



ULYSSES MEMBERS RV GROUP



The Kermit Kronicle

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Qld	<i>- Gordon & Judy Crosswell, queensland@ulyssesrv.org - Bob(Blip) & Di Hendriks</i>
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Arvie's Roundup.

Hi there everyone. This newsletter has been a while coming, as Rick went off riding on his bike to Alice Springs in May, and I was down in Victoria with Ken. Anyway, there are some reports in here from NSW, Qld and S.A. on their recent rallies, and not so recent as well.

It is with regret first off though, to advise that due to changed circumstances, Wendy Schmidt can no longer devote her time to being one of our NSW coordinators, and she has resigned from the position. Not to worry though NSW people, Paul is still on deck. We will be looking for someone to step up and give Paul a hand when we get to our AGM in October. We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to Wendy for the time and effort that she put in over the time she filled the position.

Lots happening at the Bedford place over the last few months, or so Rick tells me, but I think he is just making excuses for being slack in not putting out a newsletter earlier and tiki touring around on his bike. He reckons that as he retired in July, and Sherol retires this month, they are getting ready to hit the road full time as wandering Australians with no fixed address. He has been working on his van, buying a new tug, installing stuff, getting other stuff ready and selling furniture and belongings, well that

is the stuff that the kids didn't claim anyway. Sherol says that seeing as how Rick and her are spending the kids inheritance, the least that they can do is give them some free furniture.

Ken Graham had to cancel a rally that he had planned earlier in the year in Victoria, because of huge amounts of rain and a muddy quagmire at the site, which was unfortunate, but he felt that the safety of members was far more important.

It's not long now until the AGM in Black Cockatoo, via Naracoorte in S.A. At the time of going to press, Phil advises that registrations are still trickling in, with numbers as at the 31st July being 54 rigs with 103 people attending. You can still register by going to this link here. <http://ulyssesrv.org/agmform.html> .

Following on from my little roundup, is a piece from Hobbit regarding the progress of preparations, and after I read that I am really looking forward to getting there.

In the meantime, travel safe, and if anyone has happened to see National Co-coordinator Ken Tacon, point him in the right direction for October. Just lately he seems to be heading north a lot, and also buying a new tow vehicle.

See you at Black Cockatoo.

Arvie.





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Ulysses RV AGM 2014 at Black Cockatoo, Naracoorte South Australia

With only a few months to go, the preparations for the AGM are well under way. It has been great to see the registrations coming in and the numbers building up. If you haven't registered yet please go to ulyssesrv.org and follow the links to AGM event.

There has been a lot of work going on at the camp site. The main meeting shed has been doubled in size to give us a lovely place to meet and socialize. A fire pit has been dug to accommodate all those pyromaniacs and lovers of open fires. New continuous hot water gas heaters have been installed in the showers to give us plenty of hot water. The food has been sourced from local suppliers and the local charity is in full preparation for the Saturday lunch.

It is going to be a fabulous time to catch up with members from all over Australia. Come along and see the sights of the local area, including wineries, bird watching, caves and bush walks. There will be an opportunity for all those budding musicians to have a play with Rick '12 String' Bedford leading the way.

Looking forward to catching up with you at Black Cockatoo.

Hoppy & Hobbit

QUEENSLAND RALLIES.

October **Black Cockatoo SA**
AGM

December 5/6/7 **James Sharp Park via**
Canungra

Contact Gordon or Blip at queensland@ulyssesrv.org for more information.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA RALLIES

Weekenders are open to all Ulysses members and partners.

Any type of vehicle can be used to get you there,

What is important is that you are there!

October 24th - 26th Black Cockatoo RV AGM

VICTORIA

August 29th 30th 31st . Marong Caravan Park . Ph 03 54352329 ,mention Ulysses on booking .

November 14th 15th 16th Lakes Entrance , Echo Beach Caravan Park . 33 Road-knight St Ph 03 51552238 . Mention Ulysses for your 10% discount .

Marilyn is giving advance notice of the rally organised for February 2015.

Southcombe By The Sea Caravan Park

James Street

Port Fairy Vic 3284

Phone 03 55682677

Email southcombe@portfairycaravanparks.com

Dates are Friday 20th to Monday 23rd February 2015.

