

Darling River Run

On Thursday 9th April mum, dad and I woke up early to leave for Cobar where we will start our trip with Alex and Jeremy. We finally got everything packed and ready and we left at about 8 o'clock. The drive to Cobar took about 9 hours. When we got there we had a look at the open cut mine before meeting Alex and Jeremy at the Oasis Motel. We all went for dinner together.



On Friday morning we drove to Gundabooka National Park to have a look at some Aboriginal rock art.



We had morning tea there and there were a few emus as well, Alex waved a jacket at them to try and get them closer, but they walked away.

Next we drove to Louth where we had lunch by the Darling River. After lunch we had a look at the racecourse.



After lunch we drove to Trilby Station where we set up our tents for the night. On the way there we saw lots of kangaroos and emus. Alex got out of the car and walked around and there were millions of locusts jumping around!





Me and Jeremy got yabbie traps and Alex helped us set them up. After a bit we came back and there were a few small ones in Jeremy's trap, but there was a bigger one in mine. We cooked it and I ate it (the little bit that you could). It was nice, perfect in a survival situation. We found a small lizard and Alex put it on my hand and it never got off. Even when I put it down to have dinner, he just sat beside me! Before we left the next morning there was a green tree frog under their tent and I held that too 😊.



On Saturday we went to Peery Lake. There was a small island in the middle of the lake. We walked all the way around the island and then we drove on to White Cliffs Underground Hotel.

The Hotel was dug into the side of a hill so it would be cooler. At night we went into the pub to watch the yabbie races, we came late and missed them ☹️.



Sunday morning Alex the Easter Kangaroo arrived!!! We had a look at the Opal Fields and bought some souvenirs. We went noodling at the souvenir shop. I found a few rocks with bits of opal in them.

On the way to Mutawintji Alex's fuel tank was loose and it had ripped a pipe out of place so we had to stop while he fixed it. While we were waiting mum hung the washing up on a tree and me and Jeremy played handball on the road.



when we got to Mutawintji and everything was set up, Jeremy and I went into a dried up riverbed and threw bush melons at each other.



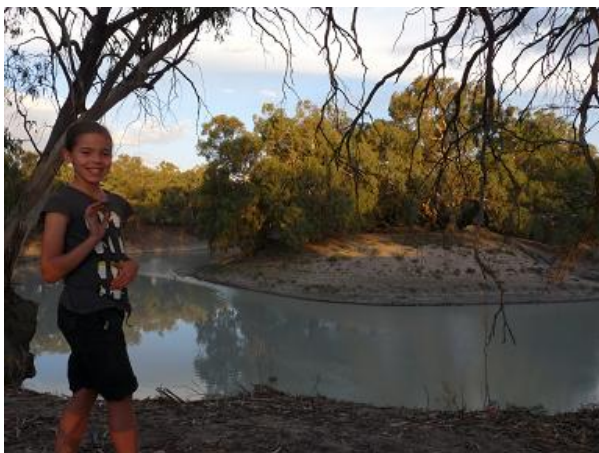
In the morning we played bush bocce with the melons. It was really fun. That day we did 3 walks. One was to Wright's Cave, one to Mutawintji Gorge where we went for a swim in the waterhole. We did an Aboriginal walk with Smacker. We walked around all these Aboriginal rock art places. There was a Gould's lace monitor walking around our campsite and once he was hanging off a log. That night Smacker came down to our campsite and told us about the emu in the stars. The emu's head was next to the Southern Cross.



The next morning we left Mutawitnji and drove to Silverton. There were 2 donkeys walking around the streets.



We had a look at the old jail. It had been turned into a museum that had lots of information about Silverton's past. Then we drove back down to Broken Hill. We visited Pro Hart's gallery and we bought a few things from Woolworths. Then we headed off to Kinchega National Park. While we were having happy hour beside the Darling River, there were fish jumping out of the water!



In the morning we walked to the ruined homestead and had a look around. Only the fireplace and the water tank were there. At the woolshed dad sheared me! I was also wearing my sheep tshirt. After morning tea we headed off to Mungo. In the afternoon at Mungo Alex spotted a shingleback lizard. It felt a bit like a rock and looked like it had 2 heads.



The next day at Mungo we went to the Walls of China and did a 70km driving tour around them. When we stopped at another ruined homestead, we discovered that we had a flat tyre! Then we went the sand dunes at the Walls of China and we rolled down them. It felt like you were flying! We went back and watched the sun set on the Walls of China.

On the way to Willandra Station we drove through Ivanhoe and had morning tea there. At Willandra we had a look at the

homestead. It was a bit creepy but we survived. Me And Jeremy played tennis while the kangaroos were eating the grass next to us. Alex made some scones and we ate them with lots of butter. Perfect in a survival situation!



On Saturday we had a look at Willandra woolshed and the shearer's quarters. Then we started to drive back to Sydney.

We had lunch at Lake Cargelligo and played a bit of soccer.



After lunch we drove to a café in the Blue Mountains where we bought some coffee and gelato and a dragonfly doorknocker. We said goodbye to each other and then went back home.

I had a really good time and I want to do it again! I think my favourite bit was playing on the sand dunes at Mungo and the Trilby campsite.