

Lost City trip

25TH JANUARY 2015

Trip Leader: Lachlan & James Michie – Toyota Hilux

Participants: Nigel & Vicki Ward – Toyota Landcruiser
Duane, Tammy & Aiden Rieser, Toyota FJ

Cruiser

Leonard, Deb, Jay, Lachlan, Kieran, Cami,

Ben & Viv Khor, Toyota Landcruiser

Steve Miller- Toyota Prado

Rick, Dianna & Breanna Teuma - Mitsubishi

Pajero

Steve, Lisa & Tom Pugsley – Nissan Patrol

The trip started as many do in the area with a meet up at McDonalds Lithgow. After waiting for Steve Pugsley to turn up after giving his car a good wash (cos it got dirty on the trip up!) we had a brief meeting and then set off. On the way out of the McDonalds carpark we had our first issue - the Pajero was stuck on a speed hump.....a quick recovery by a mighty Toyota and we were off, a couple of wrong turns getting out of the McDonalds carpark we were soon on the out skirts of Lithgow and on the main track to the Lost City where we aired down and we had our second issue, Duane was so concerned his car had never been "off road" before he "accidently" let too much air out of all of his tyres and wanted to wait for the NRMA. Lucky for Duane I have this thing called an air compressor and the problem was quickly solved.

After airing down it was a short trip up the road to turn left to the first lookout of the Lost City down a track that had some ruts on it. Steve Miller wanted to pack up his "hand bag" and go back to the main road. After Steve gingerly edging down the track we arrived at the first lookout.

"The recent fires in the area have exposed more of the Lost City and now looks very different than it has in years."

Due to the time it took to get the first lookout we had morning tea before heading back out to the main track and heading around to the third look out of the Lost City, the track had a bit of a rut and small step that after some road building the Patrol and the FJ could get down. The rest of the track down was pretty tame. At the bottom was a gymnasium for the kids to wear off some of their energy

from being in the cars for a while. The kids were allowed to play on the rocks while the adults took in the scenery. On the way back up Lenny decided to do a science experiment to keep the kids amused. So what happens when you turn your fridge down to minus 20 degrees?? Everything freezes to the point that drinks EXPLODE all over the back of your car and everything in the back of the car.....at least in climbed up the step easier now being lighter.

"The Lost City got its name because of the rock formations resembling buildings and during WW2 lights were installed around the rocks to make it appear to be a city from the air and the lights were turned off in Lithgow in the hope it would confuse the Japanese pilots into thinking it was Lithgow."

We headed down the Blackfellows Hand Trail and had relaxing lunch below the Aboriginal Art with some of the crew going to inspect the site.

After lunch it was out to the Wolgan Road to do a dog leg up an easier track into the Baal Bone to some more look outs over the Wolgan Valley. At the first lookout I lost my seat to Vicki who would drive the rest of the day. At the second lookout we could hear another Sydney Districts crew returning to Newnes where they were camping. We tried to call them but they were just too far away.

Both of the lookouts over the Wolgan Valley had stunning views and it was hard to leave but the hour was getting late and Steve needed to find a Car Lovers to wash his car so we headed back to the main road where we aired up, said our good byes and headed for home.

You all didn't want to do the trip report, so the truth never stands in the way of a good story!

Nigel

