



ULYSSES MEMBERS RV GROUP



The Kermit Kronicle

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June 2017

From the Editor's Desk.

Hi Everyone,

Latest update about the forthcoming AGM.

Julie and Rob from the Taunton Farm Caravan Park have offered us a deal of **BOOK 6 NIGHTS, PAY FOR 5, OR BOOK 7 NIGHTS, PAY FOR 6** and so on. This is a great discount offer, making your week stay a much better deal. In effect, a 6 night stay reduces to \$225.00 at a rate of \$37.50 per night instead of \$45.00 per night. Bookings are coming in at the park, with just under a half filled at the moment, so don't leave it too late to book your site—you don't want to miss out. Don't forget, you need

to book your site with the caravan park separately to our registration form.

Contact the Rob & Julie Saunders direct on 1800 248 777, (08) 9755 5334 or email enquiries@tauntonfarm.com.au.

We have arranged with Harmans Estate Winery (walking distance from the park) for guided winery tours with the winemaker/owner and wine tasting to follow for \$10.00 a person, plus a 10% discount on any wines you buy.

These tours (maximum of 20 persons at time) are booked in for

11.00am, 2.00pm and 4.00pm on Tuesday 17th October. If you want to go on one of these very informative and entertaining tours, you will need to register and pay on our booking form on our website. <http://ulyssesrv.org/agmtours.html>.

We have also organised a full day tour with Cheers Tours which includes pickup from the caravan park in the morning, wine tastings at various wineries, a visit to a brewery, the Chocolate Factory, Cheese Factory, Deer Farm and a gourmet lunch at a winery bistro, as well as a scenic tour of the region and drop off back at the

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NSW.—Carolyn & Ian, Margaret and Stephen, Wendy & Dom: newsouthwales@ulyssesrv.org

PAST AGM's — Phil and Fay— email: agmcoordinators@ulyssesrv.org

Gearshop—Gordon & Judy— email: sales@ulyssesrv.org



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park in the late afternoon.

All this for the rock bottom price of \$80.00 per person, thanks to a group discount offered especially to us. Get in early to pay and confirm your seat. Information and registration form on our website at <http://ulyssesrv.org/agmtours.html>.

We have come up with a plan that instead of one off discount vouchers, local traders will offer discounts to any of our members wearing our club shirt. So, if you do not possess a club shirt, see Gordon and order one or two so that you will have it before you travel over to the west.

So far, the following Cowaramup traders have come online with this discount plan.

Cowaramup Pharmacy \$10 discount voucher x 70

Settlers Organic Wines 10% discount

Classic Cafe Brekkie Special – Bacon & Egg Roll & Coffee \$10 / Lunch \$15 / Dinner \$12 Fish & Chips per person (if still operating with current owners)

The Golden Jersey Petrol Station – Discounted fuel, bike hire, grocery & coffee.

The Candy Cow – Discounted fundge/honeycomb
Smithereens – 2 for 1 coffee

Cowarmup Brewing – 20% discount

MuKau Giftware & Gallery – 10% discount

MR Wine Centre – Discount vouchers

Cowaramup Meats – 10% discount

Autotech (mechanics) – 10% discount

Cowie Cuts Hairdresser 10% discount

Saharan Daze – 10% discount

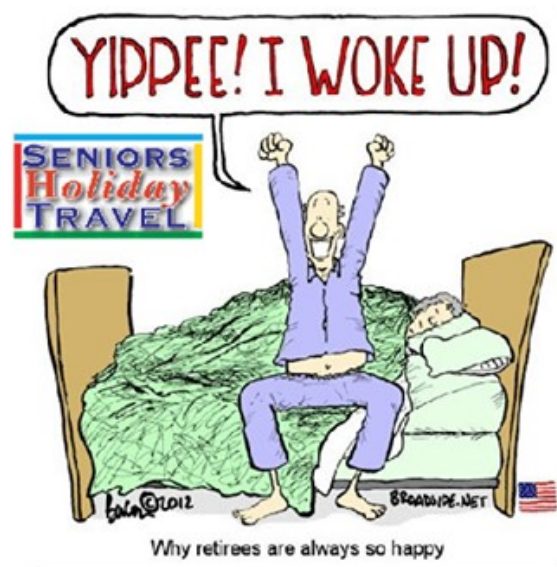
Clarity Tribe – samples of teas

Safe Travels,

Rick and Sherol, Ken and Doreen



Some shameless promotion by Rick. His latest novel is now available to purchase as paperback from [Create Space](http://CreateSpace.com) or on [Amazon](http://Amazon.com) as an Ebook for Kindle.





