

# GROPER'S GOSSIP

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## 2019 SANDGROPER COMMITTEE



President  
David Hiscock



Rally Co-Ordinator  
Ian Fullerton



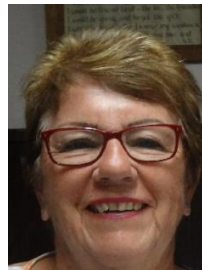
Vice President  
Helen Bizzill



Committee Member  
Glenda Olesen



Secretary  
Di Young



Committee Member  
Ronnie Adams



Treasurer  
Alan Parkinson



Committee Member  
Helen Schell



Membership  
Secretary  
Clelia Gough

# Nambung Station Stay

21st - 24th September 2018

Maureen and I arrived on Friday around lunch time to find that 10 of the vans had arrived up there during the week with Ian and Beth arriving Tuesday, Robin and Di on the Wednesday with the others arriving on the Thursday. We weren't the last with the president and Paula about an hour after us.

We had a little trouble with the power supply as we had the whole 12 vans plugged in and the park had told us that they only had 10 powered site capacity. This was no worries as we were ok as long as we limited the power usage.

David the president opened the meeting at the happy hour and welcomed back all the



travellers, happy hour was followed by a barbeque tea and then we adjourned to the fireside to reminisce on our travels and experiences.

Saturday saw some up early and going for a walk. Also a group went out on a tour of the Station which they all seemed to enjoy, while a few stayed in bed and only got up in time for Ti-Chi which was run again by Brian, thanks again Brian. After morning tea the committee adjourned to the shed for the meeting.

We then had lunch and a few members gathered around Kels van to watch the eagles game.



At half time we had a game of Disc Bowls with Ian, Alan and



Beth winning over David, Brian and Roy. Di, Rheta and Maureen then had a try with I believe Rheta coming out the winner.



After the footy we adjointed to the shed for happy hour at about 4-30 dinner was an individual meal with the club



meeting back at the shed at 7-opm For games. When we got back to the shed we were entertained by Brian (the owner of the park ) on his Guitar for about ½ an hour which was good, we then settled in to play a game of 30 which turned out a good night after Chris got onto the internet to clarify the rules. We were split into two groups with Kel winning one and Maureen the other.

On Sunday morning we said goodbye to 5 of the vans. Chris, Dianne, Paula and David headed off to Cervantes for a trip but somehow ending up in Jurien. Finska was played in the afternoon with a couple of games managing to be played, Alan Kirby pointed out to us that we had missed a rule in the instructions that stated that you had to have 3 misses in a row before you were illuminated. In the evening we sat around the fire again and were joined by a couple of young lads doing a tour up around the area, one had an accident with a barbed wire fence and they had had to dig their bikes out of some water and mud so were trying to dry their gear.

Come Monday morning and the Young's decided to go on the tour of the station while we had morning tea and David closed the rally before another 3 of the vans packed up to head off home. Some of the ladies settled in to play Sequence while the rest of us relaxed.

The winners of the rally prize were Ian and Beth.

On Monday night some of us sat around the fire for a while. Come Tuesday morning the final 4 vans headed for home.

All in it was an enjoyable stay.

Roy and Maureen Lundy

Those present were David & Paula, Ian & Margo, Ian & Beth, Robin & Di, Brian & Ronnie, Jim & Helen, Alan & Lynne, Alan & Rheta, Chris & Di, Kel & Glenda, Brian & Helen, Roy & Maureen





## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hi fellow Sandgroppers, hope you are all well and enjoying some caravanning wherever you are. It was great to see a good turn out at the recent Nambung Station rally, a good find this one, not too far from Perth and the coastal town of Jurien Bay. I'm sure we'll see this one back on the rally agenda in future years. There was a real "footy" flavour about the weekend, with the mighty Eagles winning the AFL Prelim (and of course going onto to win the big one a week later) and The Subiaco Lions who made a clean sweep of the colts, reserves and league (sorry Ian Fullerton). However this was not to take anything away from the Brian Bizzill who once again cleaned up at finska !#!#?

