



GROPER'S GOSSIP

GNAALA MIA

- Pg.1 Presidents Report
- Pg.2-4 Gnaala Mia Rally Report
- Pg.5 Gnaala Mia Rally Attendees
 Sandgroper June Celebrations
- Pg.6 June Margaret River Nature Park Rally
 Schedule
- Pg.7 Dutch Reflections



PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MAY 2023

A great rally at Gnaala Mia campground. Thanks to Cindy and Barry who did a lot of preparation for the rally, which is why all members enjoyed it so much. The nocturnal tour was amazing, and the Turtle Races inspired by Colin Muir were just as hilarious as the last time we did this at Toodyay. Sue Moriarty and Brian Bizzill were the official winners although there were many protests during the evening.

Brian and I left the rally on Sunday to give us two days preparation time before heading north on Wednesday for two months. As I write this it is Monday evening, and it looks like tomorrow will be just as busy as today. Fingers crossed we will make the planned departure date.

Even though our AGM in September is still some months away, the committee meeting held at Gnaala Mia was the last prior to the AGM. The following nominations have been noted for the new executive committee to be appointed at that time (subject to the approval of members):

President – Ian Moore, Vice President – Chris Back, Secretary – vacant, Treasurer – Sue Moriarty.

Linda Haig will continue as Editor of the Gossip, and I am hopeful Jacquie Adams and Laraine Allen will continue as committee members. Brian Bizzill will remain as Rally Coordinator.

The main position remaining vacant is the Secretary. Lyn Mitchell is standing down after doing an excellent job – thank you Lyn. We are trying to simplify this position to make it more attractive and Lyn is very willing to fully train the incoming Secretary. Please give this position your consideration and let me know if you may be interested in taking on this responsibility.

The next rally is at RAC Margaret River Nature Park with Lyn and Ron Mitchell as your venue officers.

Brian and I will be back in time for the tagalong station-stay rally in July and look forward to catching up then. Thanks to Ian Moore for taking over while we are away.

Travel safe ...

Helen

HELEN'S APRICOT AND COCONUT SLICE

(given to me by Mary Neale)

200 g plain sweet biscuits *(I used Granita)*

250 g dried apricots, chopped

125 g butter

80 g brown sugar

50 g desiccated coconut

Half can condensed milk

Crush biscuits in food processor, melt butter and brown sugar, pour into food processor along with all other ingredients. Blend. Put mixture in slice tin and flatten, then place in fridge to set. Cut into pieces to serve.

RALLY REPORT

We had beautiful sunny weather for the entire 5 days, a little chilly the last 2 nights. Lovely pit fires helped to warm us up



We saw lots of bird life,woylies and echidnas.

Friday night we had a hilarious time with the turtle race thanks to Colin Muir. The dubious winners were Sue Moriarty and Brian Bizzill who will be sharing this years perpetual trophy.



This was followed by a quiz on chocolate and chocolates were handed around.



Saturday night most of us went to the Barnia Mia Nocturnal Tour which was a real treat.



Sunday lunch 17 members had an enjoyable lunch at the Duke of York pub.



Fitness Guru Barry led walks around the loops 2 mornings, whilst Master Brian lead us in the peaceful relaxing reviving Tai Chi classes.

The Kirby's won the rally prize which was donated by Jill, a great addition to any caravan- a tiny compact fire extinguisher.



A great time was had by all.

ATTENDEES GNAALA MIA

Kirbys, Moores, Moriartys, Muirs, Muir, Schells, Jill, Caldwelles, Mitchells, Bizzills, Lundys and Jordans

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

June



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

Wedding Anniversaries

30 Lynne & Alan Kirby



PROGRAM FOR MARGARET RIVER NATURE PARK

Wooditjup National Park,

Carters Road, Margaret River (the road into the park is gravel and narrow so watch out for oncoming traffic)

Thursday 8 June 2023 – Monday 12 June 2023 Venue Officers – Ron 0427 272 676 and Lyn 0409 204 470

Margaret River Nature Park is located in the tall timber of the Wooditjup National Park. It has a small kiosk, a large undercover area with a camp kitchen and free wi-fi in the common areas. We have put together a simple program for the weekend as it could be quite wet down there in June.

Thursday – 8 June 2023 2pm Check in 5pm Happy Hour followed by own dinner.

Friday – 9 June 2023 9am Walk 10am Morning Tea 5pm Happy Hour and Opening of the Rally. 6pm Aussie Jaffle Iron Cook Up for dinner tonight. Don't forget to bring your jaffle irons and your favourite jaffle fillings along for a fun dinner together – Jaffles will be cooked in the new large fire pit being built in the undercover area. 7.30pm Quiz

Saturday – 10 June 2023 9am Drive into town to attend the Margaret River Farmers' Market for those who would like to attend. The Market is open from 7.30am – 11.30am at the Margaret River Education Campus, Lot 272 Bussell Hwy, Margaret River. 5pm Happy Hour 6.30pm Casserole and Dessert Night. Please bring along a Casserole, Vegetable Dish or a Dessert for everyone to share. Hot dishes to be served at 6.30pm so we can all dine at the same time. 7.30pm Competition Night – bring your sense of humour!

Sunday – 11 June 2023 9.30am Morning Tea and Closing of the Rally. Ron and I will be leaving Sunday morning but there are plenty of things to do in Margaret River for those who are staying: Margaret River Brewhouse– open 11am – 9pm weekends, 35 Bussell Highway, Margaret River, Phone 9757 2614 for bookings. The Margaret River Chocolate Company – 415 Harmans Mill Road and Tom Cullity Drive, Metricup. Open 9am – 5pm. Cape Lavender Teahouse – Caves and Canal Rocks Road, Yallingup. Open 9.30am – 5pm.

Fires: Please bring your own firewood or firewood can be purchased from the office. Wood fires are only permitted during the hours of 5pm and 10pm.

Dump Point: There is no dump point in the park. However, there is one located on Walcliffe Road in town at the recreation centre.

Dutch Reflections #1

Greetings from a fairly cold Aalsmeer near Amsterdam. You seem to be getting Spring temperatures and we are still chilled with 15 degree maxima.

Elsie B was in good form when we arrived. Three new house and engine batteries shocked the budget at around \$1700!! But one house battery was 2008 and the other 2011, so we knew it was coming.

Unfortunately our gas HWS also needed replacement—- no one will now touch gas appliances in Holland—- so a new electric storage unit is being installed as I write. Will also have heat off the engine so we should be good for hot showers now.

People here are very friendly. Maybe it is boating communities; tradies are highly professional and prompt in meeting their commitments.

We will take off tomorrow to Uithoorn then to Weesp on the beautiful Vecht river. Elizabeth and Petter from Panama will meet with us in Amsterdam for a couple of days late May which we are very much looking forward to.

Then north towards Friesland and the regional centre of Sneek (pronounced Snake). We have secured a winter mooring in nearby Jirnsum from July. The goal is to locate a permanent winter mooring location and then radiate from there each summer.

The barge turns 100 years in 25/26, built in Groningen. This is only 30 kms from Jirnsum and we hope to get there for its centenary.

We are keen to get local news and hope everyone is doing well.

Linda and Chris