



# GROPER'S GOSSIP

Merry Christmas everyone! Inside this issue: -



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## 2021 SANDGROPER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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

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



President  
Helen Bizzill



Vice President  
Cheryl Kent



Secretary  
Di Young



Treasurer  
Sharon Burge



Chris Back  
Committee Member



Ian Moore  
Membership Secretary



Lyn Mitchell  
Committee Member



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT – DECEMBER 2021

Summer arrived with perfect timing for our Christmas rally at Karrinyup Waters Resort. It was a full-on weekend, starting with the celebration of Sharon Burge's birthday at Carine Glades Tavern on Thursday night, the cocktail party in a beautiful setting by the lake on Friday night (and what a great night that turned out to be), our Christmas lunch at the Odin Tavern on Saturday and for those staying on a get together at the park café on Sunday to wish Graham Kent a happy birthday. A great weekend. I hope everyone enjoyed it. A special thanks to all the Committee members who put in a big effort to make this rally the success it was.

Reflecting on 2021, it has been a good year for Sandgroper, with attendance at most rallies exceeding previous years. With an influx of new members in 2020/21 there has been a new dynamic and enthusiasm in the Club, with new ideas and greater participation in many activities. At the AGM it was voted to cap our membership at 30 vans and a requirement for all members to attend four rallies each calendar year (unless on leave of absence).

It looks like Di and Chris have prepared a great program for the New Year rally at Twin Waters, and I am sure everyone attending will have a great time.

Brian and I would like to wish all Sandgroper a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to catching up again at the January picnic.

Travel safe and stay well.

Helen

### And a message from the First Man –

Please start registering for the rallies that you intend to attend so that I can give the parks some idea of numbers. We have some fairly solid numbers for most rallies except for the April rally at Miami Holiday Park. I appreciate that 11 of us will be at the National rally but if you aren't going to the National think about Miami, it is quite a good venue.

The Peppy Grove Beach Holiday Park rally is full and the Guilderton rally at the Guilderton Holiday Park (Tel: 9577 1021) from Feb 24 to 28, only 4 months away, still has places and it is time for the members who have registered and those who intend to go to ring the park and pay the deposit of \$50 and give them your details. I have also had a call from Toodyay Holiday Park (9574 2534) regarding our rally there from April 28 to May2 for the Moondyne Festival, requesting deposits. I think this will be the new norm from now on, please contact them and pay. Cheers, Brian.

MERRY  
*christmas*



## CHRISTMAS RALLY – KARRINYUP WATERS RESORT

NOVEMBER 25 – 28 2021

Venue officers – the Committee.

The Gods were shining down on us and all the stars aligned to give we Sandgroppers fantastic weather at Karrinyup Waters Resort for our Christmas Rally. We enjoyed warm sunny days and balmy nights to celebrate our penultimate rally for 2021. All who attended agreed it was one of the best rallies we have held and the Committee heaved a collective sigh of relief to have all our carefully laid plans come off so successfully. On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank everyone for coming along and participating fully in all the activities on offer. It was wonderful to see our members mingling and having a terrific time, enjoying each other's company. That is what our club is all about.

We had twenty-two vans attending with sixteen of those crossing the 'border' and heading north. It was pleasing to see that their visas were in order and they were double vaxxed. We usually work in kilometres travelled but this time it was in minutes. The Kirbys were the closest and it took them seven minutes to arrive at Karrinyup Waters. That isn't the closest distance for a member to travel to a rally, as the Schells were 600 metres from home when we stayed at Lancelin one year. That record will be hard to beat!



The Resort has many fantastic facilities and Thursday afternoon was a great opportunity to explore the park and have a relaxing dip in one of the two pools before travelling in convoy to celebrate Sharon's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday at the Carine Tavern. We sat outside under huge umbrellas and enjoyed a lovely meal followed by cake provided by the Burges. It was a great start to our rally and Sharon was very appreciative of everyone attending to help her celebrate her milestone birthday.

**Left: Relaxing by the pool.**



**The birthday girl!**



**Beautiful venue to celebrate a birthday – day and night.**







Friday was very warm and the walkers returned exhausted and thirsty after Graham lead them through Gwelup, over North Beach Road and around Carine Open Space. The stayers tackled Tai Chi with Master Brian under the trees by the lake where we stayed for morning tea. It was a fantastic location and we 'commandeered' the space for all our activities much to the fascination of all the other park patrons as we strung fairy lights from and around the trees and rearranged the tables to suit ourselves. It was the perfect spot for all our gatherings as it was shady morning and afternoon.

