

Yarra Ranges Photographic Society Trip to Enoch Point 29-31st May 2009

Attended by Jearie and Bill, Alex and Pam, Derek and Merinda, Rosie and Bill, Jan and Jack, Chris, Colin and John

On Friday the 29th May 13 people, and 4 dogs set out for Enoch Point. Bill and Jearie along with Rosie and Bill were the forerunners, met by others at the shack and some members arrived throughout the evening. The sun streamed through the trees, green areas, blackened bush, and destroyed towns, making it a frightening, but beautiful drive. Everyone found their way safely, keeping in contact using CB radios.

Those who arrived early dealt with an invading possum, explored the area, collected wood and built a huge fire, to welcome those who drove up the Big River Road after a day at work. After dinner we relaxed by the fire chatting, and relating stories with lots of wine and laughter.

On Saturday morning four bleary eyed, keen photographers gathered in the dark to 4 wheel drive up to Mount Terrible with a view to capturing some unique sunrise images. Alex was our driver and Bill led the way. We were unprepared for the icy winds that cut through us but we managed to get some good shots of the sunrise and the bush from the top of the mountain. Bill also took us fossicking at the sight of a historic, hotel and we collected ancient glass and willow pattern dinnerware from a bygone era when the Big River area was a busy gold rush town.

On the outside fire Chris cooked breakfasts of bacon and eggs for a true camping experience.

Throughout both days Bill and Jearie took us to all the interesting sites of Enoch Point. We walked up to the Cemetery, walked along the river to the Enoch Waterfalls, looked at the bush huts, inspected the bush clearings made by the DSE - scarring the bush, and visited the previous site of Bill and Jearie's old hut. We looked at old building sites and mine entrances - now reclaimed by the bush.

The sound of chainsaws buzzed throughout the bush as the boys and Jan gathered a huge load of wood. Bill Hughes caught a few fish and photographers poked around taking photos and comparing camera gear. Bill Millar gave Rosie some pointers on exposures and lighting (thanks Bill).

The highlight of the trip was our Saturday Night Candle Lit Dinner cooked by our club Masterchefs Jearie and Bill, assisted by a band of peelers, choppers and dishwashers. We enjoyed campfire-cooked roast beef and roasted vegetables with gourmet accompaniments, followed by rhubarb and ice-cream (transported from Healesville). We enjoyed a few wines again and many funny jokes and stories and toasted ourselves in front of the open fire.

On Sunday we farewelled each other after eating a delicious, creative lunch of leftovers. A few people went driving on some of the surrounding mountain tracks, Bill and Jearie along with Bill and Rosie went to inspect the Eildon Dam water levels and took a few sunset shots.

Thanks Jearie and Bill for a great weekend!

Been somewhere interesting lately? Want to share your travel stories & a few photos in our newsletter? If so, please email a short "wrap-up" of your trip and a selection of small file images to ~ di_jenkins@netspace.net.au

Special thanks to Rosie Hughes for writing the report on the Enochs Point trip - thanks also to Rosie & Bill for supplying the photos! Glad you all had fun!!