Details for the 2017 AGM can be found on pages of this newsletter.

Don't forget to get your registration in for the 2017 AGM at Margaret River (Cowaramup). Registration form on our website.

NSW. RALLY CALENDAR

Week-end of 24-25th June, 2017

Place: **Bellinger River Tourist Park. Milestone Drive, (Just off the Pacific Highway) at Rep-ton, Nsw.** Members should do their own bookings, however to mention Ulysses is important. Phone : 0266554755. The facilities are brand new and very nice.

The sites are right on the river, literally 5 metres away, and close to Mylestom Beach. There is a Club very close. There is a discount for NRMA or equivalent, or a discount for the Ulysses club. At Bellinger River Tourist Park you'll be 3 km (1.9 mi) from Raleigh Winery and 4.6 km (2.9 mi) from Raleigh International Raceway. Highlights at this campsite include an outdoor swimming pool and free self parking. You can enjoy TVs, featured in all accommodations

August 11th – 14th “MEET ON THE MURRAY” in NSW at Euston

Also a potential stop over on the way to the 2017 AGM plus an opportunity to catch up with our “South of the Murray” mates. Euston Riverfront Caravan Park is located 50 metres into the Euston township, off the Sturt Highway between Sydney and Adelaide.

The park is very popular for water skiing. Launch your boat or kayak at the local boat ramp. Fishing is also very popular with many Perch and Murray Cod caught locally. 8 waterfront sites have been held (sites 10 to 17 incl) but others are available too.

Cost \$29 per night
Book directly with park on (03) 5026 1543 and quote Ulysses RV group
 For more information contact Margaret Rae on 0456781007.

"THE NOT AGM RALLY" Griffith NSW. October 20th – 22nd For those of you who can't make the WA AGM we have organised a weekend away .

Griffith Tourist Park ph. 02 6964 2144

This is the weekend after the Orange Festival but we have been told the sculptures stay on display until this weekend.

10 sites have been held under Ulysses RV so mention this when booking your site.

Cost \$33 per night

For more information contact Carolyn Hoye 0402131675 or Wendy Rogers 0413745180

QLD RALLY CALENDAR

JULY 21-24 *22 July Opera at Jimbour House **Christmas in July**
Bowenville Reserve

AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 11 Tag-a-long Kenilworth Showgrounds - Callide Dam Paradise Dam - Blackbutt Showgrounds “Bloomin’ Festival” (07-11 Sept).

DECEMBER 01-03 Boonah Showgrounds. **This is a guide ONLY to be utilised as a forward planner for 2017*

Gordon and Judy (0423 864 492)
Blip and Di

SA ULYSSES RV CALENDAR 2017

This Year's Calendar is now complete and we are trying out some new campsites. Sites and dates chosen are

August 4th to 6th 2017 Mt Pleasant Caravan Park/Showgrounds

October 17th to 23rd 2017 AGM Margaret River Western Australia

November 17th to 19th 2017 Clayton Bay Caravan Park

FUTURE AGM'S. 2017.

We are going to Western Australia for 2017. The event will be held at Taunton Farm Caravan Park on the Southwestern Highway, Cowaramup., South western W.A., especially the Margaret River area is full of attractions, great wineries, cheese and chocolate factories and lots of scenery and attractions. More information in this newsletter.

2018

Its back to Queensland for the 2018 AGM. Gordon has booked the Boonah Showground to stage the AGM for the week 15th to 21st October, 2018. This venue has successfully hosted a CMCA AGM Rally, and the people there are excited about us coming in 2018. More information as it comes to hand.

Stuff you can buy in our gear shop.

Club shirt. Apple green with black highlights, with club logo embroidered on left chest, and your name on the right chest. Available in both men's sizes XS - 5XL, and ladies sizes 8 - 26.



