

## Baal Bone Gap Day Trip – Sunday 30 August 2009

### Participants

Glenn Evans – Nissan Patrol (Trip Leader)  
Ernie, Charmaine, Chorl, Shelly Anfield – Jeep Rubicon  
Ben, Bee, Breeanna, Bronte Clarkson – Ford Explorer  
Paul, Debbie, Emily, Daniel Sunnucks – Toyota Landcruiser  
Derrin, Tammy, Leah, Isaac Drew – Mitsubishi Triton  
Ian, Silva, Manu Tate – Ford Courier  
Hedley Hall – Mitsubishi Pajero  
Glen, Kim Coddington – Toyota Hilux (T.E.C.)

After making our way up Bells Line of Rd and hanging on for dear life because of the winds, we made it to the Zig Zag well before time for once. Our trip leader was the last to arrive but we didn't have to wait too long.

Before the trip had even started Ben managed to hit his head on the tailgate of his car so Bee put the biggest bandaid on his whingery. Band-aids make everything better. The temperature was about 5 degrees with a wind chill of what felt like -20 degrees. We all gathered around for a quick chat about the day before racing back to the warmth of our cars.

We turned off the main track with Glenn telling us that he **thinks** he knows where the Lost City was. His excuse for the rest of the day was he was just following Ben Sweetnam's directions (blame the guy who is not even there. Nice mate you are!!) There must have been a lot of rain in the Lithgow area as the mud puddles were huge! Kim and Bee both saying they like it 'the dirtier the better'.

We had been driving for a while looking for the Lost City. It was well and truly lost! We did come across quite a few interesting tracks while trying to find it, one being a big hill. From the cars it looked like it might be a good one to play on but upon closer inspection it was decided to turn around. We all turned around and started up another track. Glenn said we would all stop up the top of the hill to decide on what we wanted to do. Ernie got stuck in neutral half way up the hills (I don't know either) but found gear and made it up. By this stage Glenn had advised me that the trip was just a Reccie because apparently you are allowed to get lost on them!

It was still extremely windy and cold but we were all having a great time. We came across a section of track with some big wombat holes. Ernie in the Jeep drove it like he was just going down the corner shop – those lockers are great. Derrin gave it a 100% go in the Triton but gravity was against him on the uphill so after bending a step he went around with the rest of us. We continued on the wrong way so Glenn decided we should turn around and go back. Most of us tried the track on the way down. It made for some great wheel lifts and photos. Derrin called over the radio he was having braking issues. Thankfully it was just all the water and mud we had been through. We eventually stopped for morning tea but not before getting stuck behind a full size cement mixer on the track which thankfully pulled over to let us past.

Back into our warm cars and a bit further down the track Glenn thought we had found the Lost City. No, it was still lost. Nice view anyway. Down track number 5 and we found the Spanish Steps! We decided to turn around, especially when we could hear Bee saying to Ben 'there is no way you are taking the Explorer down there, it will kill it'. Back to the main track and down Campbells Rd. That led us to a swamp. Back to the main track again. Ernie asked Glenn if there was a record for the most number of dead ends found on a trip (if there was, I am sure Glenn would have

beaten it on this one!!) Glenn tried telling us that it wasn't a dead end on his map. It was suggested maybe it was time to upgrade the map!

We went through mud hole after mud hole. The Explorerer nearly lost a number plate before we stopped in a clearing for lunch at 1.30pm. We packed up and kicked off again at 2.30pm and started heading towards the aboriginal paintings but not before Glenn nearly lost his Nissan in a huge bog hole (stupid Nissan). Thankfully he was able to reverse out –just. Something to do with the right foot being flat to the boards. We made it to the carpark where the Anfields left us from there. We all aired up for our trip home.

Our day was awesome even if we didn't get anywhere we were supposed to. Did we make Baal Bone Gap? NO. Did we find the Lost City? NO. Were we supposed to find the Spanish Steps? NO. Did we make the pub for a beer? NO

Thank you everyone for a great day and to Glenn for taking the on the trip on short notice (even though we give you heaps, we still love ya, mate!)