



ULYSSES MEMBERS RV GROUP



The Kermit Kronicle



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From the Editors Desk.

The new year has been on the go now for over a month and what a year it has been so far. Floods, more floods, bushfires, cyclones and heatwaves, all accompanied by the personal tragedies that seem to travel with these events.

I doubt that there is anyone in the RV Group who has not in some way been affected or touched by the disasters that Mother Nature has heaped upon us.

If you have suffered the loss of a loved one or even just a friend, or been decimated by the loss of home and hearth, then our deepest sympathies are with you at this time.

We can only wish that the extreme events of weather take a holiday for a while and let those affected get back to some semblance of a normal life again.

Last month we had our first get together of the new year at Cobram in Victoria, and from reports by our Victorian Coordinators and those who attended the weekend was a resounding success. More to come down that way in the not too distant future.

This month we have the first gathering in NSW at Ballina Lakes Tourist Park on the last weekend in February. There seemed to be some confusion by the proprietors of the park who had obviously not taken any notes when Fay organised the weekend, and members were getting mixed responses when they were booking in. I got a call from the proprietors of the park whilst I was in NZ, and was able to supply them with Fay's contact details, and hopefully everything was clear up.

The week of 21st to 27th March is the Ulysses Club AGM in Newcastle, and quite a number of RV members will be in attendance. The organisers of the event have moved the camping area for RV's from the nearby dog track to the main camping area, meaning that our members will be right in the thick of things during the event. For those camping there, I hope you all have a great time.

Ken is looking to have a weekender for Qld's at Kalarbar in March or April, and will put up details on the notice board as soon as he has finalised a date.

April 26th - 3rd May is the Celtic Festival at Glen Innes, and a bunch of us have already booked our campsite at the showground. Details of accommodation and the Festival are on our Notice Board, or later in this newsletter.

Those up Queensland way or from further afield, don't forget the Qld Odyssey on the Queens Birthday holiday weekend at Gladstone, or for those over in the West there is the W.A. Odyssey in Exmouth. Again details are on the Notice Board or later in this newsletter.

The 4th AGM is in Tamworth, and the Aspen Caravan Park is already taking bookings. Make sure you get your booking in to ensure you get a spot.

Stay safe and enjoy the road.

Rick.



UPCOMING EVENTS.

Ballina Weekend - 25th to 27th February.

Ballina Lakeside Holiday Park.

Phone: 1800 888 268

02 6686 3953

Fax: 02 6686 8755

E Mail: info@ballinalakeside.com.au

Website: www.ballinalakeside.com.au

Address: Fenwick Drive, Ballina, NSW 2478

Glen Innes Celtic Festival April 28 - May 2nd.

Showground Camping

The showgrounds are situated in between the main street of Glen Innes and the Australian Standing Stones. The camping area is suitable for caravans, tents, motor homes and other camping utilities. Pets are welcome, dogs are to be on a leash at all times and litter picked up. There are no site numbers - first in, your choice of site location. Click here to view showground map.

How do I book Showground Accommodation?

Internet:

<http://www.australiancelticfestival.com/showground-camping-27.cfm>

1. Click on "Book Now" to make a booking and payment for the Glen Innes Showgrounds.

2. Go to the top left hand side of page and change the date to the day you would like to arrive. Showgrounds will be open for camping accommodation from Tuesday April 28 to Tuesday May 2, 2011.

Caravan Park Accommodation

Poplar Caravan Park (02) 67 321514 - Unpowered sites available

www.poplarcaravanpark.com.au

<http://www.fossickercaravanpark.com.au/>

<http://www.craigieburntouristpark.com.au/>

Ulysses Exmouth Rally - Sat 4th June 2011 - Mon 6th June 2011

2011 Ulysses Club Exmouth Rally will be held at Exmouth Cape Holiday Park in Exmouth WA 1271 klm north of Perth. The Park has deluxe Family Cabins, chalets, caravan and tent sites.

Website <http://www.exmouth.aspenparks.com.au> mention you are a Ulysses member and receive a discount – and be placed near other members if you wish. Book early as it is Peak Season in Exmouth.