Rates are approx. \$38.00 per night and we will get 10% discount

Please advise when booking that you are with the RV group

WESTERN AUSTRALIA RALLIES.

The next weekender will be held in October due the Ulysses AGM in Alice Springs in May.

Willowbrook Farm Weekend on 17th - 19th October.



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Just let Pat know you with the Ulysses RV Group and she will try to put us in the same area. Book early.....

Dinner is Fend for yourself on Friday Night with a "Pot Luck" dinner to share on Saturday Night. All to book direct with the Caravan Park, just let them know you are with the Ulysses Members RV Group.

postage



New logo 100 mm stickers for \$1.00 plus postage

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

Stubbie Coolers - stitched and glued



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



Club shirts for \$35.00 plus postage.

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



seams, with club logo on front and back. \$4.00 each plus postage.

New Product. - RV Group sticker for your spare wheel cover.

We now have a sticker available for purchase in the RV shop - a high quality sticker to cover the spare wheel cover of your van

or RV (or 4WD). The product is made of high quality vinyl, and is finished with a clear anti graffiti coating. Check out the shop for more details.



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ULYSSES RV GROUP WEEKEND AT MUDGEES 16TH TO 19TH MAY 2014

Fellow Members, The New South Wales group got together at Mudgee over the weekend of 16th to the 19th May. 18 people

from the Group but the fire got the better of other campers and we soon had a good gathering.

Friday Jan and Terry Hill took some of the RV Group along with other passengers on a wine tour of the Mudgee Region, we vis-



turned up, weather was fine but a bit cold in the mornings. The Riverside Caravan Park was the venue and unbeknown to myself there is a fire-pit in the middle of the Camp Kitchen with an open roof above. Well we made good use of this, Dennis Ross was the main fire lighter and ably assisted by "Bundy".

Thursday night was the start of festivities with four couples





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ited, Robert Oatley vineyards, Bunnamagoo, (They had a red that was very easy going down, \$50.00 a bottle), Vinifera, Robert Stein, A winery and fine food which also had Baker Williams distillery out back, and High Valley wine and cheese to finish the day. We all adjourned to the camp kitchen where the fire was going, some had Fish and Chips for dinner, others cooked. A great day. Saturday most were up early to visit the Farmers Market and obtain some local produce, we came home with vegies for dinner and had coffee from locally roaster coffee, very good too.

The evening was a B B Q. Where all joined in. I managed to get some music going for background. By this time all 18 people were present along with many other campers. Company was great, food great and a good time was had by all. Many stories, camp info and remembered journeys swapped. Sunday was, do your own thing, some had to leave for work Monday but by dinner time 4 couples walked up the street for a good feed of Thai. The meal was excellent but some mix up occurred and we were served in dribs and drabs, but we did not let this spoil the night.

Monday was goodbye to all, a most pleasant weekend for those not going to the AGM in Alice. For those who missed out you missed a good weekend. Dennis and Sue Ross, Kim Cloy and Heather Shields, Anne and Amanda Mulvay, Graham "Bundy" and Sharon Bundock, Jacky and Mick, do not know other names, Jan and Terry Hill, Carolyn Norman George Cook, Allan and Judy Forrester, Kaye Warren and Paul Vaughan. I hope I have not missed anyone. A passing note, Sally, Bear and Tazo had a good time as well.

Paul Vaughan



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QUEENSLAND RALLY REPORT

Standown Park Rally



out on his cruiser, making the pilgrimage to The Alice. But despite these facts, we were sure that as not everyone could make the trip to Alice Springs, we would have enough interest in a rally to make it feasible.

