

GROPEERS GOSSIP

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PEACE



L
e
s
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W
e

F
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r
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Peace is not a big, long word
That I can't learn to spell,
It's got five letters – only five!
And I can spell quite well.

Peace is not a big, long word
Too hard to understand.
I asked my teacher if I could hold Peace
Here inside my hand.

She told me Peace is not a thing
You hold and touch and feel.
I asked my teacher how this Peace
Could be a thing that's real?

She told me something simple,
That I will not forget.
She said that even though we've tried,
Our world's not peaceful yet.

So now I know that Peace
Is not just a little word.
I have learned to spell it –
And my voice will soon be heard!

I may be just a child and have
Lots more to learn and see.
But I know that Peace begins with Love....
And Love's inside of me!

Provided by *Greenbushes Primary School*

Bridgetown Rally Report

21st-26th April 2016

It is a lovely scenic drive from Greenbushes to Maranup Ford Farm Stay. Cresting the final hill that overlooks the Blackwood River Valley is a glorious sight and worth the trip just to see the view.

The Adams were the first to arrive at the farm which has improved greatly since our last rally. Colourful deciduous trees with lush green lawns, lovely gardens and so many colourful birds in constant song makes it a delight to stay there. There were only 2 caravans still to arrive on Friday so it was good to catch up with the rest of the gang for afternoon tea and happy hour where we all welcomed Clelia and Graeme Gough, prospective new members, to the rally.



BBQ tea was held in the camp kitchen and then a few sat round the fire that Kel and Brian had lit.

Friday morning started with Tai Chi followed by a relaxing morning. By lunch time the other 2 caravans had arrived. We also welcomed Merle and Trish who drove down and stayed in a chalet.

Ian Fullerton had us entertained at morning tea with stories and the history of Greenbushes. He had grown up on a farm 4km from Greenbushes until he was 27 and had not been back for 30 years. We were all amazed when he told us there had been 8 pubs in the town when tin mining was at its peak from 1886-1891 and there was a population of 3,000. Unfortunately, as happens in many small towns, once the price of tin fell dramatically the town declined as residents moved on. Ian also told us about the timber trade which flourished for many years. He related a story about 4 axemen who were able to fell and cut trees with amazing speed and accuracy. One axeman could cut the fallen trees into square timber as if they had been put through a cutting machine. These axemen lived in a shack out of town and it was sad to hear that their lives ended through drinking too much methylated spirits mixed with boot polish and milk!!

During his time in Greenbushes Ian coached and captained the local football team to 2 Premierships in 1964 and 1965. He was thrilled to find the signed football still on display at the Exchange Hotel in town.



Thanks Ian for making morning tea so entertaining.

After lunch we convoyed into Greenbushes to view the open cut Lithium Mine which is the highest and lowest point of the Darling

Ranges. This was followed by a stroll around the historic town site reading the many plaques along the way which told the history and details of buildings that used to make this a thriving town. Some of us visited the Old Gaol where we were able to lock Rheta and Alan Parkinson into a cell while they had their photo taken through the peep hole. Ian Kessell also had his photo taken sitting on the long drop toilet, lucky for us he only pretended!!

The afternoon stroll finished with afternoon tea at Tasty Edibles Cafe/Bakery where we enjoyed a welcome cuppa.

A Committee Meeting was held after our return to the caravan park while many of us enjoyed a game of Finska which Glenda had brought with her. We had



played it at Kellerberin and some of us are becoming very skilled at this game, others need a bit more practice. It is a fun game though and whether you win or lose everyone has a good laugh.

When the Committee Meeting finished it was time for Happy Hour and our president, Brian Bizzill, officially opened the Rally. Some of us had ordered Pizza from the cafe which we enjoyed eating around the fire.

Saturday was a wonderful warm day which started with Tai Chi.



We had another convoy, this time to Greenbushes Nature Pool, a very pretty place where Ian had learnt to swim as a child. The pool is an old collapsed mine and Ian told us the water is very cold all year round but that did not bother them as kids. There was a nice boardwalk around the pool and most of us had a wander before sitting in the gazebo for lunch. Several caravans were camped there as it is a free camping area.

After lunch it was time to visit The Greenbushes Discovery Centre. We were greeted by 2 of the volunteers and one of them, Leonie, gave us a talk about how the town worked



together to build the Centre. They will be celebrating their 20th Anniversary in 2018. We all felt this was one of the best country museum displays we had ever seen and is a credit to the town.

During afternoon tea we had an Australiana Quiz which Allan had organised. This quiz was short, sharp and shiny with an unusual twist as the answer. Natalie Kessell and Helen Bizzill were the winners and received "Twashies" in Sandgroper colours as a prize.

