

GROPER'S GOSSIP

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Emergency Phone Numbers: Members families can contact these numbers during rallies:

David Hiscock 0410 479 385 Helen Bizzill 0417 913 050 Dianne Young 0419911775 Alan Parkinson 0439 652 834

2019 SANDGROPER COMMITTEE



President
David Hiscock



Rally Co-Ordinator
Ian Fullerton



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Clelia Gough

DOWERIN RALLY – THURSDAY 30TH MAY - MONDAY 3RD JUNE 2019

Venue officers – Graham and Cheryl Kent

I think everyone who attended the Dowerin Rally would all agree that it was a very enjoyable weekend with warm sunny days and chilly nights spent around the campfire. Initially there were only five vans booked for the rally but it soon swelled to twelve. With only eight viable power outlets all vans managed to have power after the very obliging Dowerin Shire installed five temporary outlets for us. We were very grateful and the Shire was very happy to have us, along with the 'foreign capital' we injected into the town for the long weekend. A win/win situation.

Five early arrivals assembled at the Showgrounds around lunchtime on Thursday including the Bizzills, Lundys, Adams, Fullerton/Nicolls and us. We formed a 'U' shape with our vans' awnings meeting to create a sheltered area for morning and afternoon tea out of the very blustery wind. We named it 'Party Central' and it proved a great spot to gather before we moved out around the fire pit.

Friday saw a steady stream of other members arriving throughout the day. The Alilovics, Moores, Burges, Olesons, Hiscocks and Kirbys made up the numbers with a visit by former members David and Janet Currow joining us for the Rally. Other very welcome visitors were former members Margaret and Gerry Kerrigan who no longer have a caravan but stayed at the Short Term Caravan Park in a cabin and joined us for fellowship throughout the weekend. We had twenty-six members and visitors in total.



President David presented the Alilovics with their 75th Rally Badges at afternoon tea on Friday. Congratulations Frank and Jan - a fantastic effort! After Happy Hour we walked en masse to the very impressive Dowerin Community Club for dinner. The Club was completely booked out with 70 members and visitors plus walk-ins enjoying the live music and excellent food cooked by one of the local butchers. It was great to see the town supporting their Club on a Friday night. We Sandgropers moved to a small pavilion provided by the Dowerin Field Days Committee after dinner for more fellowship, a quiz and a hotly contested game of Left, Right, Centre before moving back to camp to sit around the fire.

The Alilovics receiving their 75th Rally Badges from President David.

Although very chilly, Master Brian had a near record group of keen participants for Tai Chi, which segued into morning tea. Afterwards we made use of the manicured football oval by playing Finska and Disc Bowls in the glorious sunshine.



Because of their prowess and winning effort at disc bowls, Frank, Alan and Brian Adams were chosen to represent our club at the National Rally in October. Good luck fellas and keep practicing. We will all be cheering for you.



Wedding photos on display

Saturday night saw us back at the pavilion where the ladies (and some gents) excelled themselves by providing a delicious assortment of piping hot casseroles to share. Yum! Everyone had



also brought along their wedding photos as requested. It was wonderful to see the different styles of fashions over the years and it was fun to guess who everyone was as we have all changed so much. I must admit we were a very good looking and slender



group in those days. Margot Nicolls won a prize for being the most exquisite bride with her eighteen-inch waist and flawless complexion. Well-done Margot. After dinner President David had pleasure in presenting new members, Rod and Sharon Burge with their membership pack and welcomed them into our club. We are sure they will enjoy their time with us.



Margot with her photo



Rod & Sharon receiving their badges

In keeping with our 'wedding theme' we played our version of 'The Marriage Game'. Helen, Maureen, Ronnie and Beth had very kindly 'volunteered' to answer ten questions about themselves unbeknownst to their spouses. The questions included the ladies favourite colour, flower, song, food, hobby etc along with their shoe size and eye colour. More difficult questions were "Where did you meet, where did he propose and what were you wearing?" The ensuing answers from the guys were hilarious with some being spot on and others being way off. It was a very close contest with Brian and Ronnie winning with six out of ten correct answers hotly followed by the other three guys with five out of ten. Luckily there were no 'domestics' but there was a lot of muttering and eye rolling afterwards. It was all in good fun and capped off another great night. All our volunteers were still talking the next day.



