

Forster getaway

Ben, Connor & Zoe Sweetnam
Nathan, Josh & Bradley Gilbert
Ron & Toby Mason

Glenn & Margaret Evans, Mitchell & Lisa (Already there)
Fitzy & Shelly Fitz (Guest appearance)

Tuesday 5th Jan

We decided to gate crash Glenn Evans holiday in Forster, so Nathan, Ron & I left the wives at home and took the kids away for 4 nights. We met along the F4 and cruised up to Forster with a midway stop at the big rock, where the kids got an ice-cream and a play in the playground.

We arrived in Forster at Lani's Island about lunch time and met up the Evan's and began setting up camp. Glenn and Mitchell were a big help – watching the hard work, while Lisa took all the kids under her wing and kept them busy (bless her).

After camp we took a trip down to the state forest to collect firewood. Two chainsaws, two roof cages and a hilux tray saw the job done and enough wood gathered for a couple of nights. Then, back to camp for beer o'clock, happy hour and dinner.

Wednesday 6th Jan

Early start with coffee being served from about 5.30am, but overall a lazy relaxed morning with the Evans and Masons coming and going from our camp and kids playing everywhere. We took the kids for a swim in the pool before

heading out to play on Glenn's boat for the day.

We put in at one of the local ramps and took turns riding in, and tubing behind the boat, while the others played and relaxed by the water. Picnic lunch and general all round good time. Headed back to camp for a fire; happy hour and dinner - another great day.



Thursday 7th Jan

Glenn took the boat down to Smiths Lake for another play. We set up some shade on the beach and based there while taking turns tubing, and riding in the boat. Smiths lakes are much better and plenty of room to really get out and play. Even Glenn took a turn in the tube for about 30 seconds, but then wanted to get off. (We even thought we heard him yelling to Nathan he really does love Toyota's, but the engine was loud).

Fitzy and Shelly came down in the afternoon to catch up and others took off to go do bits and pieces around town. We all met up back at camp for the usual fire, food, drinks and relaxing. This was getting hard to take – day after day. J



Friday 8th Jan

We were originally scheduled to head home today but decided to extend our trip by another day. Went for a drive to one of the scenic lookouts. About 1000 steps up from the carpark we emerged from the trees to discover this fantastic 360° view of Forster, the ocean and surrounding lakes. It was spectacular and definitely worth the heart attack on the way up.

After that we cruised back to camp, took the kids for swims and let them run wild for one last time. Then everyone came down for a big night with Fitzy and Shelly joining us by the fire. A big night turned into a very big night for some and just a great time all round. A nice end to a great week.

Saturday 9th Jan

Sad day – time to go home. Nathan pulled out early to get a good start. Mitchell re-attached his tailgate that had fallen off, with a ratchet strap, and was good to go. I kindly offered to tow Glenn's camper home as he had his boat and probably a better option than the Hilux. A slow trip home with a bit of traffic but not as bad as we were expecting. Got home mid afternoon and started to unpack – Still Sad.

Thanks to everyone for a great week and Glenn for bringing everything including 2 spare kitchen sinks J

Ben

