



Sandgroper's celebrated the Queen's diamond jubilee in fine style at Serpentine Falls with a 'garden party' in the clubrooms at the caravan park due to the inclement weather. It didn't dampen our spirits and we had a right royal fun time. Read all about it in this issue.

- Pg. 1 Sue and John Moriarty and Cam and Denise Caldwell dressed for the occasion.
- Pg. 2 Management Committee, President's Report and upcoming rallies.
- Pg. 3-4 Serpentine Rally report by Jacque and Syd Adams
- Pg. 5 Sandgroper Celebrations for June and July
- Pg. 6 Travelling Sandgroper reports.
- Pg. 7 Rally program for Dwellingup Rally.

## 2022 SANDGROPER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Emergency contacts: Helen Bizzill 0417 913 050, Cheryl Kent 0477 474 115, Di Young 0419 911 775



Helen Bizzill  
President



Cheryl Kent  
Vice President



Di Young  
Secretary



Sharon Burge  
Treasurer



Chris Back  
Com. Member



Ian Moore  
Member. Sec.



Lyn Mitchell  
Com. Member

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT – JUNE 2022

Against all the odds, the Serpentine rally sounds like it was a great success. Congratulations to Syd and Jacquie for pulling together all elements of the rally. I haven't seen the photos yet, but understand a great effort was made to look Royal at the Jubilee High Tea, with perhaps a special mention to Cameron and Denise. The Saturday night dinner also sounded like it was a very popular event. It is great to see members who have not previously acted as venue officers achieving a high level of success. If you haven't hosted a rally, give it a go – it's not that hard and there are always members willing to help if necessary.

We were sorry to hear that John Allen has been experiencing some ill health. He is scheduled to have a hernia operation on Tuesday. An MRI showed some debris indicative of kidney stones hence the pain at the rally. He and Laraine thanked everyone for their help and concern. We send him our best wishes for a quick recovery.

Up here in Barn Hill we are very relaxed, enjoying warm weather and sunny days. Some of Brian's golf buddies from Mt Lawley have visited Barn Hill and it was good to catch up with them. They were all very impressed with their stay here. June and Alan Foote arrived here last week, also Rod and Sharon Burge are visiting for six days. Colin and Linda Haig are due to arrive next week, so we have been enjoying lots of Sandgroper friendship. Looking forward to catching with Cheryl and Graham in Broome in a few weeks' time.

I hope the Dwellingup rally is a success and that John and Laraine Allen are able to host it. If not, I understand that Doris Freind has offered to take up the challenge. Thanks Doris. We hope that all our Sandgroper friends are remaining well and enjoying the Club fellowship.

Cheers,  
Helen



**Left:** Gorgeous photo of great grandma Helen (hard to believe!) having one and only cuddle of Mackenzie before leaving on their trip. I am sure there will be plenty more when you return. Ed.

**Right:** The Barn Hill sub branch of Sandgroper meeting in sunnier climes - Bizzills and Burges. See you soon!



### UPCOMING RALLIES

**JULY 21 – 25 DWELLINGUP CARAVAN PARK** 23 Dell Park Rd Dwellingup 9538 1157 All services, fire pits, camp kitchen, hotel, bushwalking, sightseeing. Venue Officers John and Laraine Allen mentored by Doris.

**AUGUST 11 – 15 CARNAMAH CARAVAN PARK** 50 MacPherson St Carnamah 9951 7000 All services, hotel, café, wildflowers, sightseeing Venue Officers Ian and Beth Moore

**SEPTEMBER 15 – 19 AGM GOLDEN PONDS CARAVAN PARK** – 355 Mundijong Rd Baldivis 9524 1911 Venue Officers - the Committee. As it is our AGM, your attendance would be greatly appreciated. Thank you. (Apologies to Secretary Di please – 0419 911 775)

## SERPENTINE RALLY - 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022

By Jacquie Adams

Despite several challenges and novice camp hosts, Serpentine Rally was a success. Our initial challenges came with cancellations from two couples due to the dreaded COVID 19 and Colin Muir requiring an operation on his shoulder. I am pleased to report all is now well with Cindy and Ron, with their spouses managing to dodge the virus. Colin is recuperating as well.