Wedding game contestants Ronnie & Brian (Eventual winners) & Ian & Beth



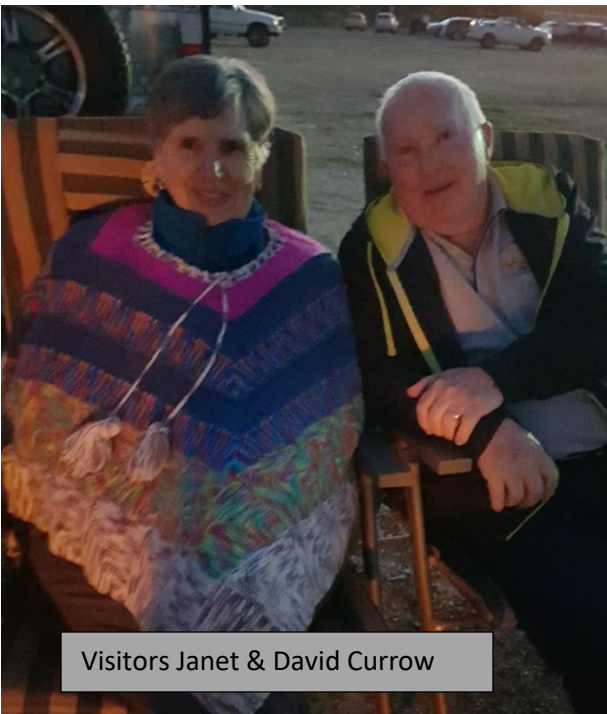
Not so lucky contestants Brian & Helen & Maureen & Roy

We enjoyed a lazy start to Sunday but after morning tea a group of eleven happy campers elected to do the Tin Dog Creek Walk Trail. Despite it being poorly signed we didn't get too lost and returned safely to camp for lunch. Others chose to walk around the oval and watch the local footy and hockey games, which Dowerin was hosting for the weekend. It was great to see the town buzzing.

It was a unanimous decision to close the Rally at Happy Hour on Sunday as some members were setting off up north for the winter and needed an early start on Monday. The rally prize was again won by Glenda & Kel Olesen. We spent another evening of fellowship around the campfire enjoying each other's company and left over desserts and chocolates. All agreed the Rally was a great success once again and Dowerin proved to be a perfect spot for it. The weather was perfect for us but we sincerely hope the farmers in the area get the long awaited rain very soon. We hope everyone arrived home safely and safe travels to everyone venturing north.

Kindest regards and warm wishes,

Cheryl and Graham



Visitors Janet & David Currow



Visitors Gerry & Margaret Kerrigan

Rally attendees were Ian Fullerton and Margot Nicolls, Roy and Maureen Lundy, Brian and Helen Bizzill, Alan and Lynne Kirby, Graham and Cheryl Kent, Frank and Janice Alilovic, Brian and Ronnie Adams, Ian and Beth Moore, Rod and Sharon Burge, Kel and Glenda Olesen, David & Paula Hiscock and visitors Janet and David Currow and Margaret and Gerry Kerrigan



PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello fellow Sandgroppers

It was great to see so many turn up for the Dowerin rally, Graham and Cheryl Kent put together another super program with something for everyone. I especially enjoyed seeing all the old wedding photo's, some of you were very dashing in your day not to say that you aren't now, but father time and a life well lived has changed some of us. Then there was the country football. It's been a long time since I watched any country football, and I forgot how good it was to stand in front of the pavilion with a beer in hand watching a bunch of blokes chase the leather. Disappointed they ran out of pies though!!!

As we left Dowerin, I reflected on how good the rally was, how friendly the locals are and what a great bunch of caring and fun people we are. Low and behold just a couple of km's from Goomalling, we came across a couple of caravaners who had broken down on the side of the road, it happened to be Margot & Ian. We pulled over to assist and it appeared that they had stopped to look for a side mirror that had come adrift and then couldn't get the car started (a flat battery). Assessing the situation, I was about to try to do a U turn to assist when another kind motorist stopped and helped, and it saved me trying to position the truck and the van on the side of a busy road. Before long Ian and Margot were on their way again.

As we near the clubs 20th anniversary, plans are underway to send out the invitations to past members and firm up the details, you will see more information in the next month or so. Per an earlier request, if you have any old photos or other club memorabilia, I would appreciate it if you could send and or lend to us for our display on the day. Thinking about past members, last week I received a message from Gerry & Margaret Kerrigan informing me that the ***Sandgroper's Inaugural President HARRY TRISTRAM passed away on the 29th May and as such It is fitting that we acknowledge and remember our Inaugural President. Harry & his wife, Heather.*** They had caravanned in New Zealand before settling in Western Australia and brought with them many ideas that have become part of our Club. He served as President of Sandgroppers for the first 2 years of the Club and during that time was also the Club representative on WAACCI. Harry made all newcomers very welcome, introduced the concept of Rally Captains and helped the then Rally Organiser to select suitable sites for Rallies. We extend our deepest sympathy to Heather and family and acknowledge with gratitude the help given by both Heather and Harry in the early days of the Club.