**President Helen addressing the crowd.**

The weather was ideal for our cocktail party by the lake as it was balmy and still. After the opening of the rally we mingled and sipped on Champagne and Strawberry Daiquiris while the Committee provided substantial nibbles to soak up the alcohol served by the very dapper barmen – Chris B and Graham. Judging by the sound of the friendly banter and laughter throughout the evening, our inaugural cocktail party was a great success.



**Our handsome barmen – Graham and Chris.**



**The cook and the 'tasters' ensuring quality control.**





Despite the best efforts of our barmen with their responsible serving of alcohol, there were a few sore heads Saturday morning so only four intrepid walkers set off to explore the bush surrounding the resort. There weren't many more for Tai Chi and even Master Brian struggled with his well-rehearsed routine. All were recovered by lunchtime and 43 Sandgropers ventured to the Odin Tavern for a sumptuous two-course Christmas lunch. It was lovely to see Brian and Ronnie who travelled from Baldvis for the day and also Brian and Mary Wales who stayed in a chalet at the resort.







Some of the very happy Sandgroppers enjoying Christmas lunch at the Odin Tavern.





After lunch we travelled back to the resort to eagerly await the arrival of Father Christmas. He had presents for all the 'good' girls and boys and even the not so good. It was lot of fun as always and everyone lingered around our shady picnic area with some playing boardgames while others chatted amongst themselves. Before we knew it, it was Happy Hour and we started all over again! There were some leftover savouries from the previous night which were devoured very quickly despite our two course lunch only hours before. Another lovely day done and dusted.



Santa showing off his new trim figure.



Santa and his helpers.

Santa spoiling the ladies.





On Sunday morning, President Helen announced that Graham would be the new Club delegate to ACCWA, replacing Kevin who has held the position for many years. Helen thanked Kevin for his service to the Club and there was a generous round of applause in recognition of his dedication to the task. Well done Kev. The Rally prizes went to two very popular couples – Beth and Ian, donated by Rod and Sharon and Denise and Cam donated by Doris.



**The Old and the New!**



**Cam and Denise**



**Beth and Ian**

President Helen closed the Rally after concluding that it had been a spectacular success. Special thanks went to the Committee for all their hard work organising the activities and the food for the cocktail party. Old and new members all agreed that it had been one of the best rallies we have had. The weather, food and company all contributed to making it a fantastic weekend enjoyed by all. It will be hard to beat!

Although the Rally was officially closed, most members stayed another night. There were more celebrations in store as it was Graham's birthday and thirty Sandgropers climbed the stairs to the café at the Resort to help him celebrate. Once again it was terrific to hear the banter and laughter coming from everybody joining in and having a great time. Even though we were all only minutes from home, most were reluctant to leave on Monday morning but it was back to reality for all of us. Luckily we have the New Year's Eve Rally to look forward to which will be here before we know it! Hope to see you there. Graham and I hope you have a wonderful Christmas. (Report by Cheryl Kent, \* Editor & Veep.)

(\*Special thanks once again for the fantastic photos by Lyn, Cindy and Helen B)



**The café at the Resort.**



**A great way to finish the Rally with lots of fun and frivolity!**

Attendees at Karrinyup Waters Resort: Moriartys, Lundys, Kirbys, Kents, Bizzills, Schells, Allens, Olesen, Adams S & J, Neales, Forbes, Caldwells, Backs, Muirs, Ashfords, Haigs, Mitchells, Moores, Youngs, Burges, Freind & Jordans. Associates: Brian & Mary Wales Visitors: Brian & Ronnie Adams and Jill Ambrosius



## Sandgroper Celebrations – November & December

### November Birthdays

18 Rod Burge  
19 Kevin Forbes  
25 Sharon Burge  
25 Cheryl Fatti  
28 Graham Kent

### December Birthdays

03 Mary Neale  
10 Jim Schell  
12 Jill Ambrosius  
13 Alan Kirby



### November

#### Anniversaries

08 Cindy & Barry Jordan  
09 Mary & Brian Wales  
17 Beth & Ian Moore

### December

#### Anniversaries

14 Jacqui & Syd Adams

As promised – yummy Christmas recipes from our members – Enjoy!

