

GROPEERS GOSSIP

Volume 25 Issue 18

March 2015



Official publication of the *Sandgroper Caravanners Inc*

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

NARROGIN RALLY REPORT.

By Margaret & Gerry Kerrigan

On a very humid Thursday morning ten Sandgroper vans pulled into the Narrogin Caravan Park. All were greeted by the manager who showed us to our sites, helped where necessary with positioning of vans and presented each couple with a welcome \$10 voucher with the compliments of the local Chamber of Commerce. These could be used in many of the shops and town businesses. All spent the remainder of the day chatting and catching up with news over cold drinks.

It was a cooler Friday morning with a threatening sky, and we were off in shared vehicles to the Narrogin Agricultural College for a nine o'clock start Tour of the farm. Unfortunately, this was the only day available for the tour as schooling was happening at this time. We travelled in a school bus around the property with two of the students instructors giving us an account of what we were seeing and answering our many questions. First stop was the new shearing shed, then into the older shed where black faced Suffolk sheep were being prepared for the Wagin Woolarama next weekend. These were the first type of sheep brought from England by the early settlers before Merino sheep were introduced twenty years later. They are bred for their meat and we were told what the judges looked for in an animal when being presented at a show. A 'smoko' break with our two guides meant a lovely morning tea of homemade warm sausage rolls with various slices all made from produce from the farm, with tea and coffee. Our patient guides continued to answer questions as we ate in the new shearing shed. Another tour in the bus over different areas of the

property, past the mechanical workshops, residential block and classrooms ended back at the Administration Centre just before noon.

There are currently 124 student in Years 10 to 12 at the College from places as far away as the Northern Territory, the N/West, Southern areas and city teenagers. In Year 10 students must spend time in woodwork, mechanical and welding areas and then specialise in the area of their choice in their later years at the College. Subjects of Maths, Science and English plus practical subjects are all taught in order to graduate at Year 12 level. There are approximately one third girls and the remainder are boys. Students are able to keep their horses on the property and discipline is strict. On our return to the Caravan Park the remaining three Sandgroper vans had arrived at the Park.

Afternoon Tea led into Happy Hour when Ron officially opened the Rally. The events planned for the weekend were discussed before people slowly returned to their vans for the night.

On Saturday members took the opportunity of walking through the town patronising Parry's the Ladies and Gents Department store who had a 25% off sale, spending time in coffee shops, the French Bakery and Museums. The vouchers we had been given were gleefully used. Shops closed at 12noon and shoppers returned to the Park for siestas.

A convoy of vehicles left the park at 5pm for the Old Mill Dam in the Dryanda Woodlands where two kangaroos were reflected



in the water while we ate our picnic tea. Our meal was followed by a drive further into the woods to Barna Mia



where our guide, Lynette, gave us a talk on the creatures of the area before leading us on a nocturnal walk through the enclosure where we stopped at three feeding stations where food was left and sat quietly and waited for the animals to appear. We were rewarded, witnessing Bilbys, Boodie, Woylie, Quenda and Mala. The shy Marl, the Western Barred Bandicoot was the only native animal in the enclosure we missed seeing.

After this special experience be headed in convoy in the very dark woodlands the 25 kms back into Narrogin, arriving at 10pm.

On Sunday, there was a sleep in for most with Alan and David being the only walkers. We again shared vehicles for the 12 km trip to Doongarry Wines where after tasting wines grown on the property a delicious lunch of a main course, sweets and coffee were served in the restaurant. Some purchased wines before departing.



Rex the owner told us the story of the Winery where he has been growing wines for 15 years. He encourages local charities to volunteer various the monies workers to charity.



He local charities to pick grapes at times - he donates earned by the their particular The Cancer

Foundation has a group picking over next weekend and Rex will forward a cheque to the Cancer Foundation.



Afternoon siesta again for some before Happy Hour in the shade of vans.

Our President Ron had given permission for Gerry & Margaret to speak to the group about the feeling of discord among Club members at the moment, something they have sensed for some time. They suggested that this does happen among many Clubs from time to time and told of another Club who had similar problems and how they went about revitalising their Club. A survey sheet used by the other Club, with the responses from that Club's members was given to each couple to see if they consider a similar survey would help Sandgroper Club. A show of hands indicated that almost all of the the 23 members at the Happy Hour would like to try a similar survey.

