



GROPER'S GOSSIP



The band Red Ochre from Geraldton got the show rockin' at Nambung with their great music.

Sandgroper's enjoyed a fabulous weekend in Nambung near Cervantes for the Country Music Festival. All had a great time. Read all about it plus info on our Christmas Rally in Eaton from the 26th – 29th November and lots, lots more.....

2021 SANDGROPER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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

Helen Bizzill – President 0417 913 050, Cheryl Kent – Vice President 0477 474 115, Di Young – Secretary 0419 911 775 and Sharon Burge – Treasurer – 0414 259 962



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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR REGISTERING FOR RALLIES:

1. On the website, log on.
2. Go to **PLANNED RALLIES** then **RALLY BOOKINGS**
3. Select the rally you would like to attend and you will be automatically registered.
4. **IMPORTANT:** under **ADDITIONAL NOTES** in the box please enter the nights you require e.g. T,F,S,S, (Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
5. Make sure you press **SAVE ADDITIONAL INFO** before closing

UPCOMING RALLIES:

NOV 26 – 29 EATON CHRISTMAS RALLY 4 Hamilton Road, EATON
JAN 12 CLUB PICNIC (No rally this Month) Lake Monger BBQ Area 36 Dodd St WEMBLEY
FEB 4 – 7 PEPPERMINT GROVE BEACH HOLIDAY PARK, 48 Peppermint Grove Rd
MAR 11 – 14 LEDGE POINT HOLIDAY PARK 742 Ledge Point Rd. LEDGE POINT



PRESIDENT'S REPORT – NOVEMBER

We have just returned from the Nambung Country Music Muster rally, which was a great success. I was a little concerned that the weekend may have been a bit disjointed, but that certainly was not the case. While everyone enjoyed the music at their leisure, the morning teas and happy hours were boisterous gatherings with lots of laughter and story telling.

Not being a great lover of music in general, I was very pleasantly surprised that I enjoyed the music part of the weekend so much, the highlight for me being Sunday afternoon with the Slim Dusty Tribute, Chris Murphy and the Finale. Perhaps our future rally planning should look to including similar themed weekends, but often in small country towns there is a lack of suitable venues for large numbers of caravans.

So, the next rally is our Christmas get together at Eaton. The Committee has finalised the program for the weekend and hope that there will be something for everyone to enjoy. We currently have 20 vans registered, plus Brian and Mary Wales in a cabin and Alan and Rheta Parkinson visiting for the day. The caravan park is quite modern with a good camp kitchen, a pool and good-sized sites, which are all well lawned. However, there is very little shade.

Once Brian has advised the park of your vehicle registration number (please let him know that if you haven't already) you will receive a detailed email from the park advising how the express check-in works via the entrance at **4 Hamilton Road, Eaton** (not the Pratt Road entrance) and your site number. The camera at the gate will recognise your registration and automatically open the gate. After setting up you can then walk to the park office and pay your fees, or you may pay in advance as requested in the park email. **Please read their email fully as there is important information in it.**

The Christmas gift giving is optional. To participate each member will need to purchase a gift from Bunnings to the value of \$10. They can be male, female or unisex. I am sure you will find a good variety of goods in this price range to choose from at Bunnings.

The Christmas lunch on Saturday at 12.30 pm will be at the Back Beach Café in Bunbury. The cost of the two-course meal with tea and coffee will be \$35 per head. Members are required to pay \$20 per head (to be collected at Happy Hour on Friday) and the Club will subsidise the remaining \$15. There will be a choice between two mains and two desserts and an email will be sent out shortly asking for your choices.

Due to the windy conditions over the past Christmas Rallies, decorating your van is optional. There will be no competition but fairy lights are always a festive touch. Feel free to contribute to the Camp Kitchen as well with any bits and bobs you have. Thank you in anticipation.

Look forward to seeing you all at Eaton.

Safe travelling,
Helen



NAMBUNG COUNTRY MUSIC MUSTER 22-26 OCTOBER 2020

WOW, what a great rally this turned out to be! We had 16 member vans, three visitor vans plus Ronnie's sister and two of their friends, giving us a total of 19 vans altogether. Seventeen of those vans arrived on the Thursday, with the other two turning up on Friday.