So it was a small group that headed to Standown, east of Gympie, on the Tin Can Bay Road. If you were to be driving this road you could very easily pass the turn not knowing that down this dirt road, just a short distance, is a park where the hosts do everything in their power

May 24-27/ 2014

We knew that this was going to be a difficult rally in terms of numbers to convene as the Ulysses AGM in Alice drew a number of our members. Blip and Di, our co-coordinators, put in their apologies as Blip and some fellow Ulyssians were heading out to Alice with him on his VStrom, taking the dusty byways and leaving the sealed highways for the less adventurous. Support vehicles and all. Won't he have some tales to share about this wonderful journey? Rick was also



to make your stay "one to remember". Originally this park was established as a retreat for returned Vietnam Vets. A quiet place for them to gather, support each other, stay for extended periods and also volunteer their time around the park. Today it remains a quiet retreat but





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the park has been beautifully developed with full amenities, massive camp kitchen and campfire area, a dam with resident "Croc", and a landscaped memorial wall with plaques to remember servicemen.

The weather was a little cool so the campfire was a magnet. The long term patrons made sure the wood was cut and fire going each night. The familiar sound of the can crusher became a part

sing-a-long around the campfire. Prior to the dinner, our group presented our hosts with a small donation for their trip into the outback on Anzac Day which they do to help present ceremonies in small western townships, and also funds to sponsor a plaque to be added to the memory wall by our RV Group as a gesture of friendship and acknowledging the sacrifice of our great Australian Veterans.



Sunday morning a few of us headed down to Tin Can Bay to feed the dolphins, while back at the park our hosts had organised a poet's breakfast, with a bush poet Keith reciting great Aussie poems, as we tucked into a great cooked breakfast. Funds from this function also went to support the trip to the bush to conduct Anzac Day Ceremonies. After breakfast a number of us packed up and headed on our merry way while others took advantage of Standown's hospitality and extended their rally. Many of you know Tom Rundle, and

of the sounds of the park in a beautiful forest backdrop with an illuminated cut-out helicopter decorated with flashing landing lights.

Most of the group arrived on Friday, with Saturday being a day filled with activity. Janet and Chris live in Maryborough and offered to plan a treasure hunt as a car rally for the Saturday. It provided fun-filled hours scavenging for treasure and clues. Our sincere thanks to them for showing us around this area in such a novel manner.

Saturday night was the camp oven dinner prepared by the hosts and then a

this is one of his favourite places to set up camp, put up his feet and enjoy the peace and comradeship that this park unconditionally offers. If you have never been to Standown, put it on your "Bucket List". It is a great base from which to enjoy all that Hervey Bay and Fraser Island have to offer.

Thank you for your company and friendship at a great Standown Rally, and hope to see you for the Warwick tag-a-long in July.

Gordon and Judy / Blip and Di
Queensland Coordinators - Ulysses RV Group



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S.A. RALLY REPORT.

'Melrose Weekend



rose when we arrived. The camp kitchen was jumping with all manner of stories, introductions and some confessions. It was a great atmosphere of warmth, friendship and laughter. The lovely thing with the Coaster is that there is no set up required so we jumped straight into socialising. This went well into the next day before all had retired for a well earned rest.

The best thing about taking your dogs away is they never let you miss out on the mornings. After been licked, jumped on and generally harassed we got up. It was amazing to see how many had managed to get up without the aid of dogs! You have to love the smell of bacon and eggs in the morning. After breakfast it was time to explore the town. What a great spot! The oldest town in the area with its pubs, sec-

After several months of dealing with the Registration department we now have our bus registered. It was great to get away late afternoon and head off to Melrose. Cool conditions abounded but the heater worked. It was a lovely casual drive across town and before too long we hit the open speed limit. That is 95 kph for a Coaster.



With the sun setting and the chill increasing we wondered how many folk felt the same desire to get away. It was dark, cold and the creek was flowing at Mel-



ond hand shops, wide roads and lovely countryside. One of the members was so struck with the bike shop he handed over his wallet for a new bike.

The thing that amazed me was it was a push bike! It is a great spot for a push bike but I managed to resist the temptation of riding one. Soon enough it was tea time and the aromas mingled with the cool air to drive one to eat whatever was at hand.



On Saturday night there was a lovely open fire outside and the potbelly was going inside the camp kitchen. The choice of two lovely spots! It was a great night to mingle around the fire and catch up on all the news and events. There is nothing like Ulysses members getting together with all the socialising and laughter. Again the midnight crow crowed with folk still chatting and chuckling. To bed, to bed, cried sleepy head. Dawn on Sunday arrived soon enough with all the smells and associated noises. Ah, bacon and eggs again. Soon the pack up commenced and the farewells exchanged. Some had the luxury of staying for a while longer. Bless them for I hope to be there soon! We bid a fond farewell to all and began our journey home. What a great weekend it had

been with so many members there and such a fabulous time. Thanks to all that came.