Members were invited to take away the sample surveys, scribble on the sheet their honest feelings about the Club at the moment and tick the questions they think appropriate for our members, adding any more applicable questions for our Club. Members not attending the Narrogin rally are to be sent a copy of this sample survey and invited to add their responses promptly and return to Gerry & Margaret. They feel it is very important that ALL members have the opportunity to give their opinion. Once all these responses are received, a Sandgroper Survey, based on members responses will be sent to all members.

The results of this will be collated, as in the sample, and sent to each member of the Club to ensure transparency to ALL . The next step will be to discuss the results with ALL, then reintroduce past practices and/or gradually implement any changes that the majority of members request.

Dinner that evening was a BBQ with shared salads held in the camper kitchen but as the wind had come up and the weather turned quite cold all ventured back to their vans by 8.30 pm.

The wind was still up when we met again on Monday morning in the campers Kitchen for our communal breakfast. The sample survey sheets were placed in a basket, reserving anonymity of members. At the Rally closing the caravan prize was drawn by Margaret and won by Mary & Brian Wales and donated by Ronnie & Brian Adams and the President thanked Margaret & Gerry and everyone for participating .

Those attending Narrogin were: Jim & Helen Schell, Ron Halse, Lawrie Tyler & Trish Wilson, Brian & Betty Morris, Kevin & Thelma Forbes, David & Janet

Currow, Frank & Janice Alolivic, Geoff & Trina Savage, Brian & Ronnie Adams, Ian Fulleron & Margo Nicol, Ted & June Bunce, Margaret & Gerry Kerrigan, Alan & Rheta Parkinson and Brian & Mary Wales



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Narrogin Caravan Park

My thanks go to Margaret and Gerry for organising and running a great rally. Unfortunately I missed the tour of the Agricultural School but the other two outings that I got to attend were very good.

It was lovely to see the nocturnal animals at Barna Mia. I for one didn't know that they looked after them there and ran a breeding program.

The visit to DOWNDERRY Winery was also fun and we all had a good time. We did some wine tasting and I got a bottle of white to have with lunch.

Thanks, also to Margaret and Gerry for giving us a questionnaire to look at as they realised that there is disharmony in our club at the moment.

This is a great starting point so all members can have input into how they feel so we can work towards having a happy club again.

Sorry I will be missing the Easter Rally.

I look forward to seeing you all at the following rally at Southern Brook.

I will be holding a Committee meeting then.

Yours in Caravanning

Your President Ronald.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Frank Alolivic 16th
Mary Wales 16th
Trina Savage 21st
Paula Hiscock 23rd
Brian Wales 28th
Robin Ashford 29th

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Greg & Margaret Johnson 21st

Caravan Prize Winners & Donors omitted from past Gossips

<i>Date</i>	<i>Rally</i>	<i>Donor</i>	<i>Winner</i>
<i>26/10/14</i>	<i>Lake Brockman</i>	<i>June & Ted Bunce</i>	<i>Roy & Maureen Lundy</i>
<i>30/11/14</i>	<i>Willow Brook</i>	<i>Roy & Maureen Lundy</i> <i>Di & Robin Ashford</i>	<i>Glenda & Kel Olesen</i> <i>Doris Freind</i>
<i>09/02/15</i>	<i>Busselton</i>	<i>Di & Robin Ashford</i> <i>Glenda & Kel Olesen</i>	<i>Helen & Brian Bizzill</i> <i>Margot Nicoll & Ian Fullerton</i>
<i>PLUS:</i>			
<i>02/03/15</i>	<i>Narrogin</i>	<i>Ronnie & Brian Adams</i>	<i>Mary & Brian Wales</i>

MEMBERS please note:

Current prize supply is low, would those Members wishing to donate (to the value of \$10) please give them to Rheta Parkinson (or a Committee Member) a.s.a.p.

Please ensure the gift is wrapped and the Donors name is shown for acknowledgement.

Many thanks
Rheta

NARROGIN RALLY BLOOPERS

We all have the check list of what we do when hitching and unhitching the van. Well one guy hitched the van on, left the sway bar lever on the back bumper of the car and lucky it was still on arrival at Narrogin. Add to check list ALL tools are put away.