Later in the afternoon we had surprise entertainment as Hugh, the farmer and family drafted the cows and calves so that the calves could be ear tagged and ringed. The cows were not happy to be separated from their calf and made their displeasure known by bellowing loudly, even the bulls joined in so it was NOT a good time to try and have a nanna nap. It was a great chance to see a working farm in action!

We had a great night at The Shamrock Hotel in Greenbushes. Kim, the



owner, had decorated the dining room with streamers and balloons to help celebrate Brian Bizzill's 70th Birthday.



Everyone enjoyed their main meal; this was followed by birthday cake for dessert which Helen Bizzill had organised.



We all thanked Kim for the lovely meal and decorations.



On Sunday most people went into Bridgetown to the markets then Nola and Mike Stein arrived to share lunch with us. Everyone brought a plate of food to share and we had a lovely time sitting under the trees chatting. As the weather started to change a game of Finska was suggested and once again it was great fun. Alan Parkinson came out tops winning 3 games by default as his last opponent had 3 strikes, although he was very clever knocking the no.3 peg over after the last game finished to give him a perfect score of 50. The farm ducks visited us with the 2 dogs rounding them up before they were in danger of being hit.

At the end of Happy Hour another Quiz was distributed. This entailed matching WA towns to cryptic questions and the first person to deliver the correct answers to June and Allan was to be the winner which would be announced at afternoon tea on Monday.

A BBQ in the camp kitchen and sitting around the fire finished another great day.

The heavens opened up Sunday night but a number of hardy souls were up and off to the Greenbushes Dawn Service. When we arrived the RSL had decided to hold the service in the Memorial Hall next to the Cenotaph due to the continuing rain. The march from the RSL Hall in the High Street was still held and we all watched the march which was led by 4 horses with ladies in Light Horse uniforms. The service was excellent and the speeches were very relevant to Anzac Day with the support of an excellent choir. After the service finished everyone was invited to enjoy a cooked breakfast of scrambled egg, sausage, bacon and baked beans. One RSL member moved around the tables offering a "nip" of rum or whiskey in everyone's coffee. I think we all would all like to attend another Anzac Day Service at Greenbushes when it could be held outside at the Cenotaph. We felt it would be very moving with the choir and the dawn breaking.

The Bridgetown March was held at 10am followed by morning tea and some of the members that missed the dawn service were able to attend.

The rest of the day was a bit hit and miss with the weather. We held morning tea in the camp kitchen but had afternoon tea and happy hour outside with a nice roaring fire to keep us warm. Quite a few of us had started to pack up during the dryer periods in the day so Brian Bizzill felt it would be a good idea to close the rally at afternoon tea, this way everyone could leave the next morning without waiting for morning tea.

The winner of the WA Towns Quiz was announced during afternoon tea and Clelia and Graeme Gough (our visitors) won a lovely tin of Anzac biscuits which Glenda



and Kel kindly donated. Rheta asked Clelia to draw the member prize and that was won by Trish Tyler. She was very pleased with her gift.

In the evening the ladies excelled themselves by supplying very tasty casseroles with the addition of rice and mashed potato. The Sandgroper Restaurant



(camp kitchen) was set up with tablecloths



and candles which gave a nice effect. After filling ourselves up with casseroles we still found room to indulge in yummy desserts.

However, we decided a rest would be in order between courses so Glenda held an Anzac Day Quiz which was great fun. Merle Burn was the winner of this Quiz and Glenda presented her with a tin of Anzac biscuits which she had again kindly donated. I am sure Merle will enjoy them with a cuppa.



Thanks everyone for making this evening such a success.

After dinner some of us retired to sit by the fire and chat about Anzac Day and what it means to us. Brian Bizzill read out an amazing report he had found after his father passed away. It told the survival story of an Australian airman in New Guinea during WWII. Brian is going to take this document to the Australian War Memorial Museum in Canberra when he attends the National Rally later this year. Our evening around the fire came to an abrupt end when the rain returned and we all dashed to our caravans. .

Hosts Glenda & Kel Olesen and June & Allan Foote would like to thank everyone for coming to the rally and we hope you enjoyed yourselves at Maranup Ford Farm Stay.

Attendees: Brian & Ronnie Adams, Brian & Helen Bizzill, June & Allan Foote, Glenda & Kel Olesen, Rhet & Alan Parkinson, Natalie & Ian Kessell, Maryn & Brian Wales, Margaret & Gerry Kerrigan, Paua & David Hiscock, Margo & Ian, Ron Halse, Merle Burn, Trish Wiklson and visitors Clelia & Graham Gough



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We were all deeply saddened by the news of the accident to Mike and Nola's grandsons, and the death of young Mitchell. I am sure that all members will continue to offer comfort and support to Mike and Nola at this difficult time.

Maranup Ford caravan park is a hidden gem. The rally was a great success and congratulations go to June and Allan (assisted by Kel and Glenda). In particular the Dawn Service in Greenbushes was very moving, although the weather was not kind and we missed the atmosphere of holding it outside at the memorial.

