

# GROPER'S GOSSIP

Volume 25 Issue 20

May 2015



Official publication of the *Sandgroper Caravanners Inc*

Radio Channels: AM 7; UHF 18

Numbers: Members families can contact these numbers during rallies

Ron Halse 0416 358 458 Jim Schell 0427 778 871 Brian Bizzill 0419 940 907 Doris Freind 0419 551 397

## RALLY REPORT

### SOUTHERN BROOK RALLY – 30 APRIL to 4 MAY 2015

The Southern Brook Hall was easily found due to the very good mud map supplied, about 20 km out of Northam and the early arrivals on Wednesday were Jim and Helen Schell and Ron Halse who were given access to the hall. Thursday saw the Bizzills, Morris, Moores, Currows, Kessells and Kerrigans set up camp and enjoy happy hour together in the hall.

Friday morning was clear and cool to start with, but warmed up during the day. The rest of the attendees arrived at various times during the day – the Ashfords, Lundys, Savages, Adams, Steins, Freind, Parkinsons, Wales and visitors Helen and Kevin Du Bois. During the day a couple of the locals came along and chopped a load of firewood for our use. Most of the day was taken up with greeting the new arrivals and catching up for morning and afternoon tea, before Ron Halse opened the rally at 5 pm during happy hour in the hall.



The hall celebrated its centenary in 2009 and was very comfortable and well equipped with gas heaters (which fortunately we didn't need to use), gas barbecues, a well equipped kitchen and more than enough tables and chairs. We all shared an evening meal followed by some members relating short stories of their travel experiences or simply personal recollections. The

*highlight of the evening had to be Brian Adams' amazing card trick, very well assisted by Mary Wales – thanks to Brian and Mary for providing us with a lot of laughs. We all agreed this was a very pleasant way to spend the evening and it created a general feeling of goodwill.*



*Elva and Arthur Littley were the designated venue officers, but unfortunately were unable to attend due to family medical issues. At the opening it was decided to forego the picnic lunch in Meckering due to the shortness of time between the committee meeting in the morning and the general meeting planned for the afternoon.*

*Saturday once again was clear and cool. Peter Carter and Ruth McKenzie arrived to spend the day, and Elva and Arthur arrived a little later so they could attend the general meeting. The general meeting was attended by all, chaired by Peter Carter, with the presentation of the results of the survey done by Gerry and Margaret Kerrigan. The presentation was well received and provided a very useful discussion point for the many items that had been raised, and those requiring additional information or attention were referred back to the committee. We all agreed a drink at happy hour was well deserved by all participants.*

*“Be Adventurous with Mince” was the theme for the shared dinner and the variety of meals was excellent. Several desserts were also prepared and devoured with gusto. Thanks to Beth Moore, Di Ashford, Natalie Kessell, Nola Stein and Trina Savage for providing the desserts.*



*With full tummies and a few wines we all settled back to enjoy several games of card bingo with the ladies winning the majority of the games – Nola, Di, Ronnie, Doris and Natalie – with Geoff being the lone male winner.*

*Sunday morning was a little bit*



*chilly again, but not enough to prevent everyone joining in a community breakfast around the barbecue and sitting in the sunshine. Ron Halse closed the rally at 10.30 am and during the morning several vans headed home. Six vans remained to*

*enjoy another night in the peaceful location – Bizzill, Stein, Lundy, Kessell, Ashford, Moore and Currow. Unfortunately during the afternoon Natalie became unwell and an ambulance was called to take her to Northam hospital, where she spent several hours before being discharged late in the evening. David, Mike and Brian took their van into the Northam caravan park and set it up there, and I understand Ian and Natalie headed back to Perth on Monday to have some more testing done. Best wishes to Natalie for a speedy recovery.*



*Southern Brook Hall was a great location, seemingly in the middle of nowhere, and I am sure everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed the entire weekend.*

*Brian and I are off overseas next week for two months, so will catch up at the Waroona rally in August. In the meantime, best wishes to other travellers and caravanners and safe travels to all.*

*Report written by Helen Bizzill*

***Attendees:*** *Jim and Helen Schell, Ron Halse, Brian and Helen Bizzill, Ian and Beth Moore Brian and Betty Morris, David and Janet Currow, Ian and Natalie Kessell, Gerry and Margaret Kerrigan, Robin and Di Ashford, Roy and Maureen Lundy, Geoff and Trina Savage, Brian and Ronnie Adams, Mike and Nola Stein, Doris Friend, Alan and Rheta Parkinson, Brian and Mary Wales.*

