



# GROPER'S GOSSIP



**“The fire pits were a wonderful focus for our time at Lake Towerinning, keeping us together socialising as we all prodded and poked the fire.” (Quote from Linda Back’s report)**

Linda is right. This is what Winter Rallies are all about. Open fires, great fellowship and catching up with old and new friends despite the weather. The Lake Towerinning Rally was another successful Sandgroper Rally and you can read all about it in this issue. A big thank you to Lyn, Cindy, Helen B and Helen S for providing great photos of the Rally. It makes my job so much easier.

Also in this issue is the Program for our AGM Rally at Bindoon with all the information you need to know. The Rally coincides with the Chittering Springfest so there is a lot to see and do if you are staying extra days. Check out their website for ideas to make the most of your stay [www.chitteringspringfest.com.au](http://www.chitteringspringfest.com.au). I am looking forward to catching up with everyone in Bindoon. Until then take care and stay safe, Cheryl (Editor – [agcmkent@bigpond.com.au](mailto:agcmkent@bigpond.com.au))

## 2021 SANDGROPER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Emergency phone numbers for member's families to contact during rallies

Helen Bizzill – 0417 913 050, Cheryl Kent – 0477 474 115, Di Young 0419 911 775



President  
Helen Bizzill



Vice President  
Cheryl Kent



Secretary  
Di Young



Treasurer  
Sharon Burge



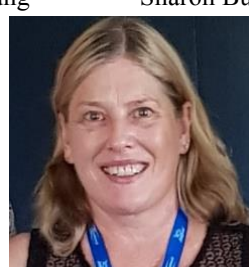
Membership Secretary  
Ian Moore



Committee Member  
Helen Schell



Committee Member  
Roy Lundy



Committee Member  
Cindy Jordan

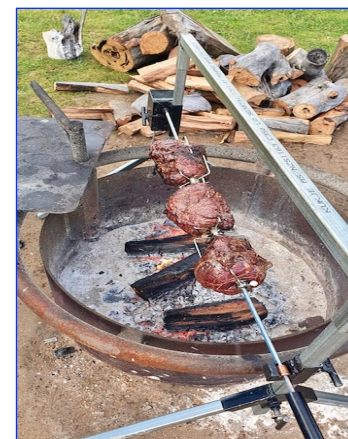


Committee Member  
Alan Kirby



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2021

The Lake Towerrinning rally was a great success with special thanks to Chris and Linda Back who created a varied program for the weekend. The weather was a little erratic, but not too wet overall. We managed to consume a huge amount of firewood which was kindly supplied by the owner, Graeme. The lunch at Rarebits Café was simply a great example of country hospitality with a feast of homemade goodies. The evening singalong was a popular event, and there were a few hoarse voices around the following morning. New members, Peter and Cheryl Fatti, were welcomed into the Club. Also, a special thanks to Chris Young for making the spit roast and kindly donating it to the Club.



The AGM rally is coming up very quickly on 9 September. You will have received the Agenda, and there is one important item in relation to the membership level of the Club. Please give this matter some thought prior to the meeting so that an informed debate can take place. If you are unable to attend the rally weekend, there is always the opportunity to attend the meeting as a day visitor. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible at Bindoon. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you are able to submit a proxy

The Covid situation on the east coast has become very serious, and I hope that as many of our members as possible are being vaccinated. As we often socialise in large groups in small places, it is important that we are all aware of the possibility of infection. We have been very lucky here in Western Australia to date, but at some stage it is quite likely that Covid is going to come to our State. Next week will be the first day of Spring, so fingers crossed we can look forward to some beautiful Spring weather.

Safe travelling,  
Helen



## Lake Towerinning Rally

Twenty-six very hardy Sandgroppers travelled to Lake Towerinning despite the forecast of fresh winds, chilly mornings and spasmodic rain. The rally began on a fabulous note as on our first night together, the wind dropped completely so we gathered around the fire pit, chatting, soaking up the warmth and marvelling at our good fortune.

Saturday began with our usual physical activities - a walk around the Lake followed by Tai Chi.



At 11.30 the Sandgropper convoy travelled in to Darkan for lunch at Rarebits and a visit to the Betty Brown museum. Rarebits is a cafe and bookshop in the main street. The proprietor, Pam, did us proud. She had prepared various soups, tarts, sandwiches, pastries, potato pies - everything freshly cooked. Some of the men found time to browse the bookshelves and indulge in their special interests.

We were enjoying ourselves so much we had not had our 'sweet treats and cups of tea' when we had to leave for the museum. But Pam had the solution - keep to our program, and come back for our hot drinks and desserts after our museum visit - we were all so impressed with Pam's country hospitality.



After a leisurely return to the Lake, we gathered again around the fire pit and eventually cooked a communal barbecue in the camp kitchen. It was warmer inside, so our campfire singalong was around a small fire 'pig'. The singing was hearty, accompanied by two ukuleles and many rounds of chocolates.

Several Sandgroppers indicated they were keen to learn the uke, so hopefully we will have a few more players next time.



On Saturday we christened our new Sandgroper spit. Chris Young designed and built our mega spit, with the help (!) and encouragement of Brian Bizzill. The Sandgroper 'spit team' led by Brian but ably supported by an enthusiastic team began their task in earnest at midday, although the fire had been our constant companion since Friday night. All eyes were on the spit itself, including its positioning, the heat of the fire coals, the butts of beef, the lighting, the wind breaks and of course the upkeep of drinks.



Back in the camp kitchen, Graeme Peirce, who farms the land adjacent to the Lake, gave us an extremely interesting account of how the local farmers have fought to keep the water in the Lake fresh. He also introduced his father and mother, who explained how, some of his grandfather's inventions changed farming practices.



