

GROPER'S GOSSIP

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Radio Channels: AM 7; UHF 18 Web: sandgropercc.asn.au

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



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David Hiscock



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YARLOOP RALLY.

2nd May to Sun 5th May

Thursday

The early arrivals were Brian and Helen Bizzill, Ian and Beth Moore, Ian and Margot Fullerton – Nichol, and Doris Friend.

The oval was green and well maintained and clean toilets and showers. We were unable to use the hall as the Community Centre have the use of it as their new premises are still being built alongside the town hall which only had the front facade remaining after the fire of 2016.

An informal happy hour gave us time to catch up then retired to our caravans for tea as the temperature dropped.

Friday

After a quite morning the other caravans began to arrive. Beth had a short walk and returned to find the numbers had more than doubled. Kevin and Thelma Forbes were first to join us then in short order, Kel and Glenda Oleson, Jill Ambrosius..... a family friend fairly new to caravanning as a visitor. Brian and Ronnie Adams, Roy and Maureen Lundy, Allan and June Foote, and later 2nd time visitors Sharon and Ken Burge. Graham and Cheryl Kent joined us Saturday. Glenda brought her two Joeys for their last run with us as they will be going back to the Sanctuary. It was a delight to see them have the run of the oval.



Afternoon tea was a little late and rolled into happy hour and opening of the rally. Brian B and Kel set up their folding fire pits, the wind dropped and a pleasant evening was had. A BBQ tea and a pop quiz with CHOCOLATE prizes rounded off the



evening. There were enough Chocolates for everyone to be a winner.

Saturday

A windy start to the day and a quite morning after Tia Chi. Brian B did the paper run and just about cleared out the town. [only four papers] then after lunch the ladies gathered for Sequence and Rummicub. Some of



the



boys and honorary boy Maureen played Disc Bowls. Two teams, Brian A, Maureen and Ian M against Brian B, Graham and Roy. Ian seemed to be playing for the other team as on two occasions his last throw knocked his teams' discs away from the Kitty or moved the Kitty closer to the enemy.

A quick happy ½ hour and walk or drive to the brand-new CWA hall. A transportable home with



large front room and good kitchen. An excellent roast dinner and

homemade sweets. The ladies told us their stories of the fire and its aftermath, of losses of houses and people, the work of the CWA and the support they gave to the community. A collection was held from the members to show our appreciation of the CWA.



Sunday:

For many reasons and commitments most of the club members had to leave the rally so an early morning tea was held and the closing of the rally. Glenda and Kel won the rally prize donated by Mary & Peter Neale. A very pleasant weekend was had.

Ian and Beth and Graham and Cheryl went to Lake Brookman Caravan Park café for lunch instead of a picnic as the weather had turned cool and wet. An early night as the rain came in.



Ian and Beth.



Those present at the rally were Ian & Beth Moore, Brian & Helen Bizzill, Doris Friend, Ian Fullerton & Margot Nicol, Kevin & Thelma Forbes, Roy & Maureen Lundy, Brian & Ronnie Adams, Kel & Glenda Olesen, Alan & June Foote and Graham & Cheryl Kent. Visitors were Sharon & Rod Burge and Jill Ambrosius.



VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello fellow Sandgropers,

Despite a rather depressing weather forecast for the weekend rally at Yarloop, the weather was in fact very kind with only a smattering of rain overnight and a few cloudy skies. The town of Yarloop surprised most of us, with little evidence of the catastrophic bush fire that almost destroyed the area only three years earlier, apart from a number of vacant blocks which had been cleared and had a nice covering of green grass. There was a mixture of old and new homes with the most impressive building in the town being the fantastic new fire station and auxiliary buildings. The new CWA premises were also quite grand and the CWA ladies certainly cooked us a wonderful meal on the Saturday night as well as giving us a fascinating insight into the circumstances surrounding the fire and how they individually coped with it – thanks ladies, it was a great evening. There was a good roll up of ten member vans plus two visitor vans, and everyone enjoyed the weekend, with thanks to Ian and Beth Moore for being the venue officers.