### Di's Easy Cranberry Pistachio Cheese Log

#### Ingredients

#### Cranberry Pistachio Coating

1 ¼ cups fresh cranberries  
1 cup shelled roasted, salted pistachios

#### Cheese Log

7-8 oz. goat cheese log or tub  
4 oz. cream cheese, softened  
2 tablespoons honey  
¼ tsp EACH ground ginger, cinnamon,  
salt, dried thyme, dried rosemary  
1/8 teaspoon pepper

#### Instructions

1. Add cranberries and pistachios to food processor and chop into small pieces. Remove ½ cup and add it to a medium bowl. Add all remaining Goat Cheese log ingredients to the bowl and stir to combine.
2. Add this cheese mixture to a large piece of plastic wrap, and form into the shape of a log. Wrap in plastic wrap. Freeze for 20 mins. We want the log slightly firm so it holds its shape but is still soft enough for the coating to be pressed into.
3. Line counter with a large piece of parchment paper. Add coating ingredients to parchment and spread into a single layer square a little larger than the length of the cheese log. Add cheese log to the edge of the coating and roll in coating until evenly coated, pressing coating into the cheese so it sticks. The cheese log can be refrigerated at this point until ready to serve.
4. When ready to serve, remove from refrigerator 15 minutes beforehand so it can soften. Drizzle generously with honey just before serving. Serve with crackers

### Helen's Magic Mixed Nuts

#### Ingredients

2 egg whites  
4 cups of unsalted nuts, i.e. cashews,  
almonds, pecans and hazelnuts.  
½ cup sugar  
1 tsp cinnamon  
1 tsp cayenne pepper  
1/2 tsp salt

#### Instructions

Preheat oven to 325 degs (160c). Place egg whites in a large bowl. Whisk just until foamy. Stir in nuts until coated. Combine sugar with cinnamon, cayenne and salt. Pour over nuts and toss until coated.

Spread evenly on greased cookie sheets and bake 20-25 mins, stirring frequently. Cool and store in sealed containers. They last a long time in a well-sealed container.

### Maureen's Shortbread Biscuits

#### Ingredient

250gm soft butter  
250gm plain flour 125gm icing sugar  
125gm cornflour

#### Instructions

Combine all ingredients. Mix well by hand. Roll into balls. Press down with fork. Bake in slow oven (135-140c) Makes quite a few.



# Program for Sandgropers New Year's Eve Rally 2021 Twin Waters Caravan Park, Dawesville



Venue officers, Di Young 0419 911 775 and Chris Young 0419 941 757

## Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> December

- 3pm afternoon tea
- 5pm meet at Dawesville Foreshore Reserve, Estuary Drive, Dawesville for happy hour and dinner. Bring along your picnic dinner, table & chairs. 1.6km/4-minute drive

## Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December – New Year's Eve

- 9am walk
- 10am morning tea & then free day for swimming or to explore Dawesville and Mandurah
- 3pm afternoon tea
- 6pm **Sandgropers Ready to Party**

Opening of the rally and happy hour. Put on your favourite flares, pull out your high heels and have your hair permed because tonight is New Year's Eve, and we are returning to the 1970's. Ladies, please bring along a salad to share and something for yourself for the BBQ. Some members will be bringing a dessert or starter instead of a salad.



## Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January

- 9am walk
- 10am morning tea & then free day
- 3pm afternoon tea
- 4.45pm leave caravan park for a Fish n Chip dinner at Cicerello's, 73 Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah. 16kms/18-minute drive. I have booked an area upstairs for 5:15pm. If you would like to attend, please let me know by 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021.
- 6.15pm walk to the Mandurah Boardwalk jetty to board our boat. It is in front of the Mandurah Performing Arts Centre, 300m/4-minute walk from Cicerello's. **Groups will not be allowed to queue OR board until the whole group has arrived**, so please do not be late. Our boat is 2-storeys with seating for 24 guests on the upper deck. It has a fully licensed bar on board, with drinks & snacks available for purchase.
- 6.30pm board boat, Dancing Dolphin, for 1 hour cruise through the magical Mandurah canals. Boarding closes at 7:20pm and boat leaves at 7:30pm.

## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January

- 9:30am morning tea and closing of the rally
- 5:45pm Leave caravan park for dinner at Café Coast Restaurant, 2/45 Rees Place, Wannanup. 5.2kms/7 minute drive. If you would like to attend please let my know by 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021.



Attendees for Twin Waters per the website at 1/12/21: Moriarty, Curchin, Adams S&J, Olesen, Caldwell, Forbes, Muir, Mitchell, Back, Schell, Freind, Kent, Young, Burge & Jordan