4th AGM - Tamworth, NSW. October 20th to 23rd, 2011

Fay and Phil, Di and Keith and Marie and Jurgen have been working to organise next year's AGM, and have secured a complete caravan park for us in Tamworth on the weekend of the 20th to 23rd October, 2011.

The Park is the Austen Tourist Park, contact details as follows.

581 Armidale Road, Tamworth NSW 2340

For Bookings: 1800 826 967

Telephone: (02) 6766 2380

Resident Managers:

Frank and Christine Edwards

Email: bookings@austintouristpark.com.au

It is an extremely well kept park.

They can provide 100 powered sites and they will book out the entire park for the Ulysses RV group.

We have decided that we should run with a Marquee on site and a local caterer providing a roast dinner and sweets. Meal would be 3 different roasts with steamed veggies, jacket potato with sour cream, or salad, which ever we choose. The sweets would be mud cake and pavlova. WE will have tea and coffee as well, provided by the Park owners. Cost will be \$20 per head.



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Marquee cost will be approximately \$1000.00 which includes lighting and will be erected on the Wednesday and taken down on the Monday.

Thanks to the generosity of members at the North Haven AGM this year, the club is in a position to meet a good deal of the cost of the Marquee, and we will require only a donation of about \$3.00 a head from members attending to make up the rest of the cost, that way leaving a little bit of money in the bank to continue running the website and gear shop.

The park is privately owned and the owners have offered a deluxe cabin for 1 weeks accommodation to the value of \$1000 for us to raffle off. That should be a great start to our once a year raffle and fundraising for the following year. We only do any fundraising at the AGM each year, and any funds raised are to run this club and to help pay for the following year's AGM.

Negotiations are also in hand with the Tamworth Ulysses branch to see if they would like to provide a \$5 BBQ lunch on the Saturday. At this stage they are keen but will need to take to a meeting next week and they will come back to us.

The Austin Caravan Park is lovely, has won prizes for the best inland caravan park in Australia and is certainly the best in Tamworth. It boasts a huge grassy area backing on to the river, with lots of lovely, scattered shade trees, and it's well-maintained. I also think that although the park owners are confident they can work in the 100 powered sites (with a few large sites accommodating two vans), there is the possibility of people setting up on an unpowered site. Many members now have solar panels and battery energy (no generators in the caravan park, of course) and may be happy to have a cheaper, unpowered site if they realise they could spread out a lot more - the unpowered area is large and grassy and adjoining the powered area, so everyone can still be all together. That way we may eliminate the need for the possible doubling up on those few large sites.

It will also be good to have a central venue for all the AGM activities - happy hours, welcome Friday night

BBQ, Saturday BBQ hosted by the local branch, the AGM meeting and the Saturday night meal with The Firey Cook - all under the one roof of the marquee so nobody even needs to leave the park except for supplies and sightseeing.

MERCHANDISE SHOP.

Our merchandise can be found in our shop online at <http://ulyssesrv.org> and click on the merchandise shop link.

We have stickers, and patches available to be sent out immediately, and you can order and pay for an RV shirt in your size, with or without having your name embroidered on the shirt.

If you prefer not to use PayPal or online credit card payment, or even back transfer, feel free to contact me by letter to Ulysses Members RV Group, P.O. Box 4626, Eight Mile Plains, Qld. 4113,

or you can ring me on 0402 453 380 to work out a different manner of purchase.





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NORTHERN TABLELANDS & COAST TRIP OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2010

The plan was to go to North Haven on the mid north NSW coast for a week with the Ulysses Motorcycle Club RV group, so a week was booked at the Beachside Caravan Park. Spring time is usually a nice time for an extended holiday, so we decided we would be away for five weeks and try incorporate some of the National Parks of the New England area.

Once before, we had visited the area, but rain forced us to change our plans, as most of these parks are inaccessible during and after rain.