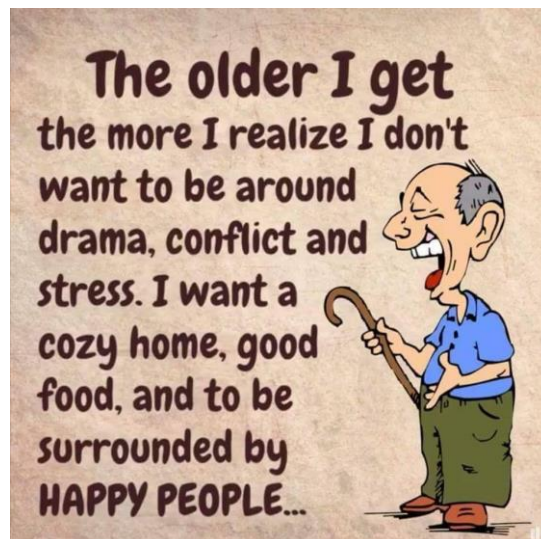
The next two rallies will be at Dowerin and Wongan Hills, so please put your name down for those if you haven't already.

Brian and I are heading up to Port Dennison on Thursday for the weekend and our son, Matt, and his family will be joining us on Friday so we are looking forward to a great weekend and spending some time with the grandkids.

Hope everyone had a great Mothers' Day. We look forward to catching up in Dowerin.

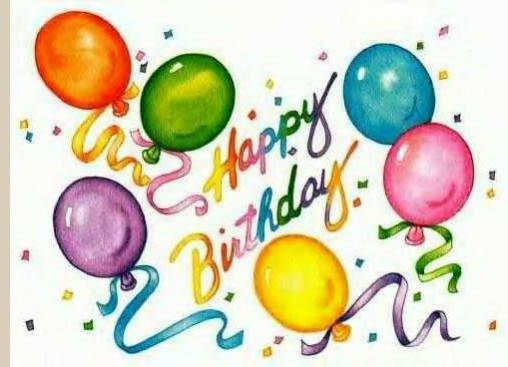
Helen Bizzill,

Vice President



MAY 2019

Cheryl Kent 15th
Clelia Gough 17th



MAY 2019

Sharon & Rod Burge 11th May



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ATTENDEES for Dowerin

Ian & Beth Moore	Brian & Ronnie Adams
Graham & Cheryl Kent	Alan & Lynne Kirby
Roy & Maureen Lundy	Frank & Janice Alilovic
Brian & Helen Bizzill	
Ian Fullerton & Margot Nicoll	VISITORS:
	Sharon & Rod Burge
	Cyndy & Barry Jordan

UPCOMING RALLIES

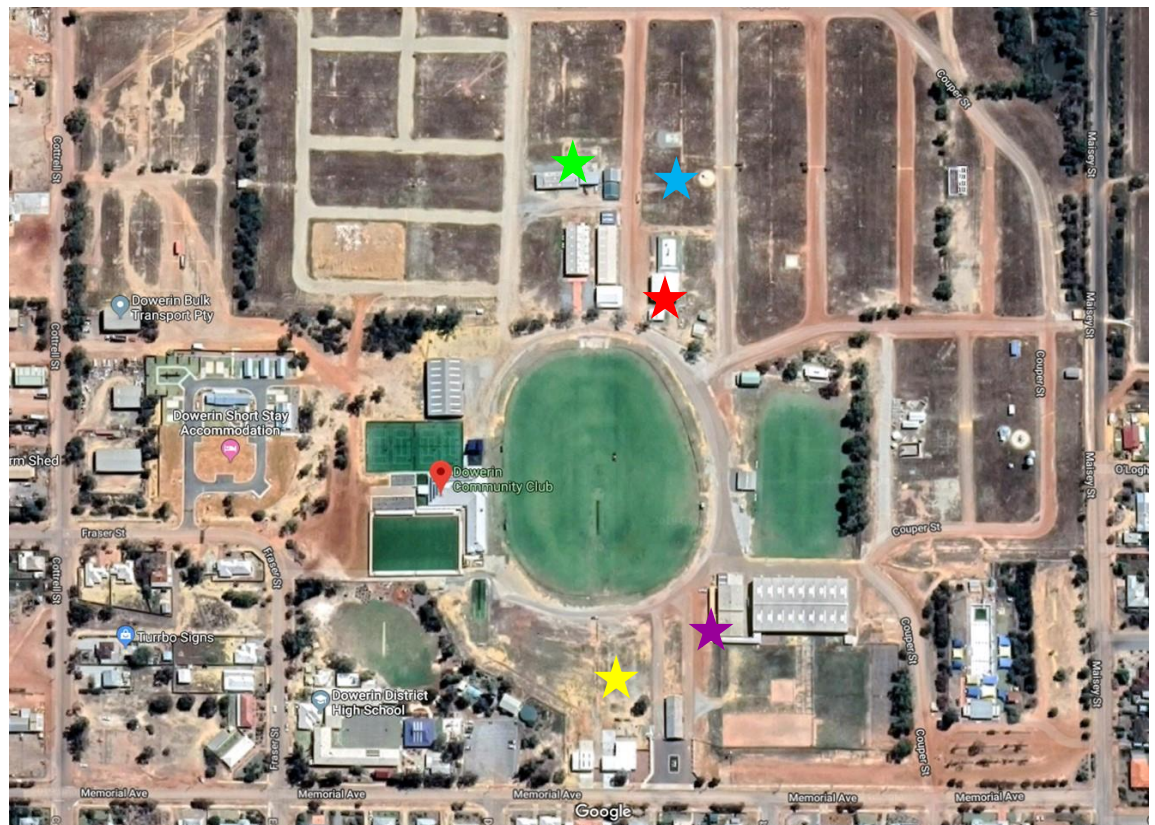
5th JULY – 8th JULY WONGAN HILLS - 182Km