Club shirt. Apple green with black highlights, with club logo embroidered on left chest. Available in both men's sizes XS - 5XL, and ladies sizes 8 - 26.

Price \$35.00 plus postage. (Shirt will be ordered after payment.)

Price \$39.50 plus postage. (Shirt will be ordered after payment.)

200mm sticker - new logo. \$10.00 plus \$1.30 postage. Order more than one and combine postage.



Small RV Group Flag, screen printed on one side and with sewn pole slot on left hand side.

\$15.00 each plus postage.

100 mm sticker - new logo. \$2.00 each plus \$1.00 postage. Order more than one and combine postage.



SHIRTS AND BADGE ORDERS WILL BE PLACED TWICE A YEAR FROM NOW ON, WITH THE CUT OFF DATES FOR ORDERS BEING MARCH 31ST AND AUGUST 31ST. THIS CHANGE IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO GET THE BEST DEAL FOR OUR MEMBERS AND TO FACILITATE THE EMBROIDERING OF SHIRTS IN LARGER BATCHES.

Name badge with magnetic clasp. \$15.00

Don't forget to put the name you want on the badge in the field before clicking "Add to Cart".



REAR WHEEL COVER STICKER

High quality RV (or 4WD) spare wheel cover sticker, featuring the RV Group logo. Sticker can be made to fit spare wheel cover from 13" up to 16". Of high quality vinyl with an anti graffiti covering applied. Cost of sticker only supplied, plus postage \$60.00.

WARNING. Members with a heart pacemaker SHOULD NOT order the badge with the magnetic clasp, as it may interfere with the pacemaker. Please specify in the comments part of the order confirmation that you require a pin clasp if that is the case.



If you would like the manufacturer to apply the sticker to your cover, cost will be \$65.00 plus return postage of \$9.95. You will need to purchase a postage tube and send the cover to the address supplied in the checkout process.



Friday was settling in day and most people relaxed and greeted each other on arrival. The Cockatoo Downs owners set up a bonfire for us in one of the many fire pits. Wood was supplied all weekend and the fire never went out. It was a good place to be for 1st coffee in the morning or the last 'bevvie' at night.

Apart from a couple of short drizzly showers Saturday morning the days had blue skies and sunshine. Not sure if the drizzly rain was brought on by the weather going out in sympathy for Hobbit getting another year older, but by afternoon it had cleared and he was able to celebrate his 64th birthday. A few of us organised a birthday (roast) dinner for him before moving over to the bonfire for the

COCKATOO DOWNS MAY 5TH TO 7TH 2017

With good Autumn weather predicted for our Cockatoo Downs weekend, several of the participants arrived on the Thursday before the weekend (which is now becoming a common practice). All up over 30 people attended and it was great to see that about a third of those coming from Mt Gambier, which gave a great opportunity to renew acquaintances. As there were more people from Mt Gambier unable to attend, and those who did attend, want to continue this form of socialising and connecting with other Ulyssians, future selection of venues will require greater consideration to enable their participation.



Cockatoo Downs is a 1200ac working farm with a section set up for camping. It includes a range of accommodation types, catering and activities for single travellers through to large groups. Among

the activities our group participated in were kayaking, touring the farm on the back of a truck and having contact with farm animals and native animals (mainly for kids but our big kids enjoyed it), negotiating a maze made of large hay bales and walking through the farm and natural scrub that had an abundance of native birdlife.

birthday musical entertainment we had arranged for him. Unknown to Hobbit he was the entertainment, playing Ukelele and singing. However another 'star' burst out of the crowd who was the long lost love child of Bob Marley. 'Carro' Marley with dreadlocks and rainbow beanie was great support to Hobbit on Bongo drums and backing vocals (thanks to Dave for headwear and drums). Anyhow they had us in fits of laughter most of the night with their music, intermingled with jokes from others who had stories to tell.



