

GROPEERS GOSSIP

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Radio Channels: AM 7; UHF 18

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

Ron Halse 0416 358 Jim Schell 0427 778 871 Brian Bizzill 0419 940 907 Doris Freind 0419 551 397

Busselton February 5 th-9th

Thursday 5th

The majority of members arrived on Thursday with the exception of the Wales and Ian and Beth Moore. There was much anticipation of a beautiful park in a wonderful setting and we were not disappointed. Large grassy sites, excellent ablutions, a great games room and camper's kitchen with two very inviting large pools nearby and a lake with numerous ducks at our backs. A mini golf course completed an excellent choice of venue in the heart of the Margaret River region.

Our usual Happy Hour started at 5pm. Mike and Nola arrived with empty glasses. Nola was well and truly ready for a Chardy after riding her bike with brother Greg from her villa at Novacare but to her dismay Mike had forgotten to pack the liquor!! A quick trip back home by Mike soon rectified the problem.

Some had a BBQ and a good night was had by all.

Friday 6th

We woke to a beautiful morning and several members decided to walk along the beach. Tai Chi followed with Brian having a good attendance and a few newcomers. The rest of the day was ours to enjoy and at 5- pm we all gathered in front of the Recreation room for the opening of the Rally.

Ron's first pleasant duty was to induct our newest members, Ian and Beth Moore into the club. We wish them many happy times as members of the Sandgroper. Nola then explained the plans for the weekend and that the site in front of the Recreation Room would be the gathering place for all morning and afternoon teas over the weekend and for the Communal B.B.Q. to follow the opening.

Greg entertained us with a musical recital including a few new numbers and several other couples in the park clearly enjoyed the free concert. It is great to have someone musical in the club at last. Thank you Greg.

Saturday 7th

An early morning walk was enjoyed by a few members as the Busso Race was taking place along the walk/cycle path. too energetic for us!! But a lovely sight to see so many young and not so young participants. Tai Chi was once again well attended.

The Committee Meeting followed morning tea and a number of members exercised their right to observe proceedings and give input if warranted. Throughout the day the pools were very welcome as the weather was warm and sunny and many enjoyed a chat around the pool.

At 4pm we made a convoy up to Novacare where the girls escorted by Nola visited a resident's doll collection. Lois gave us an informal talk which was very interesting explaining how she made the dolls and their houses. The guys ventured into the Sportsmans Bar and enjoyed a game of darts and pool and partook in the odd beer and glass of wine. The girls joined them for Happy Hour after first being given a conducted tour of Mike and Nola's beautiful home and the village in general.

Then it was time to move into the restaurant. Neil, the head chef and his sons produced a very scrumptious three course dinner. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the variety of food especially the desserts. Thank you Nola for your great organisation.

Sunday8th

Busselton was hosting the jetty swim early on Sunday morning and Trina and Geoff were very impressed at the sight of hundreds of swimmers, including disabled, all in the water together.

At 10am Ron closed the rally and thanked the rally organisers. Nola did a wonderful job. Brian Bizzell, as Secretary made available copies of a letter to be sent to Merle assuring her that she is still a valued member of the Sandgropers and welcome at all future rallies.

An excellent rally at a beautiful venue.

Many members stayed on for a few extra days and the Savages, Neale's, Steins, Littlely's and Bizzells headed off to the Boyup Brook 30th Music Festival which we all thought was probably the best ever!!

Written by Trina Savage

Those present were: Laurie Tyler & Trish Wilson, Brian & Helen Bizzill, Ron Halse, Frank & Jan Alolovic, Gerry & Margaret Kerrigan, Kevin & Thelma Forbes, Peter & Mary Neale, Geoff & Trina Savage, Arthur & Elvia Littlely, Jim & Helen Schell, Ian Fullerton & Margo Nicol, Greg & Margaret Johnson, Peter Carter & Truth MacKenzie, Alan & Rheta Parkinson, Mike & Nola Stein, Brian & Mary Wales

BOYUP BROOK COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

30TH ANNIVERSARY

After a lovely week at Busselton at the Big 4, three of us set off to Boyup Brook. The Neales, the Savages, and the Steins, meeting the Bizzills and the Littleys there.