The smell from the spit told us dinner was not too far away, so salads arrived, and Peter Fatti and Helen Bizzill pulled out the carving knives. Helen organised several potato bakes, so with the salads and subsequent desserts, we were well catered for. Thanks to all those who contributed to such a wonderful evening, especially Helen and Brian who contributed many hours both before and during the rally.



**In true Sandgroper Style – no one went hungry!**



Our final gathering on Sunday morning saw us back in the camp kitchen, cups of tea in hand, listening to President Helen reflecting on the weekend and formally closing the rally. The Rally prize was won by Cindy and Barry and donated by John and Laraine. Several members stayed another night or two at the Lake, no doubt staying close to the fire pit, as the rest of us headed home.



Welcome to the Fattis!



Opening of the Rally



Lucky winners – the Jordans

All in all it was another very successful Sandgroper Rally with members pitching in and having a great time. Thank you once again to everyone for making our first Rally as Venue Officers so much fun. Kind regards,  
Linda and Chris Back



Some of the hazards of Winter Rallies – windbreaks



.....and leaky awnings

Lake Towerinning attendees were: Brian & Ronnie Adams, Jill Ambrosius, Chris & Linda Back, Brian & Helen Bizzill, Cameron & Denise Caldwell, Colin & Linda Haig, Barry & Cindy Jordan, Roy & Maureen Lundy, Ken & Annette Messenger, Ron & Lyn Mitchell, Colin & Noelene Muir, Glenda Olesen, Jim & Helen Schell & Peter & Cheryl Fatti.

## SANDGROPER CELEBRATIONS FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

### August Birthdays

02 Cameron Caldwell  
17 David Hiscock

### August Anniversaries

01 Ted & June Bunce  
02 Robin & Di Ashford



### September Birthdays

06 Cindy Jordan  
09 Noelene Muir  
16 Colin Muir  
17 Doris Friend  
20 Lynne Kirby  
22 Rheta Parkinson

### September Anniversaries

26 Cam & Denise Caldwell

September 5<sup>th</sup> is Father's Day so what better way to Celebrate than sharing some Dad jokes.

*A dad joke is a short joke, typically a pun, presented as a one-liner or a question and answer, but not a narrative. Generally inoffensive, dad jokes are stereotypically told with sincere humorous intent, or to intentionally provoke a negative reaction to its overly simplistic humor. Wikipedia*

“

*My sister bet me £10 I couldn't make a car out of spaghetti.*

*You should've seen her face as I drove pasta.*

”

\* Can February March?  
No, but April can.

\* Why was 6 afraid of 7?  
Because 7 ate 9.

\* What do you call a pencil with two erasers?  
Pointless.

Did you hear about the restaurant on the moon?

Great food,  
no atmosphere.

\* It really takes guts to be an organ donor.

\* I hated facial hair and then it grew on me.

\* Stop looking for the perfect match. Use a lighter.



\* I ordered a chicken and egg online.  
I will let you know.

\* I am reading an anti-gravity book.  
I can't put it down.

\* How do you get rid of your fear of speed bumps. You slowly get over it.

What do you call a fat psychic?

A four-chin teller.

DAD JOKES - WWW.PUN.ME

Happy Fathers Day to all the Sandgroper Dads.  
We hope you have a wonderful day!

I went to play with my boomerang the other day but forgot how to use it...

...then it came back to me

#dadjokes

@youthedaddy





**PROGRAM FOR AGM RALLY – BINDOON**  
**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021**



**Bindoon Oval and Hall, Great Northern Highway, Bindoon.**  
**Entry on right hand side (travelling north) between Bindoon Hall and Visitors Centre.**  
**Parking will be on the oval, electricity available, no water. Showers and toilets available.**  
**Cost is \$22 per van per night. Site fees will be collected in **cash** on Friday morning.**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Arrive and set up at your leisure. No activities planned**

**5.00pm Happy Hour.**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup>**

**8.30am Casual ‘mystery walk’ for those interested.**

**9.30am Tai Chi**

**10.00am Morning tea**

**11.00am Leave for Upper Chittering to picnic at Djidi-Djidi Ridge. BYO everything.**

**(For intrepid bushwalkers there is a Class 3 walk to the top of the lookout which has spectacular views of the valley and wildflowers below. More info at the rally)**

**3.00pm Afternoon tea**

**4.00pm Wine tasting and informative talk about wine by Dan Bam owner of local Glenowen Winery.**

**5.00pm Happy Hour and opening of the Rally**

**6.30pm Bring own tea and dine in the hall.**

**After dinner we will have a night of ‘fun and games’ organised by the Committee.**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>**

**8.30am Casual walk**

**9.30am Tai Chi**

**10.00am Morning Tea and visit from Rheta Parkinson.**

**The Chittering Springfest will be in full swing so search their website for lots of ideas and activities to while away your time before the very important AGM.**

**1.00pm AGM in the hall. Prompt attendance please.**

**A sumptuous Afternoon Tea will follow provided by the Committee.**

**5.00pm Happy Hour followed by shared casserole and dessert dinner in the hall. (Ovens available) Then ‘Thinking Caps’ on for a General Knowledge Quiz in teams of six.**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>**

**9.30am Morning Tea. Close of Rally and Rally prize draw.**

**For those interested in going to lunch on Sunday we have made a booking at Stringybark Winery. Numbers are needed ASAP. Please let Cheryl K know at [agcmkent@bigpond.com.au](mailto:agcmkent@bigpond.com.au)**