By about 10.30 everyone was starting to get the munchies when Barbie (now nicknamed Que) decided to bring out a piece of roast pork that was not eaten at the dinner. From there a new game of 'Passing the Pork' commenced. As Barbie forgot to bring a knife to slice pieces off the pork, it was passed around the fire and pieces of pork were consumed by pulling a piece of pork off the roast and then passing to the next person. The beautifully cooked piece of meat lasted 2 rounds and provided snacks to about 20 people.

Sunday saw the majority of people leave at various times through the day, as there was no pressure to leave by any particular time. Again several couples stayed an extra night to enjoy this very relaxing and peaceful site. As this venue can cater for all types of traveller and is an easy travel distance for both Mt Gambier and Adelaide people, I'm sure it is likely to be placed on the revisit list.



Happy Camping and Safe Travels
Guv & Barbie, Tony & Denise, Max & Jacqui

KWOLYIN RALLY 5,6,7th MAY 2017.WA.

About halfway between Quairading and Bruce Rock stands the town site of Kwolyin (now burnt down).

Into this harsh dry inhabitable land trudged 18 hardy souls namely. ANDY and GERDA, PETER and YVONNE, ROB and Lady SHANE, WAYNE and HAZEL, JEFF and ROSALIE, GLEN and TERRY, MAL and CAROL, SARG and GWEN, TOM and CHERYL along with our wagon trains. Life was never meant to be tougher.



Wayne collected fire wood all the way from home to the site, just to keep the dutch ovens hot and ready. Many a great tale was told around the fires along with copious amounts of plonk. The more plonk, the more tales. Hazel cooked some great damper which was cherished by all.



Friday saw us climb a rock in which I had most believing was Kokerbin Rock (Australia's 3rd largest monolith). We then moved to Shackleton (site of Australia's smallest bank building) to wander through Steve's art studio and then onto the Hall and into a display of Sir Ernest Shackleton and his South Pole expedition. We were also lucky to see many photo's from the surrounding area and early towns. Onto our reserved seats at the Shackleton District Club for a hearty meal.



Saturday was a free day and our progressive dinner around the camp fire. More plonk.

Sunday I owned up and took everyone to the ROCK. Hardy souls climbed up 120 mtrs to view the country side. Magnificent.



Around the camp fire that night Lady Shane talked most into moving onto Mango Wine Homestead, and then chickened out come Monday.

We all agreed it was a great rally. Every one enjoyed the harsh dry land along with flushing toilets; great water and gas BBQ's. What a hard life!!

See you in the West at the AGM in October.

Rob and Shane.

ACROSS THE BORDER TAG-A-LONG SE QLD REPORT

30 APRIL– 11 MAY 2017

PART A: 30 April – 01 May TEXAS SHOW GROUNDS Kemp Street

What a pleasure to organise this tag-a-long and welcome a few NSW members to share with us, our first stay being at the Texas Showgrounds.

The Show Society hadn't used the grounds since the 2016 Show so one of their members quickly arranged for the cleaning of the toilets and a yard trim. It was such a wonderful point to start the adventure. Plenty of fire wood for the evenings and Happy Hour celebrations. The colourful parrots soon filled our ears with their song, varieties that we don't see in coastal Queensland. The night sky filled with stars.



PART B: 02 May - MOREE GWYDIR CARAPARK and Thermal Pools

The plan was to have just the one night at Moree for us to have opportunities to experience the thermal pools and have our first "official" dinner as a group at the nearby Tavern. What we didn't plan for was one of our party breaking a van spring and spending most of the tag-a-long in Goondi sorting out the problem. It was great to relax in the pools and listen to the travels and experiences of the many nomads who make Moree their home annually.

PART C: 03-04 May – BINGARA SHOWGROUNDS

With the Bingara Showgrounds hosting a horse event and closing our access, it was down to the freedom camp on the Gwydir River for the next few days. This proved to be a top spot, an easy few minute's drive to town and our tour of the Roxy Theatre. The Pot Luck dinner, as usual, and sing-a-long, was very successful even though a few showers tried to dampen our spirits.