***Visitors:*** *Kevin and Helen Du Bois*

***Day Visitors:*** *Peter Carter and Ruth McKenzie      Arthur and Elva Littley*



*At the BBQ Friday night*



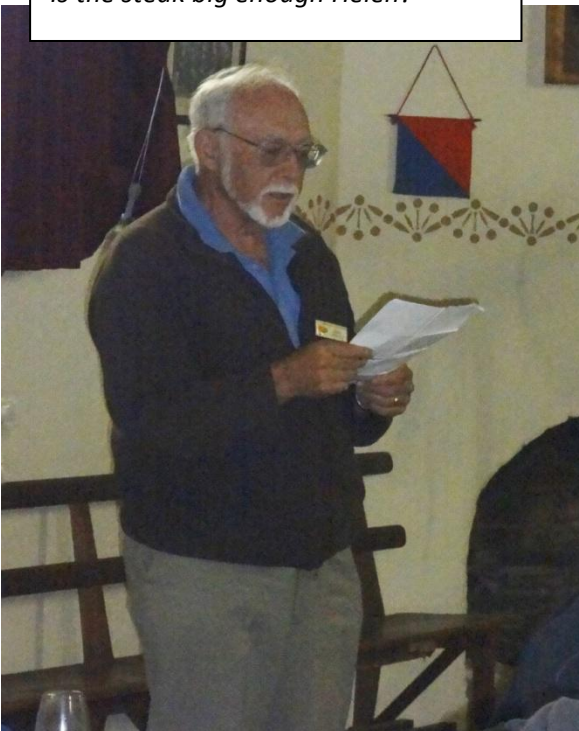
*Visitors Helen & Kevin talking to Mike*



*Is the steak big enough Helen?*



*Natalie & Ian enjoying their dinner*



*Alan reading his joke about Sex the dog!*



*Ron a happy President*



## ***PRESIDENT'S REPORT***

***Firstly I would like to thank Helen and Brian Bizzill for hosting the rally at short notice. Unfortunately Elva and Arthur were unable to be there for the whole weekend due to family illness. We wish their son a speedy recovery.***

***Southern Brook Hall was a very pleasant place to enjoy a Rally. The toilet amenities were of a high standard. The hall was a good size for members with a good kitchen that was well utilized.***

***Also thanks to Margaret and Gerry for organizing the questionnaire, collating it and then fronting a meeting of members to go through the outcomes and possible solutions. Also thanks to Peter Carter for chairing the meeting.***

***Our thoughts are with those on the sick list and wish them a speedy recovers. For those off on their overseas travels and those heading north we wish you a happy holiday and safe driving.***

***Yours in caravanning***

***Ron Halse  
President.***



### *MAY BIRTHDAYS*

<i>Greg Johnson</i>	<i>4<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Janet Currow</i>	<i>5<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Laurie Tyler</i>	<i>7<sup>th</sup></i>

## **SOUTHERN BROOK BLOOPERS**

*We have one young chap who bought a new toy whilst away. He decided to play with this at 6.30am in the morning and his dear wife requested that he switch it off because it was too early in the day. He just wanted to warm the caravan so he told me.*

*Then these are those in the club still in bed asleep at 8.15am. Too late for the morning walk even. The person visiting came back later in the morning. Cool mornings make a sleep in very inviting.*

*And of course we still had the flies. Where's my flynet asked one lady of her hubby? Must be in the van said he. Well after searching said van for some time she came back and told hubby (who was wearing HIS flynet) that nope it wasn't in the van. A quick look in his his jacket pocket and guess where HER flynet was. Oops.*

*And I cant forget the guy ringing up the evening after the rally. Sure he had the wrong number.*

### **Caravan Prizes Southern Brook May 2015**

Won by - Trina & Geoff Savage      Donated by - Unknown

Won by - Doris Friend                      Donated by - 'The Kirbys'

# COMING EVENTS in 2015

**MAY 28<sup>th</sup> – JUNE 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**JULY 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> MOGUMBER HALL \$5.00 per night.  
No showers**

*This small country town is located on the Bindoon - Moora Road and is approximately 128 km north of Perth. The town is situated on the Moore River East within the Shire of Victoria Plains.! The townsite is quite attractive and contains an hotel, a few public buildings and houses. The locality is perhaps infamous for the dubious historical Native Settlement Camp, later known as the Methodist Mission.*