The town is named for a nearby range of hills that are found to the north-west of the town, also named [Wongan Hills](#), which was first recorded in 1836. In 1925 an agricultural research station was established about 5 km north of the town which assisted in the [diversification](#) and improvements in farm practices through the state. The area is a prosperous agricultural region with activities focused on sheep, grain and pig-farming.^[6]

Construction of a [grain silo](#) commenced in 1933 as part of the bulk handling scheme that had been introduced by the government and managed by [Cooperative Bulk Handling](#).^[6]

In the early 1900s, poet [Lilian Wooster Greaves](#) lived with her family at Wongan Hills. Her book of poetry includes a number of prose and poetry items relating to living there at the time of the first world war.¹

- ★ 1st camping area. 8 power points located close together. Others located a short distance away.
- ★ Location of showers and toilets. Only 80-100m away from camping area.
- ★ Undercover sheltered area in case of rain (which seems highly unlikely at this stage! It's very, very dry)
- ★ 2nd camping area.
- ★ Single toilet — no shower



DOWERIN ITINERARY

THURSDAY 30TH MAY – MONDAY 3RD JUNE 2019

Venue officers

GRAHAM & CHERYL KENT

0417 881 119 0477 474 115

30th May Thursday		Early arrivals at Dowerin Showgrounds (Yellow star on attached map). No activities planned.
	5.00 pm	Happy Hour. Dinner and evening at your leisure
31st May Friday	9.30 am	Tai Chi with Master Brian
	10.00 am	Morning Tea
	11.00 am	Games of Finska/Bowls/Cards and Board Games or see attached list of things to do and see in and around Dowerin. (All arrangements subject to weather.)
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Tea and opening of Rally
	5.00 pm	Happy Hour around the campfire
	6.00 pm	Meet and proceed to Dowerin Community Club for dinner. Walking distance (Red teardrop on attached map) Order and pay for your own meals please.
1st June Saturday	9.30 am	Tai Chi with Master Brian
	10.00am	Morning Tea
	11.00 am	Ditto Friday's itinerary. Please note all shops in Dowerin close at 12 noon sharp so make sure you have all your supplies for the weekend.
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Tea.
	5.00 pm	Happy Hour around the campfire.
	6.30 pm	Proceed to small Pavilion for dinner. Please bring a hot casserole to share, plus dinner plates, cutlery and glasses. Dessert will be supplied.
2nd June Sunday	10.00 am	Morning Tea
	11.00 am	Ditto Friday and Saturday's itineraries.
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Tea
	5.00 pm	Happy Hour around the campfire. Dinner at your leisure.
3rd June Monday	10.00 am	Morning Tea and closing of rally. Depart at leisure.

