

A tribute to Jason Puls

by Tom Wood

Between Christmas and New Year of December 1992 my wife Deirdre and I and some very good friends John, Carol and Kelly, and Sid and Rose spent a couple of days at a lovely place called Shelley Beach in West Cape Howe National Park. Our friends had been there earlier in the year and found it very quiet and peaceful with plenty of fish. However, we struck it a little different; the place was over-run with hang glider enthusiasts and fish were very scarce.

Well, we pushed in and erected our tents and made ourselves at home. Everyone was very friendly and relaxed but not doing any hang gliding because of adverse wind conditions.

When the CALM Ranger, Jason, came around I naturally made myself known to him. We all found Jason very friendly and very helpful; we even managed to talk the shy, young Ranger into having his photo taken with our friend's lovely, young daughter Kelly (much to her delight?).

We took a trip across country to an excellent hideaway called Dunsbies Beach. The work done by CALM people under the guidance of the Rangers became very obvious. Old belting had been laid on the tracks across the dunes so that travelling was very easy and no hassle whatsoever. Not only did this prevent more damage to the fragile dune country but it was also a lot easier on the vehicles. It is a great idea and something I would like to see a lot more of.

A sign on the way into this area told us to let our tyres down to a certain pressure; I cannot remember what it was but being a veteran at 4 wheel driving and knowing my Datsun's capabilities, I decided I would let my tyres down to what I wanted, not what someone else told me. I was also worried about the condition of the track and my radial tyres.

All went well with no problems getting into Dunsbies Beach, the scenery making the trip well worthwhile. We had spent most of the afternoon at Dunsbies enjoying the isolation and doing a bit of fishing when along came our friendly Ranger with tyre gauge in hand. "Good day Jason", says I, "how's it going?". Jason says, "pretty good but there is one little problem". I said "what's the problem?" and Jason replies "the tyres on John's Datsun are OK, they are at the right pressure, but your tyres are quite a bit too hard Tom, could you adjust the pressure before you leave".

Well Jason, I did that and I admire you for being so thorough and doing a darn good job. Stick to your guns mate and keep up the good work, you are doing a great job down there and hopefully we will come down and have another look at the place soon.

Tom Wood
Dept CALM
HARVEY

