



ULYSSES MEMBERS RV GROUP



The Kermit Kronicle

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- Gary and Jo Calder, gary@ulyssesrv.org

SA - Hobbit (Rob Ryan) and Hoppy (Ray Willis)

hoho@ulyssesrv.org

Christmas in July 2012

Cecil Plains, Qld. July 12th - 15th.

See inside for details.





Hello everyone, welcome to our latest newsletter. Mildura AGM has been and gone, as well as our Easter Get-together on the Gold Coast.

Even though there were a lot of members away travelling at the time, 6 couples attended the Gold Coast event, as well as individuals Barry and Pinkie, who both headed off from Mildura and made it back to Qld in time to attend the event.

Thanks to Di and Burgie for making their property available.

The Burra Gorge event organised by Hobbit and Hoppy was a great success, and there is a short report later in this newsletter about that. For those in the area, ie. S.A. or travelling from interstate, don't miss out on the Flinders Ranges gathering on May 20th. By all reports these South Ozzies put on a great social gathering, befitting of the traditions we have started with this RV Group.

The happy hour gathering at the Golden River Caravan Park at Mildura on the 28th had a great attendance. We estimate that there were about 80 members there all up, who had a great time catching up with old friends or making new ones. Thanks to everyone who came along and made it a great afternoon.

Thanks also to Wayne and Lorraine who had their houseboat moored down at the back of the van park and who opened it up to all and sundry during the event. We're sure many members enjoyed their hospitality, as we did.

Registrations for the AGM at Yarrawonga are still coming in. Our past AGM's have been a great success, thanks to the tireless efforts of our organising committees, and this next one looks to be building into another great event. If you haven't booked your site yet, get in touch with the caravan park (details further in this newsletter) and make your booking. Don't forget to tell them you are with the Ulysses Members RV Group.

The new club shirt has been a roaring success sales wise since we introduced it, in so much as we have sold over 30 and have not taken any orders for the old style shirt. We have decided therefore to drop the old style shirt from our range, and from now on only the new shirt will be available.

Additionally, I have organised an option to have your name embroidered on the shirt at time of order if you so wish, at the extra cost of \$4.50.

We are also running a survey to see if members would be interested in a polar fleece jacket, with the club logo embroidered on it. The colour would be either black or bottle green, depending on member support. Our supplier says she can supply these for about \$40.00. There is a poll running on our forum, so place your vote if you are interested.

Thats all for now, travel safe and enjoy life.

Rick and Ken.





FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

SA RV events for 2012

RV events are open to any Ulysses member or partner. Any type of vehicle can be used to get you there, what is important is that you are there.

May 20th 2012 Rawnsley Park Station - Flinders Ranges

Sept 16th 2012 Black Cockatoo Bush Camp - Naracoorte

Oct 18th- 21st 2012 RV AGM Yarrawonga Holiday Park - Yarrawonga.

January 26th - 28th Kalganyi Holiday Park - Mt Gambier

Any further enquiries contact Hobbit or Hoppy on hoho@ulyssesrv.org

Old RV events for 2012

XMAS IN JULY

Cecil Plains Homestead and Museum.
12th - 15th July, 2012.

Unpowered sites only, generators allowed. \$10.00 per van per night. Showers and toilets onsite. Numbers attending required by 27th June, 2012.

Gordon advises that the local pub will put on a meal on Saturday night for between \$12 and \$18 a head, or choose from the a la carte menu.

Right on the Condamine River, so bring your kayak or your fishing gear.

Rooms also available at the Homestead if you don't want to take the van. Call Glennis on 07 4668 0098. Please fill out the registration form on the website so Gordon can tally the numbers.

VICTORIAN RV Events.

Marong Getaway 17 - 19 August

Marong is a small village located about 10 minutes from Bendigo. There is a great little caravan park and a pub located a few minutes walk from the CP. The pub serves cold beer and terrific meals. Please mention Ulysses RV group when making your bookings and remember to advise Gary and Jo that you are coming.

Gary and Jo Calder gary@ulyssesrv.org

Marong Caravan & Cabin Village
Free phone 1800 642 329
Phone 03 5435 2329 Fax 03 5435 2529
1449 Calder Highway
Marong Victoria 3515

1981 & 2005 - Two Interesting Years

Interesting Year 1981

1. Prince Charles got married.
2. Liverpool crowned soccer Champions of Europe.
3. Australia lost the Ashes.
4. The Pope died.

Interesting Year 2005

1. Prince Charles got married.
2. Liverpool crowned soccer Champions of Europe.
3. Australia lost the Ashes.
4. The Pope died.