There was another casualty on Saturday when the Allens had to leave, as John became unwell during Friday night. This certainly showed the spirit of the Sandgroppers as a number of our group pitched in to help them get underway and offers to drive them home. John now has the medical help he needs, so we are hoping he will return to good health very soon.

Health was not the only challenge. The weather threw everything at us - rain, wind and chill. Serpentine's only undercover area seated 6 and was open on all sides to the elements. Maureen and Roy had their van facing the right way and managed to get their awning and annex erected. Many of us aborted our efforts here. We managed to erect with a pooled effort of two gazebos and various sidewalls, on from the annex, to form what became known as the Tunnel of Love. The warmth was mostly from bodies, alcohol and of course the usual hot air. One gazebo failed to make the trip home, being broken and torn thus relegated to the bin after serving its purpose. There were some dramatic moments when rain pooled in the gazebo, releasing at inopportune moments and the screening around needing to be regularly reattached. Maureen was diligently drying chairs each morning with a gas heater in her annex.

The planned walks were pleasant, and the rain held off until after the return. As Tai Chi was cancelled as we lost Lyn, and the mornings were really cold, we moved the walks to 9am. This saw a new cohort who usually stay in bed, join in (e.g. Syd). The first morning was to Serpentine Falls amongst the roos, and the second to The Cup in Serpentine. Unfortunately, The Cup was closed, but not to be thwarted we all gathered for morning tea at the Roadhouse on the corner of the tourist park.

We were so blessed as Lorraine and I met in the office on Thursday at check in, and we were responding to questions from Debbie (Serpentine Manager) about what we did on our weekends together. We were lamenting we had a Platinum Jubilee Picnic planned the next day, and were worried it would be washed out. She said we were the nicest, happiest group they had had, and as a result she organised permission (a first off) for us to celebrate in the permanent resident's clubhouse. We all dressed for the occasion and morning tea, morphed into lunch with a great spread of English fare from cucumber sandwiches to crown biscuits, whilst it rained outside. Denise and Cam really knew how to dress for such an occasion.



Serpentine Falls





**Dining at the King's Road Brewery.**

Our evening drinks and nibbles went ahead each night in the Tunnel of Love, ignoring the rain and wind. On Saturday evening we went to King's Road Brewery for drinks and dinner. We drove off in the rain, to enjoy a meal around the potbelly fire. The place was rocking with a wedding, a 21<sup>st</sup> and numerous other diners. We had a great table with plenty of room, and everyone enjoyed the very generous dinners and local wine, ale and ciders. On returning we again gathered in the Tunnel of Love, to drink some more, or wrap our hands around a hot cuppa, nibble choccies and compare notes.



The very happy Rally Prize winners were Graham and Cheryl Kent with a bottle of wine donated by Barry and Cindy. A few vans left on Sunday, however the hardy ones continued on to gather for our last evening in the remnants of the Tunnel of Love for sundowner drinks with some bush poetry attempts for entertainment. Unfortunately we were unable to see Saturn in the night sky because of the overcast conditions.

Syd and I were very thankful for all the help we received. Cheryl Kent got us to the start line, and during the weekend we had continued support and positive feedback from all. Thank you, Jacque and Syd Adams

**Rally attendees: Adams, Ambrosius, Allens, Caldwell, Fattis, Freind, Kents, Lundys, Moriartys, Olesen. Schells. Visitors: Lynne and Alan Kirby.**

## SANDGROPER CELEBRATIONS JUNE & JULY

### June Birthdays

03 Linda Back  
14 Ian Moore  
27 Lyn Mitchell  
29 Syd Adams

### June Anniversaries

30 Lynne & Alan  
Kirby



### July Birthdays

14 Denise Caldwell  
26 Helen Bizzill  
29 John Moriarty

### July Anniversaries

23 Kevin & Thelma  
Forbes

**VALE:** We are sad to hear that Ian Kessell, a former member, passed away this week. Ian and Natalie joined the club in July 2007 and left in January 2018. Our thoughts and sympathy go to Natalie at this sad time.