As a new committee we held our first meeting at Nambung Station, there was plenty of enthusiasm and contribution by all, with plenty to discuss and get on with over the next few months. Key themes, were the Christmas rally at Cervantes, the 2019 rally list, the new Constitution, and the 20th anniversary of the Sandgroper Caravanners Inc. in 2019. Keep an eye out in the Gossip and via e-mail for further information and details regarding each of these matters.

With respect to the Christmas rally and future rally's please ensure you flag your intentions as early as you can. If you know you are unavailable or unsure, login to the website and record your unavailability. This information is extremely helpful for our Rally Co-ordinator and venue officers. Speaking of venue officers, if you have not co-ordinated a rally for a while or yet to do one, we would appreciate it if you could put your hand up. For those who have not been a venue officer and would like some assistance, don't be shy, there are plenty in the club who are happy to assist you. I can personally say it is very rewarding and somewhat educational as you embark on the research aspect.

I'll sign off now, depending on my work (or not) I might see you at the Back to Nature rally from the 19th October - 21st October.

Stay well, stay safe and enjoy caravanning..

David Hiscock  
President - Sandgroper Caravanners Inc.

## Nambung Station September 2018

Written by Alan Kirby

As part of the Nambung Station Rally, Jim and Helen, Glenda, Ian and Margo and Alan & Lynne did a station tour with the station owner. He drove us around a section of the station (about 5,000 acres) and gave us a very interesting talk on the history



of the area and the station. The highlight was at the end of the tour where we visited Nambung Station's own pinnacles. The climb was up to the top of a very steep and challenging sand dune but we were rewarded at the top by an amazing scenic view over 360 degrees over the station and also a view over vast sand dunes with pinnacles. It seems that although some of the pinnacles



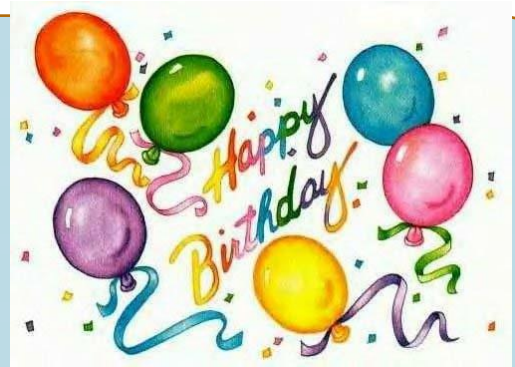
seemed to be only a few feet tall they were in fact maybe ten times larger as they were like ice bergs with only the peaks

showing. Also, over time, the sand dunes would shift and pinnacles would be covered over and new ones uncovered. Also quite aptly Helen found a real 'sandgroper' and a photo is attached to prove it. It was a very interesting and rewarding tour.



## September 2018

Peter Celenza            16th  
 Doris Friend            17th  
 Lynne Kirby            20th  
 Rheta Parkinson        22nd



## September 2018

**No Anniversaries this month!!**



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## ATTENDEES for BACK TO NATURE

Chris & Di Young	FSS	Jim & Helen Schell	
Graham & Clelia Gough	FSS	Kevin & Thelma	
Roy & Maureen Lundy		Peter & Mary Neale	TFSS
Alan & June Foote		Alan & Lynne Kirby	TFSS
Jerry & Debra Churchin		Brian & Helen Bizzill	TFSS
Ian Fullerton & Margot Nichol Elva Littlely		Kel & Glenda Olesen	

## **BACK TO NATURE PROGRAMME**

Venue Officers: Roy & Maureen Lundy

### **FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup>**

5-00 pm Happy Hour and opening of Rally

6-30 pm Sausage Sizzle ( \$ 2-00 per head )

7-30 pm Card Bingo

### **SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup>**

8-00 am Walk

10-00 am Morning tea

12 Noon Lunch

1-30 pm leave for mini golf

2-00 pm Mini golf \$14 or 13 for concession

Devonshire tea available \$8-50

4-30 pm Happy Hour and left, right and centre

6-00 pm Evening meal of own choice

7-00 pm Games night

### **SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup>**

9.30 am Closing of rally

**REMINDER**



The Committee wish to remind members that for the Christmas Rally a gift to the value of \$20 per van will be needed for Father Christmas to hand out. The gift should be useful, drinkable or eatable.