The long range weather forecast does not look good, with the weather patterns suggesting a very wet Spring. Nevertheless, we set out as soon as the NSW school holidays were finished, with intentions of revisiting Dunns Swamp (camps 5 #414) near Rylstone where all the campers were evacuated last November with the threat of bush fires engulfing the area. The temperatures were horrendous, hovering between 40 and 45 degrees, so we had left in a hurry for Mudgee, but vowed we would return to continue enjoying this magical area.

The campsite is in the Wollemi National Park and is reached by turning off at the Rylstone Hospital. We found directions were very lacking, and wondered if the locals did not want campers to find out about this hidden gem, in their vicinity. If you were blindfolded and driven to the park, then asked where you thought you might be, you would be forgiven for thinking you could be somewhere in the Northern Territory or Western Australia's Kimberley region, it is so beautiful. There are even rock formations in the area which remind us of those found in the Bungle Bungles, and the sandstone cliffs which rise up from the lake are similar to many we have observed in the Northern Territory.

The lake area and surrounding sandstone mountains are best observed from a small boat or kayak, but there are several walks not far from the camping area, which offer views of the surroundings.

As the weather forecast was not encouraging, we decided we just had to cram as much in as we could in a couple of days, before the rain set in for several days.

After our first night, being woken by a possum on our roof at midnight, we woke to brilliant sunshine, so had to take our kayak out for a paddle and enjoy the tranquility of the lake early in the morning. We observed lots of different water birds, turtles, water dragons and if you are there at the right time you may even spot a platypus. After a very enjoyable few hours, we returned to our campsite for lunch, then it was off on one of the walks.

Campsites here are excellent, with very clean drop toilets but no showers at \$5 per adult per night. You do need to be self sufficient, bringing in all food and drinking water. Also, we have been told not to come in school holidays or weekends, as it gets very crowded, and there are no bookings taken. As some of the caravan sites are not too big, the bigger vans may have problems getting a site to suit.

Next morning, we were up early, with still no rain in sight, so decided to complete another walk before heading off. There are different walks to suit varying fitness levels and all are worth doing.

We were very lucky to complete the walk before morning tea and were on the road by 10.30am, heading for Murrurundi via Bylong. This road is marked on many maps as being unsealed but has been finished in the last twelve months, is very scenic and well worth doing. We thoroughly enjoyed it, although you do need to take care in places due to narrow, winding sections.

After a night spent at Murrurundi in Pages River Caravan Park, (camps #183) we woke to a very overcast morning, but no rain, so decided to head up to Walcha Caravan Park (camps #326) as we have heard about a severe weather warning approaching. Originally, we were going to spend several days bush camping in Oxley Wild Rivers National Park, but decided against that until the bad weather passes over.

Walcha Caravan Park is a hidden gem and the owners very welcoming. In 2005 this park was voted as having the best amenities in Australia and it only cost us \$23 per night with Seniors discount. After setting up we walked into town, passing a variety of carved wooden statues along the way. It is a pleasant town, providing everything you would need, with clubs and hotels serving



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good inexpensive meals. If you do not want to bush camp in the National Parks, you can base

yourself in Walcha, doing day trips each day.

We heard on the weather forecast that snow is expected, so are not in a hurry to leave here and as it is only Thursday, we are not due to arrive in North Haven until next Wednesday.

Friday was a write-off with heavy rain and wind all day, as was most of Australia, with a very dramatic weather situation. As we are due to leave in the morning, only traveling another 19km to the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park, we will not be in a hurry if these conditions continue. The forecast is not promising, with a minimum of 2 deg and maximum of 10 deg. forecast.

After a very wild, wet, windy night where we had to put our pop top roof down at 1am, we decided we would not be moving from Walcha. All news reports are very specific, telling everyone not to do any unnecessary traveling. The roads have black ice on them, and are littered with trees which have fallen on them. It is an extremely cold 6 degrees, still wet and windy, so we have our television on again for the rest of the day, and lots of books to read. We were told that it actually snowed around 8.30am this morning, but we did not see it because we did not go outside our van until late. Tomorrow we will have another look at the weather conditions before we decide whether to venture into the National Park.