Lesson to be learned:

The next time Charles gets married, someone should warn the Pope.



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Merchandise Shop

Gear shop goodies.

All of our gear shop items are available to order via our online regalia shop.

New clubshirts for \$35.00 plus postage.

New club shirt with embroidered name for \$39.50, plus postage.

New logo patches for \$5.00 plus postage

New logo 200mm stickers for \$12.00 plus postage

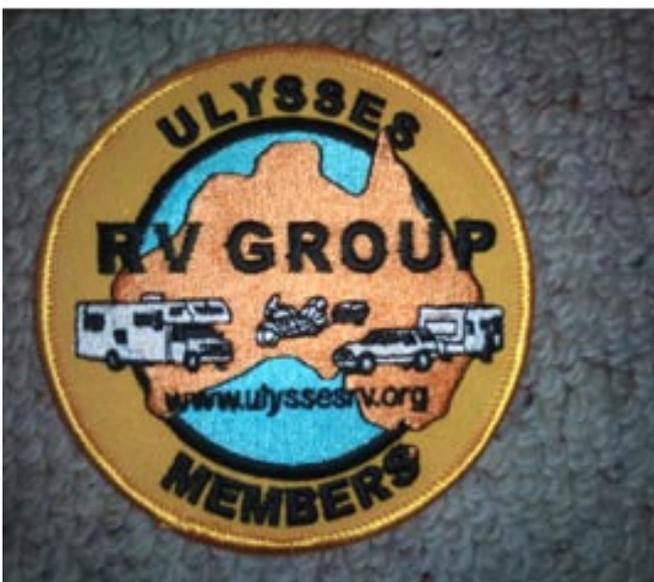
Old logo 200mm stickers for \$8.00 plus postage

New logo 100 mm stickers for \$1.00 plus postage



Old logo 100mm stickers for \$0.75 plus postage.

Name badges with magnetic clasp for \$9.80 plus postage.





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ULYSSES MEMBERS RV GROUP- 2012 AGM - Oct 15th - 21st. YARRAWONGA HOLIDAY PARK

In order to encourage more Ulysses members across the entire land to attend our annual event we looked at the option of holding next year's AGM in a location that would attract some new and perhaps more members, especially from Victoria and South Australia, and even W.A.

During a recent trip to Adelaide Phil and Fay investigated a large number of possible Caravan Parks to: Find one big enough to hold around 150 van sites One that would allow pets.

And one that had suitable facilities.

Very few parks met our needs, however the one park that met all our criteria is the Yarrowonga Holiday Park located on the Murray River at Yarrowonga (across the river from Mulwala and adjacent to Lake Mulwala)

This park is operated by a local community group with all profits donated back into the Yarrowonga community and is in excellent condition and presentation.

This park has in excess of 150 powered sites, new camp kitchen and all catering can be done on site.

Meals

The following are quotes that we have received from the Caravan Park who will organize everything for us. All we have to do is give the numbers.

- Friday – BBQ Tea including meat and salad \$6 per head about 6.00pm

- Saturday – Morning Tea- supplied by park management (friends in common) 10.00am

Lunch- BBQ meat and Salad \$6 per head (friends in common) 12.00 noon

Dinner- Roast meat, vegetables & Desert (\$20 per head) Yarrowonga Football Club – drinks at bar prices – drinks are reasonably priced.

- Sunday – Breakfast- bacon and egg rolls \$3 per head (friends in common) 7.30am – 8.00am.

The camp kitchen is a reasonable size, however depending on total numbers the park can organize a marquee to be erected adjacent to the camp kitchen at

no cost to us which would give us ample under cover area.

The dinner would be served at the Football club which is on the grounds of the Caravan Park and only about a 150 metre walk from the van sites.

Park details are:

Yarrowonga Holiday Park
Cnr Piper Street & Burley Road, Yar-
rawonga

Ph 03 5744 3420

www.yarrowongaholidaypark.com.au

email: info@yarrowongaholidaypark.com.au

**YARRAWONGA
 HOLIDAY PARK**
 Cnr. Piper Street & Burley Road
 YARRAWONGA VICTORIA 3730

WINNER
 2009 Victorian Most Improved Park
 2008 Bronze Medal
 2008 Bronze Medal
 2008 National Excellence
 Award by Tourism

Phone (03) 5744 3420
Fax (03) 5744 2938
info@yarrowongaholidaypark.com.au
www.yarrowongaholidaypark.com.au
 Resident Managers: Peter & Tanya Robinson



Website:
<http://ulyssesrv.org>

SA RV Roundup.

How to enjoy the last of the beautiful weather? Go away for the week end with a great group of people to a beautiful spot, sit, eat, drink and be merry.