I would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes for my birthday and special thanks go to Helen for organising the wonderful cake that we all shared for sweets. I think we all enjoyed the meal at the Shamrock Hotel.

Everybody was pleased to see Mike and Nola on Sunday afternoon when they called in for lunch and a game of Finska.

Thanks to all who attended the Maranup Ford rally for helping to make it the success it was.

See you on a road somewhere

Brian



MAY BIRTHDAY

Greg Johnson	4th
Janet Currow	5th
Laurie Tyler	7th



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Alan & Lyn Kirby 30th

Coming Events

2nd – 7th June MUKINBUDIN CARAVAN PARK 293 km (Long Weekend)

Mukinbudin is a town in the North Eastern [Wheatbelt](#) region of [Western Australia](#), approximately 293 kilometres east of Perth and 80 kilometres north of [Merredin](#) near Lake Champion. It is the main town in the [Shire of Mukinbudin](#).

The present Shire of Mukinbudin was settled by pastoralists who in the 1870s took up large leases in excess of 20,000 acres (81 km²) to run sheep and by [sandalwood](#) cutters and miners en route to the [goldfields](#). In 1910 the first of the farmers arrived to commence wheat growing on their 1,000 acres (4 km²) block and it was some time before they added stock to what had been entirely a wheat growing enterprise. An extension of the Mount Marshall railway line to Mukinbudin and [Lake Brown](#) was approved in 1922 and opened in October 1923. The townsite was gazetted in 1922.

In 1932 the [Wheat Pool of Western Australia](#) announced that the town would have two [grain elevators](#), each fitted with an engine, installed at the railway siding.^[2] The surrounding areas produce [wheat](#) and other [cereal](#) crops. The town is a [receival site](#) for [Cooperative Bulk Handling](#).^[3]



**ATTENDEES FOR SANDGROPER RALLY
BEVERLEY CARAVAN PARK**

12th - 16th May 2016

Kerrigan M & G		Wales B&M	
Forbes T & K		Bizzill B& H	
Lundy M & R	In cabin	Laurie Tyler (*Trish on babywatch)	
Stein M & N		Parkinson A & R	
Johnson M & G		Halse R	
Littlely A & E	Arriv Wed	Hiscock D & P	
Merle Burn	In accom	VISITORS: Clelia & Graham Gough C & G Gough's friends	

DIRECTIONS:

Beverley is on the Great Southern Highway 120 kms from Perth, between York & Brookton. The Caravan Park is in Council Ave, very centrally located in the town. Watch for signage as you enter the town.

Fees are \$27 per night. Payment - Cash or by Cheque - no Cards.

*You don't stop laughing because you grow old..
You grow old because you stop laughing!
Take heed and pass these along to people who
need a laugh.
I thought you would enjoy this....times are tough
right now...for all of us....
so we need something to make the day a happy place.
"They" haven't found a way to tax you for
laughing yet.*

BEVERLEY RALLY PROGRAM

**BEVERLEY CARAVAN PARK
COUNCIL DRIVE, BEVERLEY
THURSDAY 12 MAY TO MONDAY 16 MAY 2016**

Helen & Brian Bizzill Venue Officers

Thursday *Arrive and settle in*

Friday

9.30 am *Tai Chi*
10.00 am *Morning tea*
Free day to relax or explore Beverley
2.00 pm *A game of Finska or Bocce on the lawn*
3.00 pm *Afternoon tea*
4.00 pm *Happy Hour and opening of rally*
5.00 pm *Aussie Outback Campfire*

This is a free community event for the locals and we have been invited to join in, enjoy a meal together around the campfire at the camp kitchen and learn how to make damper.

Saturday

9.30 am *Tai Chi*
10.00 am *Morning tea*
2.00 pm *Talk by John Lane from St John's Beverley on the use of the defibrillator and general seniors' first aid followed by afternoon tea (cakes provided)*
5.00 pm *Happy hour*
6.30 pm *Dinner at the Beverley Hotel*

Sunday

9.30 am *Tai Chi*
10.00 am *Morning tea and closing of the rally*
11.30 am *Leave in convoy for a picnic at Avondale Discovery Farm (550 Waterhatch Road, Beverley)*
3.00 pm *Afternoon tea at caravan park*
5.00 pm *Happy hour*
6.30 pm *Communal barbecue tea*

THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN BEVERLEY

The Geodesic Dome

Five churches

The old fire station

The Roads Board office

Beverley town hall

Aeronautical Museum

CWA building

"Dead Finish" Museum

Beverley post office

ANZ Bank building

Many other buildings



Secrets to a long happy marriage



A old woman was sipping on a glass of wine, while sitting on the patio with her husband, and she says, "I love you so much, I don't know how I could ever live without you"... Her husband asks, "Is that you, or the wine talking?"... She replies, "It's me... talking to the wine."