Sunday morning the weather was cold, sunny and clear so we packed up and headed east to the National Park. The Apsley Falls are only 19 kms from Walcha, so it was not long before we were driving into the parking area. What a sight, after all the rain the water was just pouring over the falls and was so spectacular. The scenery in this park is magnificent and worthy of the World Heritage tag. After walking around the falls admiring the view we decided to continue on to the Tia Falls, another 20 kms away, despite the fact that there is a very attractive camping area at Apsley. The walk that we really wanted to do at Apsley, which is 5 km and takes about two hours to complete is unable to be done because the footbridge over the river has been washed away in a previous flood, so we could only do the smaller one at 600 metres long.

We drove the extra 20 kms to Tia (camps #321) where we set up camp with another couple of campers. This camping area is not as good as Apsley but it is free, whereas Apsley is \$5 per night per person.

These falls are fantastic too, but not as spectacular as Apsley, nevertheless well worth the 7 km trip in from the highway.

After a very cold night we headed out early next morning, to complete another walk around the top of the Tia Falls, which was also very impressive. After morning tea, we packed up and headed towards the coast, deciding that it was too cold to spend another night in the area.

The trip down to the coast on the Oxley Highway is mostly downhill, but very winding, and with big logging trucks competing with you, you really need to keep your wits about you. We were certainly glad we delayed our trip down, and did not attempt it in the wild weather we encountered on the weekend, as we could see the remains of large trees which had fallen on to the road during the storm.

It was weird driving down the Oxley from very cold weather up the top, to quite warm the closer we got to the coast, accompanied by the shrill call of cicadas which must have hatched out during the wet weather.

We decided to head to Crowdy Bay National Park, Diamond Head camp ground, (camps #82) south of North Haven, where the Ulysses club were having their get together. After paying \$40 to stay two nights, we proceeded to pick out a camp spot, when we were surprised to see Phil & Carol Duggan from the STAGS group, who we met up with while we were with the group in the Warrumbungles National Park last year. We camped opposite them and spent some time catching up before they had to head back home the following day.

We spent an enjoyable day bush and beach walking before a swift north easterly sea breeze sent us indoors for the remainder of the day.

Next morning, before leaving for North Haven, we walked the 4.5km track to Indian Head camping area which was ablaze with wildflowers, the colours and perfumes just amazing. Along the way we spotted whales off the coast, heading south. Unfortunately, when we arrived at Indian Head, some



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hoons had been for a joy ride in a car and set fire to it during the night, so by the time we got there it was a blackened ruin, still smoldering. They had done a job of the grassed area around the campground too, with wheel marks everywhere. Fortunately, there was nobody camped there, as it would have been very frightening, but maybe they would not have wrecked the car there if anyone else was there. The ranger arrived just as we were walking out, and told us it had happened several other times recently, and fortunately had not caused any bush fires.

We returned to Diamond Head to pack up and leave, passing a flock of Black Tailed Cockatoos in the casuarinas munching on the nuts.

We arrived in North Haven at lunch time and settled in for the week ahead, amongst the crowd of Ulysses members, already there at the Beachfront Caravan Park, just 150 metres from North Haven beach.

Next morning we were off for a trip to Port Macquarie for some shopping and look around, because we have not been here for many years and the city has grown enormously. It is bustling with activity and we are surprised to see how many people are living and/or visiting there.

During the next couple of days a total of 61 assorted vans arrived containing 130 Ulysses members. These events are becoming very popular, considering the RV group has only been going for around three years.

On Friday night an informal BYO barbecue was arranged, followed on Saturday by the AGM, which was well attended at a members home in nearby Kendall. Dinner was held on Saturday night at the North Haven Bowling club, followed by entertainment. Everyone had a great time at all these activities, and all are looking forward to future trips with the club. Before we knew it, the weekend was over, with some people leaving on Sunday morning followed gradually over the next few days by the remainder.

During the week in North Haven, the weather was pretty good most of the time, mostly sunny and warm with a little rain overnight occasionally.

A great round trip is to drive up to Wauchope into the hinterland to Copmanhurst, where the scenery is spectacular. There are many places to have a pic-

nic, bushwalk or admire the many waterfalls in the area.