A great crowd for Happy Hour

It was a good turn up at Happy Hour (33) on Thursday afternoon for the opening of the rally. We welcomed new members – Laurie Tyler & Trish Wilson and Ron & Lyn Mitchell – who were presented with their badges and membership packs. It was nice to see John and Sue Moriarty back for their second rally and they are planning to join us at the Christmas rally at Eaton. Other first time visitors were Chris & Linda Back and Syd & Jacque Adams, who are also planning to join us in Eaton.



President Helen welcomed Laurie and Trish and Ron and Lyn to our Club



Tai Chi with Master Brian is a great way to start the day

Friday morning saw 19 attendees for Tai Chi, which was followed by morning tea. People drifted back and forth between our camp area and the music during the day, and a popular act in the afternoon was Moira Scott doing a Patsy Cline Tribute. Happy hour was again well attended and somewhat rowdy. Brian Adams organised a “lucky dip” for the AFL grand final the following day with prizes for the winning margin, first goal scorer and best on ground. The afternoon was very windy, so Kel and Glenda erected a tarpaulin around their awning so had a bit of a gathering there for a barbeque dinner. Fortunately, the wind died down later in the evening and we were all able to enjoy a good night’s sleep.



Watching the AFL Grand Final on the tiny telly. Lots of fun and banter.

Saturday was predicted to be warm at 32 deg but there was still a good turn up of 21 for Tai Chi. Once again everyone enjoyed the music during the day, but many gathered at Brian Adam's van to watch the grand final around 4 pm. The Red Ochre aboriginal band certainly got the crowd up and dancing after dinner, and they were followed by the Everly Sisters, with the Nambung Country Band finishing off the evening.



Happy Sandgropers enjoying the festival despite the heat.

Sunday was very hot (around 35 deg) and the Bush Poet's Breakfast was well attended, helped along by bacon and egg toasties, tea and coffee. Following the breakfast we all met back at camp and the rally was officially closed. Several vans left in the early afternoon. The afternoon entertainment was the highlight of the weekend with the Slim Dusty Tribute Show featuring Ian Simpson (one of Australia's best banjo players) who used to play in the Slim Dusty Touring Band, followed by Chris Murphy, a youngish singer/guitarist/song writer from Albany, who certainly wooed the crowd. The Finale featured all the artists on stage singing iconic Australian songs like We are Australian, True Blue and Waltzing Matilda. What a fantastic finish to a really great weekend. Our final happy hour lingered on for several hours with everyone agreeing that it had been a great rally.

The organisers of the muster really deserve congratulations for providing a weekend that was so well organised, from the initial arrival and marshalling of up to 700 vans, the allocation of specific areas for large groups such as ours, the portable toilets which were maintained to a very high standard over the entire weekend, and the generally relaxed vibe with a minimum of rules and a great community feeling, not to mention a good variety of Western Australian artists. All attendees from our club agreed that it was a fantastic weekend with great music and fellowship. We can't wait to catch up in Eaton for our Christmas Rally which should be just as much fun. See you there with jingle bells on!



The bush poets are always very popular



Deserving winners of the rally prize – Helen and Brian, donated by Kel and Glenda

Attendees at Nambung:

Brian & Helen Bizzill, Brian & Ronnie Adams, Kel & Glenda Olesen, Kevin & Thelma Forbes, Jim & Helen Schell, Alan & Lynne Kirby, Roy & Maureen Lundy, Peter & Mary Neale, Doris Freind, Graham & Cheryl Kent, Jerry & Deb Curchin, Ron & Lyn Mitchell, Laurie Tyler & Trish Wilson.

Visitors: John & Sue Moriarty, Chris & Linda Back, Syd & Jacquie Adams.

Venue Officers: *Brian & Helen Bizzill*

ATTENDEES FOR CHRISTMAS RALLY - NOV 26 – 29 2020

MEMBER VANS

1. ADAMS Brian and Ronnie
2. ALILOVIC Frank and Jan
3. ALLEN John and Laraine
4. BIZZILL Brian and Helen
5. FORBES Kevin and Thelma
6. FRIEND Doris
7. HAIG Colin and Linda
8. KENT Cheryl and Graham
9. KIRBY Alan and Lyn
10. LUNDY Roy and Maureen
11. MESSENGER Ken and Annette
12. MITCHELL Ron and Lyn
13. MOORE Ian and Beth
14. NEALE Peter and Mary
15. OLESEN Kel and Glenda
16. SCHELL Jim and Helen
17. TYLER Laurie and Trish
18. YOUNG Chris and Di