The Bizzills had a good spot for us so it was easy to settle in, just the awnings needed as there is no water and no power in the Flaxmill paddock which is an overflow for the caravan park.

The Savages, went to the warm up concert on the Thursday night as that was part of their ticket.

Friday morning it was to Harvey Dickson's for the Variety Showcase, a sample of what we were in for over the weekend. This time we got there early and decided on front row seats. We had bush poets Susie and Mel along with John Best. Tom Maxwell, Billy and Vicki, Marie Hobson and Brian Letton were all singers, songwriters and musicians.

Peter and Mary renewed their friendship with Susie and Mel, from Winton, they had not forgotten Peter's part in one of their skits. More about them at a later date.

Nola and Mike had never been to Harvey Dickson's, they could not believe it as they passed all the 'junk' just getting into the place and as others will know, then you look to the ceiling, what an education and a trip down memory lane for us all.

We all decided to do the \$10 tour and meet the man himself. Did I say junk, every piece had a history or story to it, so I suppose it cannot be called junk now. A great deal of it was found on the property which has been in the family since the mid 1800's. We then proceeded into the garden! with many tales of how the country music came to Boyup Brook. Into the house and the record room, which had all walls and ceiling covered with Records, posters, news clips etc. \$10 well spent.

Friday Night it was to the Music Park in walking distance from the paddock, 15 minute amble. The WA Country Music Awards were presented to the up and coming artists, the finalists showing us how it is done. The Billy Higginson and the Pale Moon Riders did a set until around 10.

Saturday morning into town where there were stalls, buskers etc and then at 11 the much awaited Ute and Truck Muster that makes it way through the town, boys and their utes and trucks with 1 chick and a very pink ute, all with flags flying. Home to the van for lunch and around 1.30 back to the Music Park, with lots of warm gear for the evening. Ray and Tania Kernaghan along with Troy Casser-Daley were the main attractions. By 10 we were ready for the walk back to the van after a great day and evening. If you like line dancing or just dancing this is the place with a wooden floor provided. Written by Mary Neale.

BLOOPERS ECO PARK BUSSELTON

Great to have very good friends. Means you are able to forget your wallet not once but TWICE and that good Aussie mate will pay your way.

And speaking of male forgetfulness what about hubby who forgot the wine. Such a loving hubby he returned home to get it.

And with that couple they live the closest and were last to arrive on the Thursday, too much to pack hey or perhaps to remember.

One couple arrived latish on the day they had booked as this hubby had gone to fill the water tanks in the van. Oops then the better half (she who must be obeyed) found he had filled the van with water, not the tanks. Quick trip to the repair shop and all is fixed. However he must have been very upset as the following day he went shopping and some time later found he had his T Shirt on inside out. The trials of retirement.

And again on forgetting things, who forgot the card for the TV dish.

However we do have some very fit people. One of fit chaps joined the marathon intending to jog past his wife on the beach. Hope she was still there. We were taking the snails pace so didn't see the reunion.

Still on the guys when using a cheap red plastic dish to use for the nuts please place a rock in the bottom so the nuts don't fly everywhere. Good to see the help in collecting said nuts from the grass.

But there was some good luck on the weekend one chap had a bird leave droppings on his shirt.

Not to leave the ladies alone one lady had a bird above leave droppings on her shorts. Folk lore tells us this is good luck.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bussleton Peppermint Caravan Park

The venue officers are doing a fantastic job and we all really appreciate it. Thank you to Nola and Mike for organising the meal at the Novacare Lifestyle Village. You couldn't have asked for a better three course meal. Nola and Mike's new house in the village is beautiful.

I would also like to thank Trish for taking on the role of the Clothing Coordinator.

On Sunday we went to the Old Stone Cottage for afternoon tea it was delicious.

See you all at the next rally at Narrogin Caravan Park February 26th-March 2nd.

