

GROPER'S GOSSIP

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Radio Channels: AM 7; UHF 18

Emergency Phone Numbers: Members families can contact these numbers during rallies

Brian Bizzill 0419 940 907 Roy Lundy 0414 448 680 David Hiscock 0410 479 385 Alan Parkinson 0439 652 834



BROOKTON CHRISTMAS RALLY

26 – 30 November 2015

Helen and I arrived around noon on Thursday expecting to be an early arrival. Much to our surprise most of the other vans had got up with the sparrows and were there already set up. Thursday afternoon was very pleasant with a few others arriving and just sitting around and catching up.



Friday morning was clear and sunny and the morning started with tai chi, with the final five vans arriving during the afternoon. The picnic to the historic homestead was cancelled due to the extreme risk of fire in the long grass and the possibility of snakes, with many opting to visit the railway station craft shop and the op shop where some great bargains were purchased

by some members. June Foote went to the swimming pool on her own in the afternoon and had the whole complex to herself. Happy hour was held under the shady trees and new members, June and Allan Foote, were presented with their membership badges and starter pack.



Saturday morning was spent at leisure with many people taking up Peter Carter on his kind offer to familiarise them with the new Sandgroper website. George, the caretaker, had arranged for us to hold our Christmas gift exchange under the shade of the verandah at the rec centre which was shady and cool with a nice outlook across the oval.



The gift choosing and stealing created a lot of merriment and the quality of the gifts was much improved due to the increased value, with the most sought after items being wine and chocolates. Does that say something about our priorities ??? Once again we would like to thank David Hiscock for arranging for Santa Clause to turn up, but David missed seeing Santa because he didn't get to the gift exchange until after Santa had left. After the gift exchange Greg Johnson sang some Christmas carols with backing music and everyone joined in. At 6 pm we made our way to the Bedford Arms Hotel for pre dinner drinks followed by a very enjoyable Christmas meal. During the meal the winners of the best decorated caravans (judged by the caretaker,

George, and his wife) were announced – after many years of trying Thelma and Kevin finally cracked it for the best night time display. The winners of the best day time display were Mike and Nola Stein. Congratulations for a fine effort. The caravan prizes were won by Frank and Jan Alilovic (donated by Brian and



Ronnie Adams) and the second prize went to Greg and Margaret Johnson (donated by Brian and Betty Morris)

Once again, it was a fun Christmas rally with everyone enjoying themselves.



Attendees:

Greg and Margaret Johnston, Alan & Rheta Parkinson, Roy and Maureen Lundy, Peter & Ruth, Ted and June Bunce, Mike and Nola Stein, David and Paula Hiscock, Robin and Di Ashford, Brian and Betty Morris, Allan and June Foote, Jim and Helen Schell, Ron Halse, Brian and Mary Wales, Gerry and Margaret Kerrigan, Frank and Jan Alilovic, Kel and Glenda Olesen, Geoff and Trina Savage, Kevin and Thelma Forbes, Brian and Helen Bizzill.

Written by Brian Bizzill



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Once again our Christmas rally was a great success with most people putting in an effort to decorate their vans and everyone enjoying a really nice meal at the Bedford Arms Hotel. Thanks to Margaret Kerrigan for making all the arrangements for the dinner. The gift exchange during the afternoon on Saturday was a lot of fun with special thanks going to Greg Johnson for providing lyrics and music for the Christmas carol singalong.

Thanks to everyone for filling out the questionnaire provided by our very helpful caretaker, George. On Monday morning by chance the assistant to the Brookton Shire CEO came to the park and collected the questionnaires and we had a very interesting discussion with her about the future for the caravan park. Later that day the CEO rang me and once again I passed on our comments and reiterated the need for a dump point. He was very receptive and hopefully we will see improvements on our next visit.

On a personal note Helen and I would like to wish everybody a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all next year.

See you on a road somewhere ...

Brian



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Mary Neale	3rd
Trish Wilson	9th
Jim Schell	10th
Alan Kirby	13th
Merle Burn	21st
Ron Halse	29th



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Geoff & Trina Savage 30th

BLOOPERS

We all know the President has many tasks to perform, however one guy lost the showers and needed direction.

Then one evening a member offered his mate a red wine. Only one problem, someone had already emptied the bottle. Moral of the story, check the bottle before offering.

Then there was the flying toothbrush. Result toothpaste all over the T Shirt so a clean T Shirt needed to be found.