Frank and Jan with their new pride and joy outside their chalet.

It was lovely to catch up with former members, Frank and Jan Alilovic, in Carnarvon where they are staying for six weeks. They have sold their caravan and Landcruiser and have bought the latest model Kia, which they are more than happy with. They have only had delivery for one week and on their maiden voyage, Frank managed to work out the cruise control 200kms from Carnarvon. Lots of bells and whistles to master. We filled them in on all the Sandgroper news, as they love to keep in touch via the Gossip. We miss your smiling faces. Ed.

### NEWSFLASH – Important caravan information from Swift Appliances

SWIFT 500 SERIES INCIDENT Date: 08/06/2022

Due to circumstance beyond our control we have been informed by the ACCC that we need to notify our customer in regards to the Incident that has occurred. Please read the notice below and advise your customers that the Swift 500 series **[All Models regardless of age, Including Cooktops, Grills & Ovens are NOT ALLOWED TO BE SOLD, HIRED OR USED AUSTRALIA WIDE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

We hope this is a temporary situation. We are waiting on a reply from the ACCC and WA authorities as to what steps are to be taken next. Please be patient once we have more information we will advise through our website. Please be informed the electrical element can still be used.

*Swift Appliance Group Pty Ltd is currently liaising with the ACCC, WA DMIRS and Resources Safety and Health Queensland regarding gas explosion safety risks in the 500—Series Caravan Gas Cookers. We will provide more information as soon as possible after conferring with the regulatory bodies. Consumers must immediately cease using the products until tests determine the cause of the explosion and the products are deemed safe.*



Regards, Swift Appliance Group.

## TRAVELLING SANGROPER'S NEWS



**THE BACKS - 29/05/2022** The three weeks in Louisiana flew by and before we knew it we were hugging and laughing with our Panama family and meeting our newest grandson Thomas. It is the rainy season so thankfully it is not so hot. A few days after our arrival, our daughter Elizabeth went down like a ton of bricks to Covid. It is a very unpleasant experience, but fortunately she is feeling better today.

At the end of the week, we are heading off to a valley created by an extinct volcano - is there any such thing?? I am always alert just in case... El Valle is 2 hours from Panama City, and the cusps of the volcano loom over the village. It is so atmospheric, and cooler than the city.

Glenda, Maureen, Jill, Cheryl and all the other Rummikub players - we are having robust competitions here, on the island. I brought it with me, and everyone loves it!! Our 10 yr. old grandson is right in the thick of it all.

Sandy Strummers - we have not been too regular with our practice, but our ukuleles have travelled a lot of Kms - does that count?? Would love to join you for the Queen's jubilee rally... it sounds like a fun weekend. Regards from Panama, the Backs

**3/06/2022** Panama's inaugural ladder golf tournament!! Son Mike and grandson Christopher 2, learning the ropes at El Valle, a village set in the crater of an extinct volcano.

**19/06/2022** We flew directly from Panama to Amsterdam and seamlessly travelled by train to Diksmuide, Belgium where the barge had been during Covid. We had significant repairs done to the hull of the barge, and had the fuel 'washed' since it had been sitting in the tanks for so long. We are so impressed by the diligence, quality of work and attitude of everyone we have relied on for repairs.

We have a few more days here, and will travel to Brugge, Gent and on to Antwerp. We are heading in to the Netherlands and may stay there for a few years - there so many beautiful areas to explore. Our Panama family are planning to join us mid July so we will be in a marina just out of Amsterdam in time for their visit. The Belgians love their salads - there meals are plentiful and so fresh. So much here to enjoy. Hot here, and cold and wet in Perth. Enjoy the next rally, we love hearing all the Sandgropers' news. Xx from Diksmuide, Belgium. Chris and Linda



