



Trip Leader – Lachlan, James and Elissa Michie (Hilux)
Glenn, Margaret and Mitch Evans + Nathan and Tony (Pootrol)
Ben, Gis, Connor and Zoe Sweetnam (another Pootrol)
Tapan, Naiyan, Ariyan and Amani Sharma (SUPERCHARGED Land Cruiser 100)
Chris and Mary Keys (yet another Pootrol)
Lenny, Deb, Jonathan, Lachlan, Kieran, Cameron, Benny and Vivian Khor (Cruiser)
Scott, Deb, Heather and Erica Lucas (too many Pootrol's)
Nathan, Aroha, Josh and Bradley Gilbert (80 series cruiser)
Rex, Susan, Harrison and Amber-Rose Farr (FJ Cruiser)
Terese and Josh Ellis (Prado)
Nigel and Vikki Ward (The Beast – Cruiser)
Pets: Matilda, Poppy and Ellie-May, Bentley, Rosie and Topsy,

Day 1 – Rolling into Newnes

We rolled into camp around lunchtime, to find the Sweetnam's, Nigel and Vikki, and Terese already set up, with the boys already set off on their bikes down towards the river and the other campsite (AKA Mt. Druitt). After finding the right spot for the camper, Dad and I unloaded the bikes for the other two, and setting up the camper getting ready for the next few lazy days. After a little while, the Michie's eventually arrived to camp, with James pulling out his R/C truck straightaway.

This first day was just for setting up for those who had already arrived, prepping the fire, and hopefully keep with the tradition of keeping the fire going for the entirety of the trip. Finally, those who had made it before dark finished setting up their campsites and the lazing began. Away most of the kids left on their bikes, and the adults hung around socialising. That night we were all expecting Glenn Evans 'late'

that night. Hours went by and still no sign of Glenn. Around 11, sitting around the fire, Glen's 'Poo-trol' finally rolled in. For the rest of the night, we sat around the fire and soon after Glen's arrival made way to our campers and quickly fell asleep.

Day 2 – Everyone else rolled in

For some of us it was Day 2, but for the majority it was Day 1, with the rest of the families rolling into Newnes. First to arrive was the rest of the Evans' with a few additional passengers, along with the dogs.

The rest of the families continued to roll in and we met the newest addition to the club, Rex and Susan. Today was one of the worst days for the weather with constant rain throughout the day. But the rain wasn't going to stop the kids having fun on their bikes. Fortunately for the kids, there were on and off periods of rain, letting them go out on their adventures.

Today especially, for the people who had arrived the day before, was for just sitting around, doing and nothing and relaxing.

Day 3 – Lazing around in the rain

Rain, rain, and guess what? More rain. For those who have been to Newnes before will know what this annual trip is for. It is great for doing absolutely nothing. Unless you're a kid; then you're out and about riding a bike or down at the hotel playing board games.

Due to the rain, most of these activities were put on hold while the kids waited for the rain to somewhat pass. While the rain was showering, the younger girls were migrating from camper to camper, colouring in or playing games on their iPads. While the girls were playing with their iPads, the men were playing



Easter at Newnes





with their trucks. Lenny and Dad were testing to see whose car was louder, while others admired Dad's supercharger. The ladies talked under the gazebo's with seeming little interest in the mechanical marvels surrounding them.

Mitch and his friends, Nathan and Tony, gathered around the fire throwing a heap of wood on to keep it going during the rain, and in the process killing a nest of ants and a giant centipede that Tony wanted to keep as a pet. Dad ventured over to the fire and gave them a look of disapproval, and named it a "White-man's fire".

Day 4 – Easter Sunday

Today was the day every single kid in the campsite was looking forward to. The Easter Egg Hunt is a tradition where parents hide eggs throughout the various campsites. The hunt lasted only about 15 minutes, with kids frantically looking in every nook and cranny.

After all the kids thought they'd found all the eggs, the adults cooked up breakfast and everyone got their plates and ate. There were like 1000 pancakes cooked up and most of the food was gone in less than half an hour. After 20 minutes everyone was fed up and fulfilled and once again began to do nothing. After breakfast Mitch and his friends quietly snuck out and left Newnes to go to a club their friend was a DJ at. Without no-one noticing, they were gone by about midday.

Later in the day, a few of the guys including myself, went for a drive through the state forest, and went Geocaching (for those who don't know what it is: Google will tell you). Lachie led us around the tracks, taking some spectacular photos of the Wolgan, and finding the geocaches left around the place.

Day 5 – Packing and leaving

The last day of Newnes is good but bad. The good part is that you get to go home to your own bed, and proper supplies. The bad part is that you have to go back to work and start doing schoolwork. Everyone left when they had finished packing up and the day was slow and the rain was coming.

First to leave were the Lucas', with the Gilbert's not too far behind. A bunch of us left together, including the Khor's, Ellis', Sweetnam's and the Sharma's. We stopped off at Bilpin for a quick feed and then we were finally back on the road. The trip back home was comfortable with little traffic on the main roads. Surprisingly, the trip home only lasted about 3 hours. We got home at around 3 o'clock and were greeted by the loud barking of our dog.

Thanks to Lachie for organising the trip again.

By Naiyan Sharma