## THE LOST PIGEON STORY

Whilst we were camping at the Nambung Station rally we were joined on the Saturday by a friendly pigeon who seemed to like our camp and spent his/her time hopping around our ground sheets, occasionally fluttering up to the awning if something frightened it. It had bands around each leg and was obviously a racing pigeon who had seemingly lost its way. On the Monday morning it was still reluctant to leave and spending most of its time in Glenda's kangaroo enclosure. After some coaxing Kel was able to catch it and record the numbers on the bands before putting it safely in a cardboard box. We decided to name her Kelli after Kel.

One of the numbers on the bands was the "Lost Pigeon Hotline" which had a recorded message requesting all the information from the bands and assuring the caller that the owner would be in touch the following day. So Kelli enjoyed her trip back to Perth and the following day we had a call from a girl on behalf of her father to arrange a pick up time. What a coincidence! Her name was Kelly so I had to tell her we had named the pigeon Kelli. Steve, the owner, duly arrived and was very grateful that we had brought Kelli back to Perth, although Kelli turned out to be a Kel. He had been missing for two weeks and had probably been distracted by a female pigeon while racing back from Carnarvon. Apparently, he was one of his best pigeons with extremely good blood lines so he was glad to have him back.



Happy ending!

## BINDOON SPRING FESTIVAL

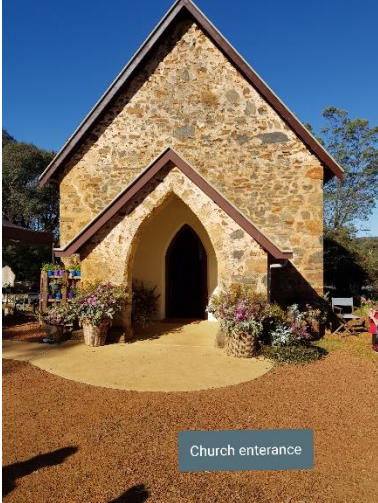


On the weekend 14th, 15th and 16th September 3 vans attended the Spring Festival. The Bizzill's arrived first followed closely by the Adams' and as it was lunch time off we headed for the famous bakery, on the way bumping into the Schell's the last of the trio. At the bakery Brian Bizzill was very disappointed when once again there were no steak and kidney pies and let the staff know. Whilst eating lunch the manager

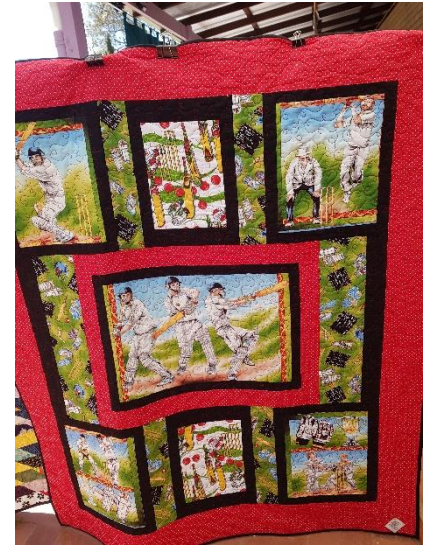
approached the table and apologies to Brian and inviting him to let the bakery know when he would be calling again and they would ensure a steak & kidney pie would be available and then handing him an apple log, which we all enjoyed at afternoon tea. That afternoon, Brian & Helen had to go to their grandchildren's



school to see them perform while the rest of us sat around talking until they arrived back with the kids. We discovered the old Silver Chain building was open so moved in there as it was cold outside.