*Laurie & Margaret Tyler, the organizers of the Mogumber Rally are organizing a Cabaret with Laurie's full band being in attendance. They are planning for each couple to bring a casserole for dinner before hand. The towns peoples have also been invited and it would be good if as many of the club as possible could attend. Laurie has gone to a lot of effort to get this going so hope to see you there. A flyer will appear in the next newsletter.*

**While looking at a house, my brother asked the estate agent which direction was north because He didn't want the sun waking him up every morning. She asked, 'Does the sun rise in the north?'**

**My brother explained that the sun rises in the east And has for some time. She shook her head and said, 'Oh, I don't keep up with all that stuff.....'**

*They Walk*

## **PROGRAMME FOR THE SWAN VALLY RALLY**

**MAY 14TH TO 17TH MAY 2015**

**THURSDAY: ARRIVE AND SETTLE IN-- THE NEALE'S WILL BE IN  
CABIN 208**

**5.00PM HAPPY HOUR AND OPENING OF RALLY**

**DISTRIBUTION OF MAPS ETC FOR WEEKEND**

**FRIDAY: 8.15 TAI CHI**

**9.30 GATHER TO PROCEED TO THE RIVER WALK  
PARKING AT THE INFORMATION CENTER..**

**YOU HAVE THE REST OF THE DAY TO EXPLORE  
GUILDFORD, MAPS PROVIDED, IN GROUPS IF  
YOU WISH**

**5.00 HAPPY HOUR AND SHOW AND TELL**

**6.30 BBQ OR OWN MEAL**

**7.30 OR THEREABOUTS "MYSTERY QUIZZ NIGHT"**

**SATURDAY 8.00 WALK**

**9.50 BE READY TO BOARD THE BUS AT 10AM FOR  
OUR TRIP AROUND THE SWAN VALLEY**

**PROGRAMME WILL BE IN ENVELOPE  
COST IS \$99 P.P. AND INCLUDES LUNCH, WINE  
AND BEER TO BE PAID A.S.A.P**





*SORRY CAN'T DELETE THIS PAGE.*

4.00 HOME .....

5.00 HAPPY HOUR FOLLOWED BY A SAUSAGE SIZZLE  
PROVIDED BY THE NEALES

PETER WILL BE AT THE FOOTBALL SO I WOULD  
LIKE HELP HERE PLEASE

SUNDAY 8.30 COMMUNAL BREAKFAST

10.00 CLOSURE OF RALLY

FREE TO PLEASE YOURSELVES AND DISCOVER MORE  
OF THE SWAN VALLY OR GUILDFORD.



~~~Hi Lord ~~~Simple but true.

*Hi Lord, it's me.*

*We are getting older and things are getting bad here.*

*Gas prices are too high, no jobs, food and heating costs too high.*

*I know some have taken you out of our schools, government and even  
Christmas, but Lord I'm asking you to come back and re-bless Australia ..*

*We really need you!*

*There are more of us who want you than those who don't!*

*Thank You Lord,*

*I Love you.*

**MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**HELD AT SOUTHERN BROOK HALL ON**  
**SATURDAY, 2 MAY 2015 AT 10.00 AM**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

*Ron Halse, Jim Schell, Doris Freind, Brian Bizzill, Peter Carter, David Currow, Margaret Kerrigan, Nola Stein, Rheta Parkinson*

**MINUTES**

*The minutes of the previous committee meeting held on 7 February 2015 at Busselton were read and Margaret Kerrigan said that her comments about "small" were misinterpreted and that she meant "40". Discussion was held re membership levels. Margaret read out notification re change to the Constitution and how the membership levels can be changed. Margaret read from the Constitution about membership. It was decided to write a by-law to raise the limit of vans to 40 to be discussed at the AGM and voted on, and for the decision to be published. Rheta Parkinson said there should be a correction to the minutes of the previous meeting to change the wording from "more than 15 vans" to "15 or more vans".*

*Jim Schell moved and Peter Carter seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.*

**CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS AND OUTWARDS**

*The Secretary tabled the following incoming correspondence:*

- 20.01.15 cc email from Peter Carter to Craftsign re name badges*
- 22.01.15 Copy of the minutes from WAACCI club delegates meeting on 21.01.15*
- 13.02.15 cc email from Peter Carter re Ann Boan & Anton Reigger regarding the continuation of their Membership*
- 13.02.15 cc email from Peter Carter/Doris Freind/Ronnie Adams re unpaid invoice from Craftsign (since paid)*
- 17.02.15 Letter from Shire of Toodyay – general information*
- 17.02.15 Letter from Ann Boan & Anton Reigger requesting a leave of absence*
- 19.02.15 Email from WAACCI asking if we have flag/banner – answered in affirmative*
- 11.03.15 Email from WAACCI – meeting reminder and agenda*
- 23.03.15 Email from WAACCI – minutes of delegates meeting on 18.03.15 and copy of Caravanswest*
- 26.03.15 Email from Rin Klasen re NACC registration and club on-line data base*
- 26.03.15 Invoice from Australia Post for post office box (scanned to Doris)*

26.03.15      *Flyer from Award Signs*