One wife was heard asking mere male if he wanted a cup of tea or something in bed. Not sure of the answer!

Then I ask a question, how many guys does it take to fix the TV aerial, answer one or two working several advising. Second question, did the TV work?

And to quote from the wise sayings in the Xmas cracker. Why can't you play cards in the Jungle? Too many cheethahs. Not that problem in our Club.

Finally the close of the Rally. I will not mention names but who forgot to bring out the rally prizes. Can't get good help these days!!!!



COMING EVENTS in 2016

Wed 30th Dec to
Monday 4th Jan

NEW YEARS RALLY – Pinjarra Country Camping Caravan Park
Pinjarra – Dwellingup Rd PINJARRA \$30.00 Per night

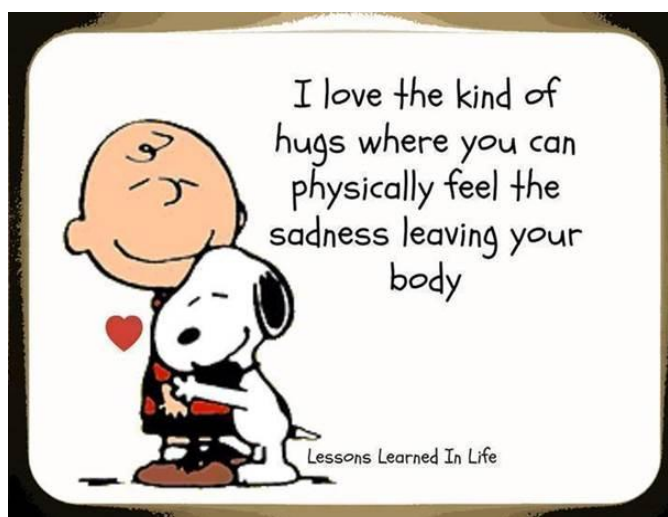
Wed 20th Jan

CLUB PICNIC - Piney Lake Reserve BATMAN
(Off Leach Highway)

ATTENDEES for NEW YEARS RALLY:

Ron Halse	WTFSS	Roy & Maureen Lundy	WTFSS
Jim & Helen Schell	WTFSS	Peter & Ruth	WTFSS
David & Janet Currow		Doris Friend	
Gerry & Margaret Kerrigan	WTFSS	Laurie & Trish	WTFSS
Arthur & Elva Littley		David & Paula Hiscock	WTFSS
Peter & Mary Neale		Ted & June Bunce	

Anyone who wishes to attend the Rally and hasn't already placed their name on the list please let Margaret Kerrigan know so that you can be booked in and join us with our festivities for the New Year. Phone 9330 4790 or email gmkerrigan@icloud.com



*NEW YEARS EVE RALLY
WED 30TH DEC TO MONDAY 4TH JAN.
PINJARRA COUNTRY CAMPING CARAVAN PARK
PINJARRA – DWELLINGUP ROAD
PINJARRA*

This is planned to be a few days of relaxation and/or individually discover what Pinjarra has to offer. The only arrangements made are for us to celebrate New Years Eve with a Progressive Dinner – timed to have us still awake at midnight.

The dinner is to be held beneath the awnings of caravans belonging to the members who have prepared food for a particular course. You are asked to take your own chairs, drinks and your coffee/tea mug with you as you move between courses. Disposal plates, cutlery and serviettes will be provided at each sitting – members sharing the food preparation for a particular course please try and place your caravans near each other.

We all will need five 20cent coins for a game that will be one of the activities held between each course of the meal.

Please wear rainbow colours for this event!

5.30 pm **HAPPY HOUR**

*This is to be held at Maureen & Roy & Ruth & Peter's site.
Chicken wings, Potato Gems, Volauvents & Platters of nibbles.*

2nd **ENTRÉE**

*At Helen & Jim & Margaret & Gerry's site
Cold meat, Curried Eggs, Pasta Salad & Crusty Bread*

3rd **MAIN COURSE**

*At Janet & David & Thelma & Kevin's site.
Lasagna, Casserole, Garden Salad, Garlic Bread*

4th **DESSERT**

*Rheta & Alan & Mary & Peter's site
Dessert Surprise!*

5th

*Ted & June & Elva & Arthur & Ron's site
Cheese & Crackers, Tea, Coffee & After Dinner Mints.*



Welcome in the New Year