

GROPER'S GOSSIP



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2017 SANDGROPER COMMITTEE

President David Hiscock

Vice-President Helen Bizzill

Secretary Dianne Young

Treasurer Mary Neale

COMMITTEE:

Rally Co-Ordinator Ian Moore

Membership Secretary Clelia Gough

June Foote

Glenda Olesen

Ron Halse

Moore River - Guilderton

Fri 4th May to Sun 6th May

Venue Officers: Alan and Lynne Kirby

Thurs 3rd May. As per usual the Kirby's left home early (about 2pm) arriving at Moore River to find that squatters had taken over our site, about 15 of them. They were reluctant to move on but, as it was our fellow Sandgropers adopting our site for afternoon tea in the sun, we got our chairs out of the van and joined them and Rheta kindly made us coffee. So for the Thursday arrivals most of them had arrived before we did. Happy hour was hosted by the Bizzell's with the usual chat and banter and catch-up as to what everybody had been up to since last met. It was cold that evening so everyone retired early to their vans for dinner and didn't appear again until the following morning. The night was extremely cold and Oh!, were we pleased that we had brought our electric column heater, which stayed on all night, it was lovely, snug as a bug.

Friday 4th May. Chris & Di and Jerry & Debbie arrived along with Brian and Mary who were staying in a cabin. Very late Roy and Maureen finally arrived and were warmly welcomed after having had problems with their caravan. Probably less said about that the better but it was really nice that they had made it.

An 8am morning walk was on the program but I'm not sure if anybody availed them-selves of the opportunity. If they did I'm pleased they never woke us up. The Tai Chi went ahead, as always thank you very much Brian for that, it is always well appreciated and well supported. Then we were heading into the serious stuff like Morning Tea and Ladder Golf.

Seven couples; The Olesen's, Lawry partnered with Mary Neale, The Bizzill's, Thelma Forbes partnered with Jerry Curchin, The Kirby's, The Wales's and the Young's from the Club all took part. We also co-opted Kevin and Lyn whose caravan we surrounded to give us an eighth team to allow a full eight team final series to occur. The participants were advised that yes there was a trophy and bragging rights to be had but no sheep stations were attached to it so let's enjoy some light hearted competition. The games went very well with a fair bit of skill, luck of the good and bad variety, and gamesmanship by the players and healthy support and barracking by the rest of the club. Most members judged that at the end of the days the guys made the most noise whilst the gals quietly scored the most points. The Olesen's, Bizzill's, Wales' and the Young went through to the semi-finals to be held on the Saturday.

Happy hour followed its normal course with lots of chat and banter and Vice-President Helen Bizzill opening the Rally. Helen had the pleasure of congratulating Kel & Glenda Olesen on reaching 100 rallies and Jim & Helen Schell on 125 rallies, with their bars to come on the return of the





membership secretary. The day had been nice, sunny and warm. It cooled off in the evening but not as cold as the previous night so we had a communal dinner, again hosted by Helen and Brian. Kevin handed out the WACCI magazine and the WA Caravan & Camping Directory 2018. Both of which are very useful and much

appreciated, thank you Kevin. He also supplied garlic and tomato plants which were also soon snatched up. There was much ribald comment and barracking about Brian's 'larger' 12v hanging lantern Vs Kel's 'smaller' lantern because as we all know "size matters". It was during this period that Roy and Maureen arrived causing great joy and laughter.



Saturday 5th May started sunny and warm, again, lovely. Not sure if the walk happened, it's far too early in my opinion to be out and about but the usual devotees to Tai Chi did their thing and it does help loosen you up for the day ahead. Morning Tea was again held out in the sun on the grass which was lovely. A cryptic quiz was handed out which was met with a mixed response, ranging from total dis-

interest to intense concentration.



After the morning tea chatter had died down we started the Semi-Finals of the Ladder Golf which consisted of the Olesen's Vs the Bizzills and the



Wales's Vs the Young's. The lack of a sheep station did nothing to temper the competitiveness and rivalry. Again there was good luck and bad luck and then there was Kel who, on one of his shots, tried to demolish the whole golf ladder. The winners were the Bizzill's and the Wales's. All of the games to-date had been close with the lead changing frequently and often the game won by just a couple of points. We went straight into the Grand Final, The Bizzill's VS the Wales's. This was a close hard fought battle with the Wales's victorious 21 to 18 and the Wales's secured the



trophy again for the third time!! We are going to have to change the rules to handicap them, maybe with blindfolds. At this point I would like to thank Mary Neale for being scorer and keeping us all on track as to what was really happening.