This is exactly what we did on the March long week end. We went to Burra Gorge, which is between Burra and Robertstown. It is a free camping area so it didn't cost a lot. Stunning views with huge eucalypts spotted along a lovely creek.

We had a great turnout of Ulyssians from different branches and one interstater. All manner of vehicles arrived from a trike to Hoppy & Pats truck.

Accommodation was also varied from tents, trailers, campers and caravans. The one thing we did have in common was that tremendous Ulysses social spirit of fun and friendship. This was put to good use with singing, laughing and sharing of many stories.

A great week end was had by all. The RV weekends are based on people being self sufficient. This allows more options for bush camping and are very easy for anyone to organise. We would love you come along to any of our events.

We don't care how you get there, it's that you are there that is important.

Upcoming events.

May 19th - 20th 2012 Melrose - Flinders Ranges

Sept 15th - 16th 2012 Black Cockatoo Bush Camp - Naracoorte

Oct 15th- 21st 2012 RV AGM Yarrowonga Holiday Park – Yarrowonga.

January 26th – 28th Kalganyi Holiday Park – Mt Gambier

We would love to catch up with interstate members, so come along to Mt Gambier to celebrate Australia Day with us.

If you would like to come along to any event, just send us an email on hoho@ulyssesrv.org or phone

**Hoppy on 0428 567 811
or Hobbit on 0404 478741**

PS.

After the devastating loss of their van to fire Hoppy and Pat are back out there again in what Hobbit calls the "Hoppy Poppy".





Mildura Ulysses AGM.

The number of RV'ers attending Ulysses AGM's continues to grow, to a point now where the host committees are making the effort to try and ensure that accommodation is available for RV'ers, if not on site at the event then is caravan parks close by.

After an interrupted 2 day trip down the Pacific Highway to Lake Macquarie to pick up Ruth Rawlings, we continued around Sydney and down to Gunning where we found a great free campground in an area beside the community swimming pool. This campsite offers free hot showers and toilets, which probably explains why it was nearly full when we arrived late afternoon. Nevertheless, we managed to squeeze the caravan and motorhome in for the night.

From then on it was a pleasant ramble down to Holbrook the next day where we stayed in a caravan park on the southern side of town.



Camped on the river bank at Forges Bend.

Thursday saw us heading south again to Albury/Wodonga, then turning west to travel along the Murray Valley Highway to Yarrawonga, after stopping in Rutherglen for fuel for Ruth's motorhome and a welcome coffee. West of Yarrawonga we found a free campsite on the river banks at Forge's Pump and set up there for the night. An enjoyable evening again, sipping on a wine or two and enjoying the river atmosphere.



Camped on the river at Forges Bend

Leaving there Friday morning we headed ever west-

ward again, until just past Cobram we were diverted south towards Shepparton, due to the flooded roads around Nathalia. After a brief stop in Shepparton for coffee, we headed onwards, a little bit lost but optimistic of finding out way to Echuca. After missing a couple of turn offs, which would have taken us a more direct route, we engaged on a sightseeing tour of parts of Victoria one does not usually consider seeing.

Eventually, and having travelled about 150 kms more than we originally intended, we arrived at Echuca and booked into the Top Tourist Caravan park at the end of the main street. Caught up with some fellow Ulysses members there, both caravaners and bike and camper trailer variety.



Breakfast coffee on the bank of the Murray, NYAH.

West again on Saturday through Cohuna, lunch at Kerang, Lake Boga, (last time Sherol and I came though here you could walk across the lake as it was dry, now it was brim full), and Swan

Hill. West of Swan Hill we found a free camp in Nyah at the rear of the Harness Racing track. Again right on the river bank, but sharing with some big fierce mozzies. Thank goodness for the Rid. This site is listed in the Free Camps book, but the toilets are a fair walk away across the racing track.



The caravan park at Robinvale

On Sunday we arrived at Robinvale and booked into the Riverside Caravan Park. A really nice park, lush lawn sites and good amenities. Caught up with the Beverleys and some other Ulyssians as well, lots of bikes and campers, a couple of motorhomes and some vans. The excitement was building, we were only 80 kms from our destination. Wayne and Hazel Miller from Bunbury gave us a ring and enquire where we were, and then a "Hell,



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we are only half an hour away, save us a powered site, we will see you shortly.” The site next to us was vacant, so I ran up to the office and asked the lady to save it for the Millers, which she did. (*When Rick say's ran, it was more like a shuffling walk - Sherol*). True to his word, about half an hour later they pulled in and set up camp next to us. It was a great happy hour that afternoon, especially the reunion of our travelling mates from our 2008 big trip, Wayne and Hazel, Ruth and us.