PART D: 05-08 May – GLEN INNES for AUSTRALIAN CELTIC FESTIVAL

The Festival was the highlight of our trip including the parade, massed pipe bands plus the entertainment marquees at the Festival Site. We stayed at Three Waters High Country, a 500acre property, owned by Steve Langley who thanked us for bringing in our "mob"; as you would guess he is a proud horse ride enthusiast. The cool nights around the fire were made more pleasant by one of our members providing a fabric wind break. This bush stay was very pleasant and only a few kms to town on a gravel road, which tested our driving skills and van suspension! A couple of members took their exit from this point but we welcomed another arrival for the last night.

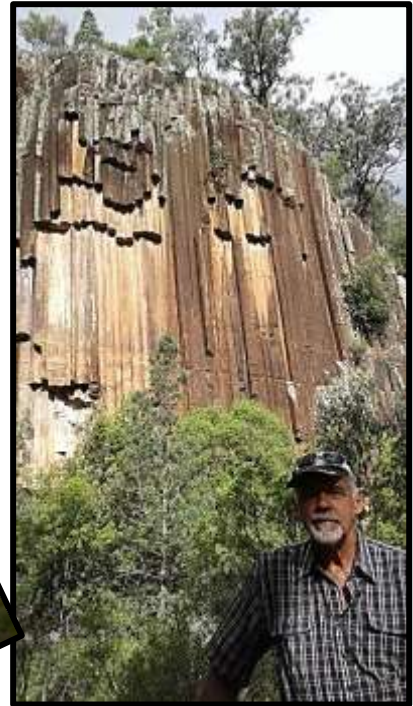
PART C: 09- 11 May – TENTERFIELD SHOWGROUNDS

Leaving Glen Innes, the group travelled north to Emmaville, visiting the local museum and their excellent gem collection. One more adventurous member headed north through Torrington while the remainder sedately progressed to the showgrounds at Tenterfield. SURPRISE! SURPRISE! Our member who had the broken spring arrived to share with us the last few days including our official dinner at a local tavern. On one of our quiet days, it was off on some dirt road driving, taking our morning tea, enjoying the hills and dales of the Rocky River Road before our exit at Drake. This was an easy drive but through some stunning scenery and surprising changes in vegetation.

Thankyou everyone for an enjoyable tag-a-long experience, with the NSW contingent keen to join us again on future adventures "Across the Border".

GORDON AND JUDY: BLIP AND DI Qld Co-ordinators

GALLERY OF HIGHLIGHTS





The RV Club for
members of the
Ulysses Club Inc.

Phone: Rick:
0402453380
Ken: 0417630750



THE FINAL WORD.

In the March Newsletter, I wrote this paragraph about Sherol's and mine near future plans.

"A quarter of the way into this year nearly. It is really galloping along. It wont be too much longer until Sherol and I are on the road again, heading east back to Queensland to Chinchilla, where we have bought a house and will be setting down roots again. "

Our plans were to fly back to W.A. in October and stay in Judi and Pete's tent at the caravan park for the AGM. It seems that life had other plans. Thanks to a local GP who was not satisfied with three sets of blood tests, I had a gastroscopy which discovered cancer in my oesophagus. Further tests have revealed that the cancer has spread to a lymph node and is inoperable for me. So travel plans have been put on hold while I undergo Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy later this month to try and defeat this silent killer. As the specialist put it, optimistically, hopefully we will cure you, but realistically we will give you quite a few more years to annoy people. Not much is ever heard of this cancer, as it is one of those rare ones, like pancreatic cancer, which sneaks up on you until it is too late.

Oesophageal cancer is the fastest growing cancer in Australia, in that there are more reported cases each year, last year 1450 cases, as opposed to 100,000+ cases of breast and prostate cancer, but it doesn't get the publicity. Not enough famous people dying from it I suppose. Anyway, I would urge anyone who has recurrent reflux, any trouble swallowing or even a persistent little cough, ask your GP to investigate with a gastroscopy.

So, Sherol, 'Stanley' and I will be at Cowaramup in October with our van, having completed my treatment, and we are looking to a great roll up of club members to celebrate life and good times with us. Information about registering and booking your caravan park site is earlier in this newsletter.

Until next time,

Stay safe, and we will see you on the road.

Rick.

**Oesophageal
Cancer** 
AWARENESS DAY

31ST MAY

 "Australia's fastest growing cancer"

DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK
IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

www.ocagi.org