Our next destination was Point Plomer, (camps #76) between Port Macquarie and Crescent Head, which can be reached by car ferry from Port Macquarie, however, after speaking to many different people we were advised not to go via the ferry because the road was in such bad condition. As a result we had to drive north to Crescent Head, then head south to Point Plomer. Even the stretch of dirt road from Crescent Head was badly maintained, so we were glad we did not attempt the alternate route. After arriving at Point Plomer, we did attempt to drive south (minus our van) on the Plomer Road to Port Macquarie, and were glad we did not try to take our van through there. We did not get too far before deciding to turn around as the road was very badly pot holed, containing lots of water from the recent rain and all the signs indicated that it would only get worse.

We stayed in the Limeburners Creek Nature Reserve, which is on the beachfront at Point Plomer, and can thoroughly recommend it. For \$10 each person per day, you get a great camp spot, flushing toilets and cold showers.

We were entertained daily by the passing parade of whales traveling south with their calves, so many that we lost track of them, the sea eagles soaring overhead catching the thermal currents and the varied birdlife which live in the reserve. It is most relaxing and a great place to get away from it all. Near the beachfront is a pavilion containing tables and chairs, where you can sit and while away the day, mesmerized by the local wildlife or watching the surfboard riders catching great waves off the point.

Every time we walked to the pavilion or beachfront, we spotted whales or dolphins frolicking in the ocean. After the high tide, we were dismayed to see hundreds of dead sea birds which were washed up on the sand, and wondered what had occurred for this to happen.

After several enjoyable days spent at Point Plomer, we headed north to Bellinger River Caravan

Park at Repton for five days to spend time kayaking on the river, fishing, relaxing and visiting Coffs Harbour, where we have not been for a few



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years. Repton is only 23 km south of Coffs Harbour, so it does not take long to get there on the improved Pacific Highway, and you also have the advantage of staying out of the hustle and bustle of Coffs, as it is a lot quieter.

The river is tidal, so we take advantage of this to plan our kayaking trips, heading upstream on the incoming tide, and downstream on the outgoing tide, which makes life a bit easier.

Repton has all we need, including a good butcher who also sells some fresh veges, bread and eggs, newsagent and a club if you want a night off cooking.

In Coffs Harbour we visited the Harbourside Sunday markets, where local fresh produce is available, along with locally made crafts, soaps, oils and food stalls.

On Melbourne Cup Day, we went along to the horse racing at Coffs Harbour Racecourse, where Bruce and I had last visited about 44 years ago, not long after we first met, so it was very nostalgic.

After a huge seafood platter for lunch, it was down to the serious business of picking the winner for the 2010 Melbourne Cup and fortunately for us, we backed it and the winnings paid for our day out.

It was fun watching everyone parading around in their best gear, while we turned up unprepared, dressed in our normal casual clothes. The day was very well organised, with great prizes for best dressed lady, best hat and best dressed couple, which included a couple of same sex couples, thrown in for a laugh. We reckon we would have won the prize for worst dressed couple!

Next day, we were on the road by 8am on our way to The Gorge, near Copmanhurst, about 65 kms from Grafton, which we had read about on a kayaking web site.

For anyone interested in doing this trip, which is not really advertised anywhere else, you need to phone first to Neil Winters on 02 664 72173 or 664 73138 or Google "The Gorge" via Copmanhurst NSW for further information. Fortunately, we had very detailed instructions for getting there, because I think we would have gotten lost without them. It is not really shown on maps of the area and we spoke to people who had lived in Grafton who did not know of it. After several hours of traveling through some very scenic country, we

knew we were getting closer, however, the road deteriorated badly, so we were reduced to traveling at a snail pace as we reached the front gate of the property, but knew it was to be another 5km before we reached the homestead. The road (goat track) continued to get worse, in fact it was some of the worst conditions we have ever encountered. We pressed on over rickety, frightening, wooden bridges, with steep banks either side and washed away tracks which kept us both on our toes, all the while trying to admire the magnificent scenery as we went. When we eventually reach the homestead, there was nobody around, despite the television being turned on and the house completely open to anyone. After waiting for a short time, Neil Winters, the owner turned up with his 4WD packed with firewood. Neil had been out cutting the wood for us, and others who he was expecting to turn up in the next few days.

