the mine, Graeme gave a quick talk about the history of the area and the gold mining. Apparently it boasted 6 pubs at Gapsted in the height of the gold mining rush in the Gapsted area.

From the mine the convoy travelled behind the Gapsted Winery and up Link Track for a steep ascent.

The road was in pretty good condition and everyone made the climb up with no problems. At the top, we took in the views of the very picturesque Myrtleford Valley below.

From here it was a steep downhill traversing towards the power lines and down towards the Great Alpine Road.

With the amount of vehicles on the trip what would normally take about 40 minutes to do the loop took almost 2 hours. Lots of radio banter and "spot the kangaroo" kept us all on the lookout.

From the bottom of the power lines we travelled on the old Ovens Highway to drive a short loop and back to the Martin's for a cup of tea.

Perfect weather, a lovely BBQ lunch and great like minded people made this a very pleasant afternoon drive.

The Gold Coin donations for lunch totalled \$36.90.

This money will go into the Club's Raffle Kitty.

Thanks everyone.



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