I will sign off now, for those going to Wongan Hills on the 5th of July, Paula & I will see you there. if you have not registered yet please do as soon as you can.

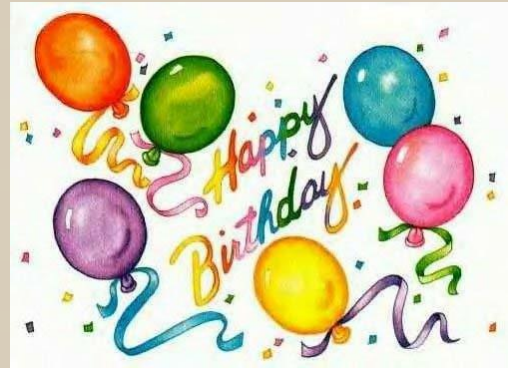
Keep well, stay safe and enjoy caravanning no matter where you are.

Kind regards

David Hiscock
President - Sandgroper Caravaners Inc.
+61410479385

JUNE 2019

Ian Moore 14th
 Bob Lengkeek 17th
 Graham Gough 20th



JUNE 2019

Peter & Mary Celenza 16th
 Alan & Lynne Kirby 30th



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ATTENDEES for Wongan Hills

Graham & Clelia Gough	Helen & Jim Schell
Doris Freind	Alan & Lynne Kirby
Kel & Glenda Olesen	David & Paula Hiscock
Brian & Helen Bizzill	Peter & Mary Neale
Ian Fullerton & Margot Nicoll	
	VISITORS:
	Cyndy & Barry Jordan

UPCOMING RALLIES

August 9th – 12th **MARTINS TANK OBT** 130 km
(near Preston Beach)

September 12th **AIRPORT CARAVAN PARK**
Hale Road Forestville
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at 10.00 am

20th BIRTHDAY LUNCH **12.30 pm**
At HILLVIEW GOLF CLUB
350 Kalamunda Road
High Wycombe

October 14th–22nd **NATIONAL RALLY**
ALBANY



Program

Wongan Hills Rally – Wongan Hills Caravan Park –

65 Wongan Rd Wongan Hills (08) 9671 1009

Friday 5th July – Sunday 7th July 2019

Venue officers – David & Paula Hiscock

Friday 5th July – Arrive & settle in

3.00pm - Afternoon tea

5.00pm – Happy hour & opening of the rally

6.30pm – Dinner Wongan Hills Hotel (new chef & menu. A copy of the menu will be forwarded before the rally)

8.30pm – Sit around fire pit & have a few drinks & laughs (weather permitting)
alternatively in the common room.

Saturday 6th July

8.00am – Walk –Christmas Rock walk (start is across from the Caravan Park) –
approximately 2.5km's (30 -40 minutes)

9.30am – Tai Chi with Brian Bizzill

10.30 am– Morning tea

1.00pm – High Tea in the not so common room – Bring your High tea plates with some sweet and savoury bites to share. Tea will be supplied, bring the finest tea cup & pot you have with you. If you want to dress up for the occasion then that is optional.

3.30pm – Afternoon tea at lake Ninan (if you have any room left or in case you have not drunk enough tea), alternatively just take in the lake. If you are up to popping back after dark, then for those avid star gazers then this is the place to see the stars and maybe the Milkyway on a clear night.

5.00pm – Happy hour

6.30pm – Jaffle iron dinner around the fire pit, or bring the dinner of your choice.

8.00pm – Bingo in the common room - \$2 per head & prizes to be won along the way

Sunday 7th July

9.00am – Tai Chi with Brian Bizzill

10.00am – Morning tea & closing of the rally

SANDGROPEERS CARAVAN CLUB RALLIES 2020

<i>Month</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Facilities</i>	
January	15 Wed	KADINJINY PARK	Club picnic
February	6-10	BINNINGUP	Power, toilets, water 15 vans 97201047
March	19-21	TAUNTON FARM Margaret River	Power, toilets, dump point, water 10 vans 9755 5334
April	23-26	MARANUP FORD near Bridgetown	Power, toilets, water, Anzac weekend 12 vans 0448 600 190
May	21-24	LAKE NAVARINO	Power, water, toilets, camp kitchen 10 vans 97333000
June	25-28	FOUR SEASONS PARK Busselton	Power, water, toilets, camp kitchen 97554082
July	23-26	LAKE GRACE	Water, toilets, Bbq 6 vans 98651263
August	27-30	NANNUP (new park)	Power, toilets, dump point, water
September	24-27	LANCELIN (AGM)	Power, toilets, water 15 vans 96551115
October	22-25	LAKE TOWERINING	Power, toilets, water 10 vans
November	29-3 Dec	SOUTHERN STARS PARK Vasse CHRISTMAS RALLY	All facilities 20 vans