Neil's family has owned this 8,300 acre beef cattle property for 110 years, and he has 10km fronting the mighty Clarence River on his doorstep. Neil is a real bushie, with a down to earth attitude and we found him very welcoming. He suggested several sites where we might like to set up camp and then proceeded to show us, what we considered, the best of the lot on top of a hill, overlooking the river and valley below. Best of all, we had the whole area to ourselves, as Neil tends to locate most campers in separate areas away from each other, so you can make as much or little noise as you like. Each area is supplied with a rubbish bin, fire-place, cut wood and pit toilet for only \$20 per vehicle per day, which is very good value for such an unforgettable experience in some of the best country you will find anywhere in Australia. After setting up camp we could do nothing but sit in our chairs admiring the scenery all around us. This is an experience we will never forget and for anyone who enjoys getting away from the rat race, we can truly recommend this place.

Once the sun had set, and the cows had all moved on, the campsite was so peaceful and quiet that we just sat in our chairs once again to take it all in. After the most quiet night we were up early to kayak down the gorge, after paying Neil our camping fees, and as requested, handing over our food scraps for his pigs and dogs, were on our



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way. The river is running really fast, so we worked hard for several hours against the current admiring the scenery as we paddled. We went as far as we could until the rapids were too fast, then turned around and had an easy trip back downstream. There were several other kayakers and fishermen also up the river, but we cannot imagine this place ever being crowded.

Neil had told us they were mustering cattle the next day if we were interested in watching, so we think we were very lucky to experience this, as they only muster four or five times each year.

However, we were to be disappointed, because after some heavy showers, Neil informed us that there was 100mm predicted to fall and we were concerned about being stranded due to flooding. We were fortunate enough to see the start of the muster, but would have liked to experience more.

We headed out around 10.30am, uncertain as to what direction to follow, due to the impending wet weather, so made our way to the Mann River Caravan Park at Jackadgery, (camps #252) not far from The Gorge, but at least it was on a sealed road if the weather did get bad.

As it turned out, we need not have worried, because the weather remained overcast with just a misty rain, more a nuisance than anything. We stayed at Mann River Caravan Park, then pulled out early next morning and headed back down the Gwydir Highway towards Grafton to connect with the Grafton Armidale Road, which we would never do again, as it is poorly maintained, with lots of twists and turns. We did not see any other caravans on this road.

With an array of National Parks to choose from, we decided to once again enter the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park which is quite a big park. This time we went in to the Wollomombi Gorge, about 70 kms from the Tia Falls "as the crow flies", which we visited after leaving Walcha earlier in this trip. The campground is Green Gully (camps #306)

These falls are the highest drop falls, at 260 metres, in NSW and with all the rain in the area recently, were very spectacular. There are a number of walks around the gorge to view the falls, so we did a couple of them after arriving, with the in-

tentions of doing more the following day.

It is a well set out camping area, with fees at \$3 per adult per night. Pit toilets and fireplaces are scattered through the area and each camping bay is well set out.

We were still experiencing misty light rain when we went to bed, so were surprised when we got up next morning to a bright blue sky, so we were off early on another walk. There are a few walks in this area and we did most of them the day before, but left one until last, as it seemed a bit challenging. As it turned out Chandlers Lookout defeated us, even though it looked like it would be a great view. It is very steep and rugged, on the edge of the cliffs, and was hard enough going down, but we both agreed that it was too much for us, especially knowing that it was all uphill coming back. We spent the remainder of the day relaxing, listening to all the birds and enjoying the peaceful location. As with most of these National Parks, most visitors only seem to stay for one day, then leave early in the morning, so we have the whole place to ourselves.

Tomorrow we are traveling less than 40 kms to our next destination, Dangars Falls and Gorge (camps #308). These falls are not to be confused with Dangar Falls near Dorrigo, but are actually near Armidale. It seems we have really fluked everything on this trip, including witnessing these falls at their best after the recent rains.