Remember - Be a voice, not an echo.

Happy wanderings
 Hoppy & Hobbit

***** Upcoming event

RV AGM at Black Cockatoo October
 24th, 25th & 26th

To register go to www.ulysses.org and follow the links.

QUEENSLAND ULYSSES RV GROUP

Warwick Tag-a-Long Rally

July 17-27/ 2014

July. Killarney had a Bonfire Night in conjunction with Warwick's "Jumpers and Jazz" celebration. We knew that it was going to be a cold time of year but depended on the warmth of the participants to keep our spirits high. The Killarney View Caravan and Cab-



The concept of the tag-a-long was born in 2013 resulting in a number of consecutive events being organised for this journey in

ins Park was the venue for the first weekend, and even though they were suffering power outages, everyone had a good time. Some of



the steam buffs headed into Warwick for a vintage steam ride and on another day, the 4x4 crews set off to do the 14 Condamine River crossings and visit Queen Mary Falls. Saturday night was the big Killarney Bonfire Evening at the Polocrosse Grounds, raising funds for the Retirement Home at Killarney. A wonderful range of fire drums was entered in the competition and celebrated the creativity of the local welders, the concept being that once alight these drums would not only keep the

crowd warm but breathe fire from nostrils, exhausts etc. The large bonfire fire was lit, food stalls excelled, the band played and the night ended with a great fireworks display.

Pot Luck Dinner a hoot. How clever are our chefs that come to our rallies. Fog shrouded the camp site each morning and we could be forgiven for thinking we were in the Scottish Highlands.



Small dogs were accepted at the Caravan Park and Barry made sure his faithful friend was out and about, wearing sunglasses for protection, leaving personalised droppings and the remains of a huge leg bone from his previous meal. The park was also hosting the A-Vanners Club, and hosted a pancake breakfast on the Sunday. Very busy.



On Thursday we were packed up and off again, heading for the Warwick Showgrounds so that we could attend the many and varied activities for the Jumpers and Jazz Festival. There were trees warmly decorated, jazz music filled the air and the craft shops did a roaring trade. Half of the group went to the Show Committee's Cocktail Jazz Evening on the Friday Night and even though finding suitable cocktail clothing was a challenge, all who went so suitably impressed the patrons that a photo of our group taken by a visiting reporter made it into the local Warwick Newspapers. Lance, our



As Monday dawned (well...after the pipes had thawed), we pulled up stumps, formed our first effort at travelling in convoy and headed the short distance to Washpool Reserve on the Leslie Dam for a taste of bush camping. Great showers and toilets, but best of all was our communal fire which Blip and Lance kept alight. A couple of water toys were used on the dam and the



This concept provided a number of venues which members could attend great community celebrations to share and a range of both park and bush camping. Everyone felt the tag-a-long was very successful and endorsed that we again visit Warwick in 2015 but to ensure at least two tag-a-longs be a part of our calendar for 2015 rallies.

birthday boy, thoroughly enjoyed his cake and song, but still endeavouring to remain the centre of attention was overcome by the

Looking forward to our National AGM in Naracoorte, SA, at Black Cockatoo in October and our end of year Queensland Rally at James Sharp Park via Canungra on 5/7 December 2014.

Thank you also for your friendship Denise and Bob, friends of Darryl and Joy, who thoroughly enjoyed our hospitality. And camaraderie at our July Warwick tag-a-long. We look forward to being together in the future.



Gordon and Judy / Blip and Di
Queensland Coordinators - Ulysses RV

flu and headed home a day early. Our spot raffle provided us with some Saturday afternoon entertainment as we convened our "QLD ULYSSES RV GROUP AGM" the purpose of us being on the Showground Premises. On Saturday Night we took a local courtesy bus to the Warwick Golf Club for our final dinner together. Nice food / great company.