VISITOR VANS

19. BROWN Michael and Pam
20. MORIARTY John and Sue

CABIN

WALES Brian and Mary

DAY VISITORS

PARKINSON Alan and Rheta

CONTRIBUTIONS

The Gossip welcomes contributions from all our members. If you have photos of rallies or stories, anecdotes, hints etc to make our Gossip fun and interesting, please feel free to email me on agcmkent@bigpond.com. The article below is from new member Lyn Mitchell. Lyn is an avid photographer and some of her photos feature in this month's Gossip. Thank you Lyn. You are off to a good start! Thank you also to Ronnie for contributing the story of the footie Grand Final. Everyone enjoyed it very much especially the sweep winners!



Ron sharing a joke with intrepid cyclist Lionel Morbelli at Nambung

At Nambung, we discovered an everyday hero. Frenchman Lionel Morbelli, who lives and works in WA nowadays, set himself a target to cycle 6,000km solo from Kununurra to Eucla along the coast, to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Western Australia. He left Kununurra on the 8th August 2020 and found the sand of the Gibb River Road on the way to Derby particularly challenging. Averaging around 70km of riding per day, he's also battled strong headwinds further down the coast near Geraldton but that hasn't dented his determination to complete his goal to get to Eucla.

THE AFL GRAND FINAL

On Saturday afternoon the AFL Final was played between Richmond and Geelong. To create some interest Brian ran sweeps among the members of our club and visitors to see who was lucky enough to get the first goal kicker and the margin and best on ground.



Captive audience watching the footie

As the start time drew near Brian set up the TV outside our van and invited anyone who was Interested to join us. At the beginning of the game there were 17 people sitting around a 20" TV which was propped up on a carton of Beer and Coke so as the people at the back could see. Much barracking took place until the first goal was kicked by Richmonds Prestia with the winner of the sweep being Cheryl Kent.

It was suggested that a bigger TV would be good but unfortunately due to a bad connection this wasn't viable and thus reverted to the 20" TV. At half-time saw nibbles of sausage rolls, pies, dips and biscuits, nuts and several other nibbles were handed round. The last quarter provided some friendly banter as people were checking whether they had the points only to have another score and the margin would change again. On the siren Judy Cole, my sister and a visitor for the weekend, was the lucky winner. The winner of best on ground was Roy Lundy who drew Dusty Martin. During the afternoon we noticed several people from other vans wandering by and stopping for a look thus creating more atmosphere.



Cheryl winning first goal



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Our secretary Di Young loves to bake and this is one of her favourite slice recipes. It is yummy. Enjo

DI'S ANZAC CARAMEL SLICE

BASE

- 1 cup of SR flour
- ½ cup desiccated coconut
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 140gm unsalted butter melted

TOPPING

- 1 cup shredded coconut
- 1 cup rolled oats
- ½ cup golden syrup
- 80gm melted unsalted butter extra
- 1 x 380gm store bought caramel filling

BASE

1. Preheat oven to 180C. Line base and sides of 20cm x 30cm slice tin with non-stick baking paper.
2. Place flour, coconut, sugar and butter in a bowl and stir until mixture resembles coarse breadcrumbs.
3. Using the back of a spoon, press mixture into slice tin. Bake for 20 – 25 minutes until golden.
4. Allow to cool for 10 minutes.

TOPPING

1. Place shredded coconut, oats, golden syrup and extra melted butter in bowl and mix to combine.
2. Spread the caramel topping over the cooled base
3. Spoon over the oat topping
4. Bake a further 20 -25 minutes until golden.
5. Allow to cool completely before cutting into squares. Makes 20



October Birthdays

9th Arthur Littlely
Ron Mitchell
10th Ronnie Adams
Roy Lundy
18th Annette Messenger
21st Helen Schell
29th John Allen

November Birthdays

6th Ann Boan
18th Rod Burge
Margot Nicoll
19th Kevin Forbes
25th Sharon Burge
28th Graham Kent



October Anniversaries

10th David & Paula Hiscock
17th Ian & Beth Moore
20th Roy & Maureen Lundy

November Anniversaries

9th Brian & Mary Wales
18th Peter & Mary Neale
18th Barry & Cindy Jordan