Later on in the afternoon a majority of the club went up to the Guilderton Country Club. Brian & Mary, Jerry & Debbie and Alan (Kirby) for a roll-up, the rest for drinks and eats. The bar was

a lively haunt with various members showing there 'wasted'

youth, especially with their high level members won drinks Lundy's won a bottle bottles of beer. members stayed for The menu was and well presented. 8:30pm with a gathering at the answers to the Quiz. high level of noise,



plagiarism to boost their results to claim a chocolate and bragging rights. If I remember rightly Chris claimed a chocolate for a question he hadn't even answered. The highest scorers were Brian & Helen Bizzill with 13 out of sixteen. After the competition we resorted to the age old practice of talking and drinking before slinking off to our beds. Lynne, Glenda and Di retired to Di's van to play Sequence with Lynne getting to bed about midnight. Me, I was fast asleep and didn't hear a thing. During the weekend Di was peddling her wares, mainly Coffee Mugs, I think she's got shares in a pottery somewhere. The Sandgroper Mugs do look superb though and Jim & Helen Schell took a long relaxing weekend with their droll sense of humour and their expansive knowledge espousing in all things country Australian. Lawry our first time visitor entered into the spirit of things while he was with us and also, rightly so, quizzed the more experienced old hands on all things technical.

Sunday 6th May. Sometime in the early morning at dark o'clock showers started and I for one got up at this daft time to bring our chairs in out of the rain. I heard at least one other person doing the same. As we were in a caravan park with the normal 10am check-out time and in the absence of the President, Vice-President Helen closed the rally at 9:30am. The Winner of the Caravan Prize was Glenda and Kel Olesen donated by Ted and June Bunce.

Report Prepared by Alan Kirby



Chris Young and Kel Olesen of skill at the Pool Table. Two at the Country club raffle, the of wine and the Young's three Eighteen caravan club dinner at the Country Club. extensive, reasonably priced We all left the Club at about number of the members Camp Kitchen to get the At this stage there was a fairly interruption, cheating and

Attendees: Alan & Lynne Kirby, Kel & Glenda Olesen; Roy & Maureen Lundy; Brian & Helen Bizzill; Jim & Helen Schell; Kevin & Thelma Forbes; Jerry & Debbie Curchin (Visitors); Chris & Di Young; Alan & Rheta Parkinson, Brian & Mary Wales; Peter & Mary Neale; Lawry Aarons (Visitor)



VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

May 2018

It's hard to believe another month has just flown by, and there we were at the Moore River rally. We were lucky to enjoy good weather for most of the weekend, and Alan and Lynne Kirby did a great job organizing the activities. The ladder golf championship was keenly contested, with each game very tight. Congratulations to Brian and Mary Wales on winning the trophy for the third time (just beating Brian and myself by 2 points 😊) - a well deserved win! A few people played bowls at the Country Club on Saturday and everyone else joined them for happy hour and dinner at the club.

Brian and I are heading down to Albany next weekend to listen to some local musicians for the National Rally next year. We have been to a couple of gigs at Perth hotels recently to get an idea of what is around – not really my scene, especially the loud music, but the nights are generally interesting just watching the crowd.

Just a reminder for everyone that the AGM is only three months away, so time to start thinking whether you would like to nominate for any of the committee positions. Please contact Di Young if you would like a nomination form.

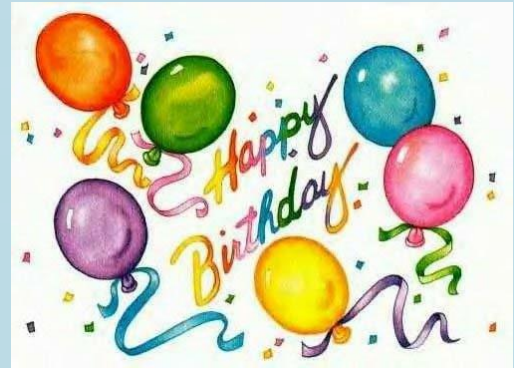
It looks like a good number of vans will be attending the next rally at Jennacubbine. Brian and I will be heading north from there for six weeks, so look forward to catching up with everyone else later in the year.