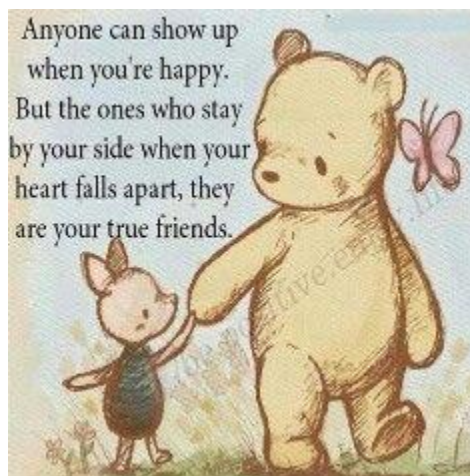
Saturday dawned with clear skies promising a good day so off to the town oval and visitors centre to organize our day. We firstly walked around the oval checking out the stalls and then into the town hall where there was a display of wildflowers and paintings. Back to the van for lunch then off to the bush for a wildflower guided tour, which was very informative with flowers pointed out to the group that we would have missed. Next stop was the quilt show, which those who know me well will know is a passion of mine. There was a very big display of quilts which we all enjoyed



looking at with the girls having some good discussion on techniques and colours. From there we headed to the old church which has been renovated and looked amazing. The wildflower tubs were beautiful, and certainly showcased the flowers in the area, A long day so back to the vans and once again we utilized the room for happy hour and then we brought our dinner over and enjoyed the company. After dinner we all played rummicub until 9.30pm before heading to bed.

Sunday dawned very misty and a little chilly with the car window iced over. Off we trotted to the oval again to see the vintage cars on display, something the boys were excited about. There was a big display with the highlight being the 1950's caravan a crowd puller.

Back to the vans again with Jim and Helen the first to depart and a little later with Helen & Brian ready to leave but on checking lights the brake lights weren't working and this took some time to fix before they departed around 2 pm leaving the Adams who were staying another night before heading further north and then back to the rally at Nambung Station, Brian went into the van and discovered we had no power and after trying to get fuses to no avail we decided to go home also and get the van right before heading to Nambung the following weekend. A very enjoyable weekend..



## **COMING RALLIES**

### **19th - 21st October BACK TO NATURE**

Back to Nature Caravan Park was opened in July 2011. The Park is situated on Cowalla Road in West Gingin, just over an hours drive from the metro area and within a 30 minute drive from the towns of Gingin, Lancelin, Guilderton, Seabird and Ledge Point.

The Park is in 200 acres of scenic undulating native bushland, which has full registration under the Land For Wildlife scheme. This makes it an idea location for enjoying the wildflowers in spring, bushwalking, birdwatching or simply for a quiet getaway.

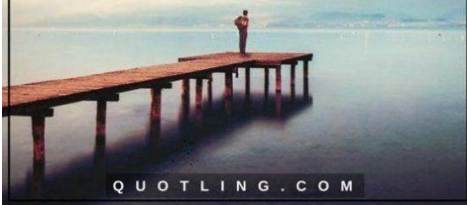
## **CHRISTMAS RALLY**

### **29th November - 2nd December CERVANTES**

**Cervantes** is a town off Indian Ocean Drive about 198 kilometres north-north-west of [Perth](#) in the [Shire of Dandaragan](#) ! The town was named after a ship that was wrecked nearby. The ship, in turn, was named after [Miguel de Cervantes](#), author of [Don Quixote](#).

The principal industry in the town is [fishing](#). [The Pinnacles](#) are nearby in [Nambung National Park](#) which makes for a small industry from tourism. The saline [Lake Thetis](#), which contains [stromatolites](#), is nearby.

Keep calm and be crazy,  
laugh, love and live it up  
because this is the oldest  
you've been and  
the youngest you'll ever  
be again.



CHOCOLATE

is the answer.  
Who cares  
what the question is.



*Words of Wisdom*

