

Lost City by night

Trip date - 5/6 September 09

Lachlan, Bronwyn, James, Elissa Mitchie – Nissan Narvara TRIP LEADER

Glenn Evans – Nissan Patrol

Stan & Noelene – Landrover Defender

Ben & Gis Sweetnam – Nissan Patrol

Shrek & Shreks dad – Mitsubishi Pajero

Glenn, Kim, Amanda, Monica Coddington – Toyota Hilux

Saturday morning

We arrived at about 9am to the camp site where Lachlan, Bronwyn & kids and Stan & Noelene had spent Friday night. We set up camp and not long after Glenn, Ben & Gis arrived for the day. We were all standing around talking and watching Glenn reattach his cage to his roof racks with cable ties (why change now). It would have worked had Glenn actually put the cable tie around both and not just the cage! He eventually worked it out and then proceeded to close his door on his can of coke! It seemed like a good way to squash the can – had it been empty!!

We decided to do some lookouts and some play tracks.

We met Shrek on the way out. Shrek came to the first track with us but as he did some 4wding on the way in his water container broke so he and his dad had no water for the weekend as it was all in his car draining out the car. Lachlan

took us to a power line track where we got to play with some rocks, ruts and wombat holes. The boys all went to the bottom of the track and the girls stayed up the top to take photos. Glenn was on the move when Glenn and Ben yelled out for him to stop. Glenn stopped as they sounded serious and they said they just wanted to let him know 'whatever you do mate, don't stop here' (who needs enemies with friends like them!) Glenn and Ben were too busy laughing while Glenn had to back up to get traction again before driving up the hill. After that Shrek and his dad headed back to camp to set up and we continued on. The mud holes were great fun and Lachlan showed Glenn the way to the Lost City as it eluded him the week before. We went to another lookout over the Lost City but not before having to cut up a huge fallen tree. Thankfully Lachlan and Glenn had their chainsaws already sharp and ready to go. Glenn had a chainsaw with him but it did not have a chain on it. By the time he fixed it, the job was done (so don't believe the photos). Once we got past the tree and Ben and Glenn worked out how to start their cars we kept going to the next track. The track to the next lookout was steep and rocky. We all made it down with Gis driving the Patrol. During our lunch break Monica did some road building so Ben could get out! Everything was nice and peaceful before the serenity was broken by a Pommie calling over the radio. Carl, Colleen and Doreen had found us in the Lost City! Apparently we were not lost afterall. After having a conversation for about





40 minutes over the radio we decided to actually meet them at Bungleboorie. Thankfully they stayed at Mudgee the night before and had showers! Gis, Bronwyn and Kim drove back up the track and to Bungleboorie to meet the Kimberly crew. Back to the campsite to wait for the sunset. On the way out to the Lost City, Lachlans Nissan had a problem with the bash plate. We had to stop so Lachie could pick up the Nissan's parts. As it was, the side window on his canopy didn't want to stay shut all day!

We made the Lost City and just made the sunset. Once the sun went down it became quite cold. We had our happy hour at the lookout. On the way to the second lookout Stan and Noelene found a rather big puddle. They managed to get out and called over the radio to go around it. It was not long after that the hazard lights on the Defender got stuck on. That made for some interesting corner marking (left??right??). Once we got to the car park we pulled some bulbs out of the Defender and cut some wires until they stopped flashing. Something had to work! We went out to watch the moon come up over the Lost City. It was beautiful the way the moon lit the rocks up. After we had finished watching the moon it was time to head off for some night driving except Glenn had a flat tyre on the Nissan. Glen (Toyota driver) inspected Glenn's tyre and noticed rock marks and big chunks of clay on his tyre. Glenn was going to change his tyre when Glen (awesome Toyota driver) suggested he pumped his tyre up as he believed the bead had been broken when his bad wheel placement had put him up against some rocks. Much to his disgust, this worked! After that we said our goodbyes to Glenn, Ben and Gis as they weren't staying. We went back to camp and got our fire going again. We all sat around the fire.

The kids went to bed. Glen fell asleep in his chair around the fire, luckily they didn't leave him there as it got to -2 through the night.

Sunday morning – Fathers Day

It was a nice easy start to the day. Shrek needed water for his tea. Kim came to the rescue – yes you heard right. Kim brought enough food and water for everyone! Shrek found another camping ground just across from the Brasserie site with BBQ's, pond with ducks and about 4 times as big. Stan found puddles of water in his car from the big puddle that him and Noelene nearly got stuck in the night before and had to take the mats out of his car to dry out. We all packed up at a leisurely pace. A great weekend was had by everyone. Thank you Lachlan for a top trip. If anyone gets the chance to do the Lost City at night I highly recommend it.

As Lachlan stated on the forum, he was having a dummy spit on the forum about not having enough time to complete the drawers and water container before he went to Fraser. Looks like he found some time and finished them after all.





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