

❄️ HCCV Winter Get-Together at Yea ❄️

I was looking forward to this weekend as I hadn't seen anyone from the club for quite a while since I was off jaunting around the UK. I was also looking forward to taking our Humber out for a run as it has been tucked away under cover since the National Rally in April. Our car certainly performs best when it has frequent and lengthy runs.

Unfortunately, our Humber was not quite ready to take to Yea so we ended up taking our modern car much to our and everyone's disappointment. Nevertheless we set off and met up with the others at the appointed rendezvous place right on time. It was great to see some Humber out and about as we all headed off to the Kerrisdale Mountain Railway that is situated in the Upper Goulburn Valley.

The railway and museum was a little gem owned and run by Andrew and Jennifer Forbes. The vintage and veteran live steam engines on display were all in a working setting and ably demonstrated and enthusiastically explained by Andrew Forbes. The mountain railway is a unique 2 foot gauge railway that zig zags up the steep hillside that gave us spectacular views, where on a clear day, you can see right across to the Victorian Alps and along the King Parrot Valley to Mt Disappointment. We surprised several groups of kangaroos as we made our way up the hillside to the summit. There we spent some time taking in the distant vistas and heard more about the interesting history of the area that had been mapped by explorers Hume and Hovell in 1824.



After lunch at the Kerrisdale Railway some of us decided to seek out Horseshoe Lagoon that was not too far away. Well it was an interesting and scenic drive along the track beside the Goulburn River that wound its way through fields and around large granite outcrops. We may not have seen Horseshoe Lagoon but we did discover some idyllic billabongs with amazing reflections that were a magnet to us camera buffs. The ancient river red gums and the still waters were a haven for the water birds and we thoroughly enjoyed exploring this beautiful area.

Dinner on Saturday night was enjoyed at the Peppercorn Hotel in Yea. Since we were all staying at the Peppercorn that night we hadn't far to travel at all. Delicious food, great company – we all had a very pleasant relaxing end to an enjoyable day.

Sunday was foggy, but undeterred we headed off to explore the historic Cheviot Tunnel. This tunnel is a feature of the now disused Tallarook to Mansfield rail line that had operated between 1883 and the 1970's. The tunnel is in excellent condition being solidly built of handmade bricks using local clay and is 201 metres long. It now is part of a rail trail for walkers and cyclists. We were amused to find although foggy at the entrance once through the tunnel we could bask in the sunshine at the other end!

Before we headed back into Yea for lunch then home, some of us decided to stop off at the Yea Wetlands and stroll along the Franklin track over the swing bridge and through the forest on boardwalks and that meander around the billabong. It is a great spot for a picnic on a warmer day.

Our thanks to club members Judy Finch and Jan Beattie for researching and arranging this weekend for the Humber Car Club members' enjoyment.

Judy Lewis