And so on Monday we all packed up and headed on to Mildura. About 10 kms out of Robinvale, Wayne's temperature gauge in the Pajero went into the red, so he pulled over to check it out. The radiator was not boiling and the engine wasn't over hot, so he figured it was a problem with sensor, and after waiting a while continued onto Mildura, where he found us already set up in the Golden River Caravan Park. The park was fully booked out by Ulysses members, both the powered and unpowered sites, all the ensuite sites and the cabins. There were Ulysses members where ever we looked, and it was great to be able to wander around and catch up with old mates or make the new acquaintance of fellow club members.



The Mildura event was well run and everywhere one went you could see smiling faces, both from the visiting

Ulyssians, and from the townsfolk. You just cannot beat large country town AGM's.

Our trip home started on Monday 2nd, heading out through Balranald, where we stopped for the mandatory coffee and cakes at the bakery, on to Hay and then looking for one of the free campsites east of Hay on the Sturt Highway. Unfortunately for us, the flooding from the Murrumbidgee River which has preceded our visit made leaving the highway a fools errand, and we pushed on to Darlington Point where we found a free camp for the night in the park near the river.

Tuesday saw us pass through Narrandera, Coolamon, Junee and Cootamundra and on to Young where we free camped north of town. Travel was uneventful and trouble free. On Wednesday we travelled

on through Bathurst, where I was miffed because the girls would not let me go for a drive around Mt. Panorama, so we pushed on to Lithgow and Lake Lyell camp ground.

This is an excellent facility on the edge of the lake, and quite reasonable for a powered site at \$20.00 a night. The toilets and showers could use a bit of a makeover though.



After setting up camp, Ruth decided to have a rest, so we unhooked and Sherol and I drove the 39 kms into Katoomba. She had never visited this town before, so we did the mandatory 3 sisters viewing at the lookout, but I could not persuade her to go on the cable car.



Thursday it was down the mountain passes and back into the greater Sydney traffic until we reached Ruth's home at Lake Macquarie

in the early afternoon.

All in all, the three week trip was a pleasant adventure, and it was terrific to have Ruth put aside her battle with cancer and travel with us again.





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The Joke Page.

A group of chaps, all age 40, discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the waitresses there were gorgeous, with tight skirts, perky breasts and nice bums.

Ten years later, at age 50, the friends once again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the food and service was good and the wine selection was excellent.

Ten years later, at age 60, the friends again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they could dine in peace and quiet and the restaurant had a beautiful view of the ocean.

Ten years later, at age 70, the friends discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the restaurant was wheelchair accessible and had an elevator.

Ten years later, at age 80, the friends discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they had never been there before.

The Black Bra

Three women met for lunch. One was engaged, one a businessman's mistress, the third has been married for 20 years. They were chatting about their relationships and decided to amaze their men by greeting them at the door dressed in a black bra, stiletto heels and a mask covering their eyes. They agreed to meet a few days later to exchange notes.

The engaged friend went first, "The other night when my fiancé came over he found me with a black leather bodice, tall stilettos and a mask. He saw me and said, 'You are the woman of my dreams. I love you.' Then we made passionate love all night long."

Said the mistress, "Me too! The other night I met my lover at his office and I was wearing a raincoat, under it only the black bra, heels and mask over my eyes. When I opened the raincoat he didn't say a word, but he started to tremble and we had wild sex all night."

They turned to the married woman.

"When my husband came home I was wearing the black bra, black stockings, stilettos and a mask over my eyes. He just walked past me in the doorway and remarked 'What's for dinner, Zorro?'"

A platoon of soldiers was marching north of Fallujah when they came upon an Iraqi terrorist, badly injured and unconscious. On the opposite side of the road was an Australian soldier in a similar but less serious state.

The soldier was conscious and alert and as first aid was given to both men, the Platoon Leader asked the injured Australian what had happened. The soldier reported, 'I was heavily armed and moving north along the highway here, and coming south was a heavily armed insurgent.'

We saw each other and both took cover in the ditches along the road. I yelled to him that Saddam Hussein was a miserable, lowlife scum bag who got what he deserved. He yelled back that Kevin Rudd is a bureaucratic, Good-for-nothing, left wing labour dickhead who knows bugger all about running the country.' 'So I said that Osama Bin Ladin dresses and acts like a frigid, mean-spirited lesbian!' He retaliated by yelling, 'Oh yeah? Well, so does Julia Gillard !'

'And, there we were, in the middle of the road, laughing, shaking hands, when a bloody truck hit us.'