08.04.15      *Email from Gerry Kerrigan re club survey*

10.04.15      *Email from WAACCI with registration for Queensland 2015 state rally*

14.04.15      *Email from WAACCI re Peter Welling's passing*

23.04.15      *Email from Peter Carter re members' contact details*

27.04.15      *Flyers from Seniors Recreational Council*

29.04.15      *Flyers from Dolium Pty Ltd caravan and 4 x 4 equipment*

29.04.15      *Flyer from Peter Burgess mobile caravan detailing*

29.04.15      *Flyer from Mandurah Caravan Park*

29.04.15      *ING statement*

29.04.15      *Post office box payment slip*

01.05.15      *Letter from Royal Flying Doctor Service*

*There was no outgoing correspondence.*

*Moved Ron Halse, seconded Nola Stein that the correspondence be accepted – unanimous.*

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

*Doris Friend read her report (attached) and advised that WAACCI was still owed \$3 per member which would be paid.*

*Moved Peter Carter, seconded David Currow that the report be accepted – unanimous.*

#### **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

*Peter Carter reported that at the moment we have 30 vans (57 members). Peter asked if anybody knew of any prospective members and was told none. Doris asked if there was a limit to the number of times a visitor may attend rallies – the limit was understood to be three.*

*Moved Nola Stein, seconded David Currow that the Membership Secretary's report be accepted – unanimous.*

#### **RALLY COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

*David Currow reported that everything was OK. Mary Neale will run the Caversham rally, and we still need a venue officer for Wylkatchem. David said that it was becoming difficult to nail down bookings. He also said he would put a few questions to the members as to what people want to do next year, eg. types of rallies, number of rallies, and will be asking for guidance from the members. Margaret said that the Mogumber rally will have a band (Greg Johnson and friends) and that it will also invite local residents. Doris asked about liquor licensing because of locals attending and paying \$5 towards the cost of the band. Doris/Brian to check licensing requirements. Margaret said that if the locals were coming they needed to be made welcome. Margaret talked about the Christmas rally at the Brookton Tavern which will be \$30 per head including room hire. The Committee decided to go ahead with the booking.*

*Moved Doris Freind, seconded Brian Bizzill that the Rally Coordinator's Report be accepted – unanimous.*

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

*Jim Schell asked the Committee to give Kevin Forbes permission to commit the Club to the position of Grounds Coordinator at the National Rally in Albany in 2019. The Committee agreed.*

*Doris Freind spoke about our accounting system and in conjunction with Alan Parkinson suggested switching to a new system called "Reckon One" to make it easier for future treasurers. Alan spoke about the system saying it is quite simple and suitable for our Club. The cost of this system is small (\$5-\$10 per month) and Alan is willing to assist in instructing the incoming treasurer. It was decided that we go ahead with this new accounting system.*

*Doris Freind asked that new member details automatically be relayed to the treasurer to assist in the raising of the relevant invoice and it was agreed to proceed with this process.*

*Peter Carter spoke about the NACC data base and advised that we should promote it to the individual members, even though it will be a duplication of information on our website. Peter also said that the Committee must be more involved in making the decisions that involve the Club and that the Committee must begin to act as a committee. Rheta asked about the letter to Merle not being circulated. She was advised that the letter was read to the meeting and that copies were made available to the members.*

*The survey meeting was discussed and it was decided to ask if someone could take notes, and that it must be conducted properly. Peter volunteered to chair the meeting. Discussion took place about the committee meeting after the survey meeting to discuss the results. It was decided to meet on Sunday if necessary.*

*It was agreed to give Ann and Anton a leave of absence for twelve months.*

**NEXT MEETING**

*The next meeting will be held at the Waroona rally on 15 August 2015.*

**CLOSURE**

*There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12 noon.*

SIGNED: .....

DATED: .....