After an early departure, we were soon heading into Armidale and Dangars Falls and Gorge turnoff was supposed to be only 4kms from Armidale, but we had trouble finding the turnoff. After consulting the GPS we were soon on the right road, but the signage certainly is very lacking. There is 10kms of good dirt road leading to the Falls and a lovely free National Parks Campground. We soon set up camp and were off on several of the walks. As we were the only campers in the park, we had the pick of the campsites. As usual, the gorge and falls were stunning and we cannot believe we have it all to ourselves. After seeing a black snake near the track, we realised that we do have to be careful in these areas, especially when we are the only ones here.

There are several good walks of varying lengths, so



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we picked out the shorter of the lot, which we completed. The longest walk is very strenuous and you would need the best part of a whole day to complete it.

As the sun set, the kangaroos moved in, and we were soon surrounded. Apart from their munching on the grass, there was only the sounds of the birds jostling for spots to roost in the trees.

After a very quiet night, apart from the odd animal sounds, we were on the road by 7.30am heading south towards Tamworth, where we turned off to Werris Creek and eventually stopped in Coolah for the night at the Cunningham Caravan Park (camps #428) which cost us \$14 for a powered site.

There is water on the edges of all the roads and paddocks are flooded but we have been fortunate to have missed all the rain, however, it is looking very stormy.

While in Coolah we attended a display of local artists work at the information centre, which consisted of paintings, pottery, wool spinning, quilting and metal work which was outstanding.

Our next stop was Mudgee where we have been previously but we needed to stock up our pantry.

We always enjoy staying in Mudgee, there are lots of wineries to visit, very good local farmers markets and many day trips to do. For us, it was a quick stop because we were due in Hill End, only another 70kms further on, to meet up with the STAGS group, which is a group set up for the owners of Supreme off-road vans.

We took the scenic route from Mudgee, via Hargreaves, which is now mostly sealed except for about 1km and were in Hill End within the hour where we set up camp in the Village Campground. There are twelve powered sites and a number of unpowered sites in a very pleasant area equipped with flushing toilets, hot showers (coin operated), camp kitchen containing free gas barbeques and hot water for washing up. Eight couples attended the weekend from all different areas, exchanging ideas and experiences which related to our shared love of traveling our great country.

We traveled down the Bridal Track, which is not for the faint hearted, but the road has been cut 17km from Hill End by a landslide, which looks to

be permanent. It is spectacular country with the Turon River flowing swiftly at the bottom of the valley, where many lovely campsites are dotted along the edges.

The Hill End Hotel sells good meals at reasonable prices and a cafe which also does good quality cakes and pies can be found in the main street.

A National Parks ranger gave us a very informative town tour which unfortunately was cut short due to rain, but can be recommended.

During the few days we spent at the muster, we had an organised dinner, where everyone present cooked a main course and desert which was very enjoyable. Sunday morning was pancake breakfast where we all contributed pancakes and an assortment of different fillings.

I am sure all who attended had a great time.

Sadly, the rain continued and became heavier during Sunday night, and on Monday morning about half the group had to leave for home, while the remainder were going on an extended holiday.

We headed home to the South Coast, in pouring rain, which gradually eased to showers.

This had been a great five week break, which we found very relaxing and we were able to see and do all the things we had planned, due to mostly good weather conditions.

Regards, Colleen & Bruce Edwards





ULYSSES MEMBERS RV GROUP



The Kermit Kronicle Page 10 Issue 4

Website:
<http://ulyssesrv.org>



2011 Queensland Odyssey

When: Queen's Birthday Weekend 11 – 13th June 2011

Where: Gladstone on the Central Queensland Coast



For more information email - gladstone.ulysses@yahoo.com

More information will be posted on our websites as it becomes available :

<http://branches.ulyssesclub.org/Gladstone> or <http://gladstoneulysses.multiply.com>





The Kermit Kronicle



Christmas Get-together, Atkinson Dam, Qld.

December 10th
- 13th, 2010.

5 brave couples
vetured forth de-
spite the threat of
dangerous thunder-
storms and reported
having a great time
with wonderful
weather.