Then there was the trip to the Ag School, we know they have sheep there however on the way out one driver turned the wrong way, lo and behold several followed him. And might I add he turned the wrong way more than once. The gravel roads did give the indication to turn around and the smart phone showed the way back.

Then we had the trip to Barna Mia. On arrival back at the van mere male had to make the trip to the loo. He was asked to deposit the rubbish (including empty stubbies) in the bin. Forgot the people in van hadn't been on the trip and the bin was about 10 feet from their bedhead. They tell us it did make an awful racket in the still night air.

And with the same rubbish bin mere male was sitting with his back to it and needing to toss the trash he rose from his chair and walked some 40 paces to the bin in front of him. Meanwhile the bin behind was only 2 paces away. Good exercise though.

I might now suggest that we supply our hardy Rally Co-Ordinators with a couple of biros. The one on the board is advertising another Caravan Club.

Then there was the senior citizen on the Winery trip. Asked what he was tasting and he replied I have a good Chardy however a reliable source has told me it was a Shiraz.

Then there was the member who said he had put powder on HIS legs to keep the ants away from his van. Did he mean his legs or the van legs.

A younger woman at heart, when talking about being cold in the night, proudly stated that her husband only had to turn the switch on!!!!

A reminder to those members who have received the survey sheet proposals by email, please get them back to Margaret & Gerry as soon as possible.

WAVE ROCK CARAVAN PARK - HYDEN
April 2nd - 6th EASTER RALLY

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.

Attendees: Margaret & Gerry Kerrigan TFSS
Kevin & Thelma Forbes TFSS
Jim & Helen Schell TFSS
Brian & Betty Morris TFSS
Kel & Glenda Olesen returning from East Coast
Merle Burn in accommodation

RALLY PROGRAMME

Wednesday Travel to meet in Brookton at noon
Travel in convoy to BULYEE for an overnight stop.

Thursday Travel on to Hyden
Settle in at WAVE ROCK CARAVAN PARK

Day activities to be chosen according to weather conditions.

Walk to Rock
Museum visit
Lace place
Nature walk

Friday Fish meal Hot cross buns

Saturday Progressive Dinner
Menu: Mains Betty and Margaret
Salads Glenda
Sweets Helen

Sunday Possible Pub meal in Hyden. Easter Eggs

****Snacks for Happy Hours - Merle & Thelma

Bring own meal for Wednesday night at BULYEE and possible "Camping Out" on return to Perth on Monday.

COMING EVENTS in 2015

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!!!!

MAY 14th – 16th GOURMET LONG WEEKEND

PTH VINEYARDS HOLIDAY PARK

Benara Road Caversham

More information to come.

MAY 28th – JUNE 1st WYALKATCHEM CARAVAN PARK

Wyalkatchem is located in the Western Australian Wheatbelt, which is in the central agricultural region of W.A. The district was explored in 1864 but the first settlers to take up land in Wyalkatchem were in 1904. The townsite was officially declared in 1908 and gazetted in 1911. The Wyalkatchem shire covers an area of 1,743 sqkm with a population of approximately 620.

DAVID CURROW has asked that any enquiries re future rallies ie attendance etc please be forwarded to Margaret Kerrigan while he is away.

CLUB UNIFORM CLOTHING:

*Trish has advised the following items are available and can be purchased from her.
Phone No. 0417 976 082.*

<i>1 x XL Fleece Jacket Full Zip</i>	<i>\$40.00</i>
<i>1 x 2 XL Polo shirt (Grey)</i>	<i>\$15.00</i>
<i>Caps</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>
<i>Hats</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>
<i>Stickers</i>	<i>\$ 6.00</i>
<i>Sew on badges</i>	<i>\$ 7.00</i>

50 greyish shades

Back and forth back and forth
In and out in and out
A little to the right a little to the left
She could feel the sweat on her forehead
Between her breasts and, trickling down the small of her back
She was getting near to the end !!
He was in ecstasy with a huge smile on his face as his wife moved
Forwards then backwards
Forward then backward
Again and, again !!
Her heart was pounding now
Her face was flushed
She moaned softly at first, then began to groan louder
Finally totally exhausted she let out a piercing scream
She shouted :

"OK, OK, you smug bastard, I can't parallel park