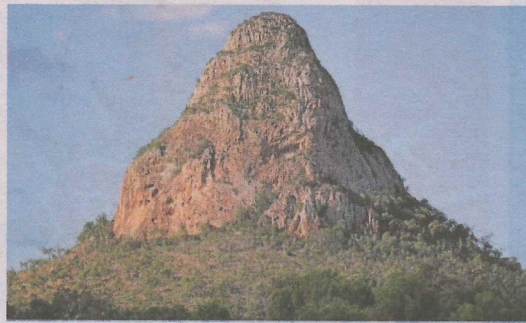


Friday, 19 August 2016

Pack up and take a drive

Perfect time to get off the highway in the Highlands



PINNACLE OF PERFECTION: The Wolfgang Peak in the Central Highlands.
PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED



DISCOVER YOUR BACKYARD
PETER GRIGG
CHDC tourism development officer

THIS time of year is just perfect for getting out and about, packing up the vehicle and taking the opportunity to discover your own backyard.

Today we are taking what I believe is one of the Central Highlands' most interesting drives – Capella to Clermont via Cotherstone Rd and the Dysart to Clermont road.

The perfect chance to get off the main highway and travel the road less travelled, this drive is at times breathtaking, always interesting and straight through the heart of the Peak Range National Park.

Made up of a mixture of bitumen and gravel, the drive takes you from Capella

along Cotherstone Rd, through rich, fertile farmland and cattle country and into an ancient landscape made up of towering peaks where imposing volcanic pinnacles cast shadows over the surrounding landscape, offering panoramic views of the range around every corner.

The drive offers a number of spots to pull off the road, roll out a picnic blanket, unpack the picnic basket and enjoy a little warm winter sun as you rest the afternoon away.

The gravel sections of the drive are relatively easy, with no four-wheel drive requirements, but there are a number of dips and crests and a little less speed is a good thing when approaching these.

From Capella to Clermont via Cotherstone Rd and the Dysart to Clermont road is about 126km.

At times the view will stop you in your tracks and demand you get out of the car with your camera.