Cheers

Helen Bizzill

MAY 2018

Laurie Tyler	7th
Cheryl Kent	15th
Clelia Gough	17th



APRIL 2018

No Anniversaries this month



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Thank you to all the Sandgropers for the beautiful card sent to Trisha and I on the recent loss of her son.

Laurie Tyler

JENNACUBBINE RALLY
31st May-3rd June 2018

Venue Officers: Ronnie & Brian Adams

Thursday: 31 May Arrive early at leisure

Friday: 1st June

Arrive and set up

3 pm Afternoon tea

5 pm Opening Rally and Happy Hour

Would each van please bring a bottle of wine to the value of no more than \$10 to Happy Hour. Please also cover the label.

6.30 pm Communal BYO Dinner
Games

Saturday: 2nd June

8 am Walk

9 am Tai Chi

10 am Morning Tea

Free time: Finiska and games

3 pm Afternoon Tea

5 pm Happy Hour

6 pm Dinner at Hotel

Sunday: 3rd June

8 am Walk

9 am Tai Chi

10 am Morning Tea

11.30 am Depart for sausage sizzle lunch - everything provided

5 pm Happy Hour

6 pm Dinner and Quiz

Monday: 4th June

9.30am Closing of Rally

ATTENDEES for JENNACUBBINE::

Frank & Janice Alilovic	Chris & Di Young
Roy &Maureen Lundy	Laurie Tyler & Patricia Elery
Brian & Helen Bizzill	Alan & Lynne Kirby
Jim & Helen Schell	Arthur & Elva Littlely
Brian & Ronnie Adams	Peter & Mary Wales
Jerry & Debbie Curchin (Visitors)	Kevin & Helen DuBois (Visitors)

MOORE RIVER BLOOPERS MAY 2018

Our Man of the Moment (Rally Officer), offered a member his Programme. Lovely gesture however that was the only copy he had.

And we pose a question. Did somebody see Kevin the Icecream Man eat a piece of fruit? I believe so.

Now we know sport is to be taken seriously however I notice both Thelma and Kel broke the ladder golf.

We all have excuses for arriving late at times and this poor couple were late because the van had its wheels removed by the mechanic who then said the rocker needed to come from over east. By this stage I am sure Maureen was off her rocker so to speak.

COMING RALLIES

31st May -
4th June

***Jennacubbine* - 117 Km**

The town's name derives from the Noongar name for a well in the area, which may mean "salt water" according to some sources and was first recorded by explorer Augustus Gregory in 1848 as "Jenacubbine", with the current spelling being adopted in 1889. Jennacubbine was established as a siding on the railway line from Northam to Goomalling in June 1902.^[2]

5th - 8th July

***Balidu* 217 km**

Ballidu is a town in the Wheatbelt region of Western Australia,. Ballidu is 34 kilometres (21 mi) north of the town of Wongan Hills which, along with a few other small towns such as Cadoux and Bindi Bindi make up the Shire of Wongan-Balidu. Ballidu has a population of less than 100 people and consists of Ballidu Primary School, the local Art Gallery, a hall, a general store for groceries and essentials. As Ballidu is a farming region, over the years (as the size of the surrounding farms has increased), the town has become smaller and smaller. Currently there are only 4 students attending the local school in 2016.

16th-19th August **WHITE GUM FARM – YORK - 210 km**
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

White Gum Farm is a unique wheat belt tourism location, near York WA, with a caravan park suited to all types of caravans, motor homes and camping. Attractions include swimming, fishing, bush walking and all types of native fauna and flora.

The location also sports a airport with on site training and aircraft joy flights. Tours of the property and its features are available each Sunday and include viewing of the restoration of a MIG-21 fighter jet and aircraft hangar inspection. On site development of the exciting Lake Kimberley Bar and Grill continues with the future of weddings, functions and events.