Hello everyone,

We are looking forward to hosting the next rally in Dowerin. As you know it is always difficult to plan activities in winter, as the weather is always a deciding factor so we have suggested several options throughout the weekend to decide as a group or individually what to do on the day. Hopefully our evenings will be spent around the campfire.

As you can see by the attached Itinerary we have planned for two organized dinners over the weekend. The first is on Friday night when we will dine at the Dowerin Community Club. It is within walking distance of our campground and offers the standard Pub/Club type menu. We will book and pay for our own meals. We have booked for 18 people so if you don't wish to go to the Club for dinner, please let us know so we can change the booking.

On Saturday night we have managed to book a small pavilion opposite the showgrounds and again in walking distance. Please bring a casserole to share, ready to serve in the pavilion by 6.30 sharp. This will ensure that we can all sit down and eat together. Tables and chairs are provided but please bring your own dinner plates, cutlery and glasses. We will supply dessert.

To add some fun to the evening we would like you to bring along a photo of your wedding and wedding party if you still have copies. Ladies, a photo of your 'Going away outfit' (remember them!) will also be a welcome addition. We can reminisce and have a laugh at the changes in fashion over the years. There will be a prize for 'The Most Unchanged Couple'. That is one prize we won't win we can assure you!

We will also play our version of The Marriage Game where we test partners on how well they know their spouses. Hopefully it will all be in good fun and there will be no domestics!

On Sunday Dowerin will be buzzing as it is hosting football, hockey and netball games against other towns. They will be played in and around the Showgrounds where we are camped so it will be a great opportunity to experience an aspect of country life we don't get to see very often. The Club will be open for drinks if you want to mosey over and have a quiet one while you watch the footy.

The pub is open on Sunday night for meals if you don't feel like cooking at home. There might be a carload or two that want to venture downtown depending on numbers. We don't have to book so it can be a last minute decision. We will play it by ear on the day.

The cost per night, per caravan is \$15.00 for power, no water and showers and toilets. I will collect the money on Friday for the nights you intend to stay. Just recapping on what you require for the weekend.

1. Wedding photos.
2. Casserole to share for Friday night.
3. Firewood.
4. Warm clothes.

Once again, we are looking forward to catching up with everyone. Fingers crossed for a fine weekend.

Kind regards,

Graham and Cheryl

0417 881 119, 0477 474 115

LIST OF THINGS TO DO AND SEE AROUND DOWERIN

I have listed below some things you can do while in the area. Just a reminder that all of the shops (aside from the pub and Roadhouse) close at noon on Saturday. So make sure you have any supplies prior to this time. I hope some of this helps and if you have any problems or questions, please let me know.

Dowerin

Visit Rusty the Tin Dog

Tin Dog Creek Walk Trail

- Dowerin Museum – Gold Coin Donation. Will need to be arranged prior to the weekend.
- Wheatbelt Heritage Rail Discovery Centre in Minnivale (15 min drive) – I have checked with the guide who can take you out there and he has said that he is available any day but the Saturday. Please let me know prior to the day if you would like to do this.
- Sample some treats at the Dowerin Bakery or have a cold beer at the local pub
- Enjoy all of the local sporting action on Sunday at the town oval
- Friday night meals at the Community Club

Wyalkatchem – 25 min drive east

- CBH Museum <https://www.wyalkatchem.wa.gov.au/visitor/attractions/>
-

Goomalling – 20 min drive west

- Slater Homestead <http://www.visitgoomalling.com.au/see/history/slater-homestead>

Cunderdin & Meckering – 45 min drive south <https://www.cunderdin.wa.gov.au/explore/places-to-visit.aspx>

- Ettamogah Pub
- Cunderdin Museum – home to the former Number 3 Pumping Station
- Meckering Earthquake fault line

Wongan Hills – 45 min drive north west <https://www.wongan.wa.gov.au/tourism/tourism.aspx>

- Many reserves and walk trails

Koorda – 45 min drive north east

<https://www.koorda.wa.gov.au/visit/what-to-do/local-attractions.aspx>

Kind Regards,

Misty Richards

Community Development Officer

Shire of Dowerin

13 Cottrell St

PO Box 111

DOWERIN WA