**THE BURGESS - 6/06/2022** At present we are staying at the Willare caravan park for a total of 6 days. It is really nice here and we have met some lovely people here and along the way. Since the last email we have visited Kakadu, Mary River, Darwin and Litchfield in the NT. Saw lots of Crocs and birdlife with our cruise along the Mary River. Our Wedding anniversary was spent at an Indian restaurant in Darwin called Hanuman - highly recommended, they even gave us complimentary dessert for our anniversary. We meet a number of other caravanners during our stay in Litchfield. The "Banyan tree" does a great happy hour and even better pizzas. We then travelled to Kununurra and spent a full day cruising Lake Kununurra (Ord River) and sunset on Lake Argyle. We caught up with Greg & Valmae for a few days at Kununurra, which was really great. They have gone east and we are continuing westward. We will be in Broome in about 6 more days. Hope this email finds you all well and not too chilly if you are still down south.

**18/06/2022** We are currently at Barn Hill. We caught up the Brian and Helen for drinks. We spent a great 10 days in Broome. Experienced sunset at Cable Beach, Staircase to the Moon at Mangrove Hotel and a full day trip by 4wd bus up the Dampier Peninsula to Cygnet Bay pearls followed by Cessna flight back to Broome along the coastline. It was awesome!!!! Regards Sharon and Rod

**THE KENTS - 20/06/2022.** Hello from your roving reporter and Gossip Editor. We are currently in sunny Carnarvon before we head to Bullara Station for four nights. We have only been away a week but it feels like a month (and the dirty washing proves it!). It has been a very eventful trip so far as we had a lovely catch-up with my sisters and cousins in Geraldton to scatter Mum's and my Auntie Pat's ashes at the beach where they grew up.

We then headed into Kalbarri with the rain following us all the way. We managed to dodge the showers to get out to the Skywalk, which didn't disappoint. It is magnificent and a must see on your bucket lists. Love to all and keep safe and warm. Cheryl & Graham



## DWELLINGUP RALLY- JULY 21 - 24 2022

Dwellingup Caravan Park – 23 Dell Park Road Dwellingup – 95381157  
VENUE OFFICERS: John & Laraine Allen (0433 384 683) & Doris Freind

### Thursday 21/7/2022

- Check in Any time after 11.00am
- 5.00pm Happy Hour followed by own dinner.

### Friday 22/7/2022

- 8.30am Walk depending on weather. For those Sandgroppers who are out and about it is not necessary to return for Morning Tea. Blue Wren Café nice spot. Please note no Tai Chi as Brian is away.
- 10.30 am Morning Tea – Depending on weather for location at Caravan Park

### SUGGESTIONS FOR THE DAY!

1.Vergones's Fruit Stall. 2.Wine Cidery Discovery Centre – Gold coin donation on entry. 3.Dwellingup Silver

- 5.00pm Happy Hour and opening of Rally – Please attend if possible Walk
- 6.30pm Dinner at Dwellingup Hotel. **Numbers required by 12/7/2022** to Laraine 0433 384 683

### Saturday 23/7/2022

- 8.30am Walk
- 10.00am Morning Tea – Location TBA depending on weather
- 12.00 Noon Hotham Railway - Please see web for details if coming  
There are two different options. Pre booking necessary
- 3.00pm Afternoon Tea
- 5.30pm **Dinner: - In Camp Kitchen**  
**Nibblies** plate each to share – pre dinner  
**Soup** supplied for \$2.00 a bowl (Please bring own bowl & spoon)  
Minestrone or Pumpkin accompanied with fresh bread  
**Sweets** Supplied by 6 people\* who will not be bringing nibblies.  
Please bring own plate/bowl and spoon  
\*These 6 have been asked already

Evening entertainment in the Camp kitchen - Poetry or Bush Poetry – Please bring if you would like to participate plus Games, Cards etc.

### Sunday 24/7/2022

- 9.30am Morning Tea - Closing of the Rally followed by FREE DAY at your leisure
- 5.00pm Happy Hour

### **FURTHER INFO:**

Fire Pits are located outside each caravan site. Fire wood to be purchased from Caravan Park at cost of \$10.00 to \$15.00 per bag. Each morning, afternoon tea or happy hour, marshmallows can be toasted. Camp Kitchen can accommodate us if necessary. At this stage just our Saturday night dinner has been planned there.