*Your President
Ronald.*



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Elvia Littlely	2 nd
Anton Reigger	4 th
Brian Adams	9 th
Betty Morris	10 th
Glenda Olesen	11 th
Peter Neale	14 th
Di Ashford	20 th

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Alan & Rheta Parkinson	4 th
Brian & Helen Bizzill	28 th

COMING EVENTS in 2015

April 2nd – 6th EASTER RALLY

WAVE ROCK CARAVAN PARK - HYDEN

The town of Hyden is located 292 km east-southeast of Perth, Western Australia in the Shire of Kondinin. Hyden is home to Wave Rock and Mulka's Cave, both popular local tourist attractions. The land in the surrounding area was opened up for agriculture in the 1920s. A railway was built between Kondinin and Hyden Rock in 1930. The townsite was gazetted in 1932 following demand for land around the railway terminus

April 30th – May 4th SOUTHERN BROOK HALL - OBT

(No power or water for vans)

Directions to Southern Brook Hall

East on Gt Eastern Hwy From Perth to Northam.

On the Northam Bypass take right hand lane EXIT to Goomalling Rd.

Turn left onto the Goomalling Rd.

Travel 2.5 kms. on Goomalling Rd.

Turn right onto Southern Brook Rd.

Travel 15.5 Kms. on the way you will

Go past O'Neill Rd on your left

Go past Grass Valley Nth. Rd. on your right

Go past Antonio Rd. on your right

THEN LEFT onto Mc Manus Rd. on your left, Hall on corner

Down McManus Rd. short distance to gate on your left

Turn left through gate

You should be there!!!!

ATTENDEES FOR NARROGIN

<i>Schell J & H</i>	<i>Halse R</i>
<i>Tyler L & T</i>	<i>Lundy R & M</i>
<i>Littlely A & E</i>	<i>Forbes K & T</i>
<i>Currow D & J</i>	<i>Alolivic F & J</i>
<i>Savage G & T</i>	<i>Adams B & R</i>
<i>Nicho M & Fullerton I</i>	<i>Bunce T & J</i>
<i>Kerrigan G & M</i>	<i>Parkinson A & R</i>
<i>Wales B & M</i>	

The Club has been advised that the Narrogin caravan park is full to capacity for this weekend.

NARROGIN RALLY PROGRAMME:

26TH February – 1ST March

- Thursday: Arrive and settle in
- Friday: 8 am Morning Walk
- Group outing. Share vehicles – Visit to Agricultural School approx. 15 km from town. Morning tea \$4.00 per head. Will be shown around farm finishing by 12 noon as a bowling group is to arrive to stay overnight.
- 5 pm Open Rally and Happy Hour
- Saturday: 9 am Walk Narrogin Historical/Town area.
Museum open 9 -12 noon
Shops close 12 noon.
- Evening: Happy Hour with picnic tea at Old Mill Dam.
Drive short distance to Barna Mia a nocturnal led walk at sunset - 7.30 pm. Concession fee \$12 per head (50 kms round trip) Return to caravan park.
- Sunday: 8 am Walk
- Mid morning group outing to DOWDERRY WINES 12 km. Open 10 – 5 pm.
Share vehicles if wish. Possible lunch \$16 - \$20 per person. Fish, chicken or meat dishes.
- 4.30 pm Happy Hour followed by BBQ with shared salads
- Monday 8.30 – 9.00 Communal breakfast
- 10 am Morning tea and close of Rally

***** Please advise if you wish to order lunch and/or attend the Barna Mia nocturnal walk as they both need to be booked. Phone Kerrigan 0427 330 473.

MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT BUSSELTON ON
SATURDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2015 AT 10.45 AM

IN ATTENDANCE

Ron Halse, Jim Schell, Brian Bizzill, Peter Carter, Margaret Kerrigan, Nola Stein, Rheta Parkinson

APOLOGIES

Doris Freind, David Currow

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous committee meeting held on 25 October 2014 at Lake Brockman were read and accepted by the Committee. There was no business arising. Moved Jim Schell, seconded Margaret Kerrigan that the minutes be accepted – unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS AND OUTWARDS

The Secretary tabled the following incoming correspondence:

- 27.10.14 Note about Pinjarra free camp site*
- 04.11.14 Letter from Opposite Lock Midland re discounts to club members*
- 13.11.14 Report re National Association of Caravan Clubs Ltd (NACC)*
- 13.11.14 Agenda for WAACCI delegates meeting on 19.11.14*
- 13.11.14 Report to WAACCI by Gerry Kerrigan*
- 21.11.14 Letter from Rolling Wheels Caravan Club re purchase of dibrillator*
- 25.11.14 Caravans West newsletter, minutes of club delegates meeting on 19.11.14 and minutes of AGM of WAACCI on 19.11.14*
- 02.12.14 Invoice from Craftsign Engraving for rally strips*
- 05.12.14 Membership invoice from WAACCI*
- 08.01.15 Memo from WAACCI – NACC report and data base documents*
- 15.01.15 Agenda for WAACCI delegates meeting on 21.01.15*
- 20.01.15 Invoice from Craftsign Engraving for name badges*

There was no outgoing correspondence.

Moved Margaret Kerrigan, seconded Nola Stein that the correspondence be accepted – unanimous.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was read by the Secretary. Moved Nola Stein, seconded Jim Schell that the report be accepted – unanimous.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Peter Carter presented his report on the membership data base, showing the new spreadsheet format which will make it easier for records to be maintained. Peter also said that the current level of membership is 30 vans. Peter advised that the new spreadsheet was also capable of recording numbers at rallies. Margaret Kerrigan queried whether the people who had attended over 100 rallies had been acknowledged, and was informed that they had.

Moved Brian Bizzill, seconded Ron Halse that the Membership Secretary's Report be accepted – unanimous.

RALLY COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Margaret Kerrigan presented her report and explained about the new rally board and about the new process of passing the rally lists around at happy hours, etc. and the holiday file, and about the new date for the Waroona rally. The Christmas rally will be at Brookton. At present only five vans are listed for the Easter rally and numbers for the gourmet weekend must be finalised by 9 February. Kevin Forbes suggested that the mail exchange tour is very good. Peter Neale said Mary was thinking of hiring a bus for a day to tour the area, but nothing was confirmed.

Jim Schell moved, Ron Halse seconded that the Rally Coordinator's Report be accepted – unanimous.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Rheta Parkinson asked about allotting caravan prizes to two members at rallies with more than 15 vans attending. Moved Nola Stein, seconded Ron Halse – unanimous.

Jim Schell spoke about membership levels. At the AGM in 2004 Brian Wales moved and David Burn seconded that the membership be limited to 25 vans – carried. Also at the AGM in 2005 Geoff Savage moved and C. Reeve seconded that the level be raised to 30 – carried. Peter Carter said that the club should be run on participation rates and that the membership should decide the membership level. Peter Neale said that organising a rally is difficult with too many vans. Gerry Kerrigan said that caravan parks were changing and vans were getting bigger. Peter Carter suggested that prospective members be told that the membership is currently full and they would be placed on a waiting list. Margaret Kerrigan spoke about the size of clubs in the past and said that when clubs become too big factions or cliques form and that membership should be kept small. Peter Carter said that the club is

about fellowship and it is difficult to establish when cliques form. The Committee decided to bring a motion at the next AGM that the membership be set at 40.

Trish Tyler brought up the subject of Merle and that she wanted to verify Merle's standing, and Trish was informed that Merle was welcome in the club.

Peter Carter said that the committee must start to be stricter with the conditions of rally attendance

At the behest of the Committee Peter Neale discussed WAACCI and NACC data base and asked that the Committee allow WAACCI access to our records to be used by WAACCI and NACC. Peter Carter said we need to see some form of documentation from WAACCI requesting this. Brian Bizzill is to circulate the NACC information to all members.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the Southern Brook rally in May.

CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12.20 pm.

SIGNED:

DATED: