



# The Bush Telegraph

The official newsletter of the  
**BUSHWACKERS**  
CMCA Chapter 24



August '08

Murgheboluc

## MEETING;

**Date:**  
1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> August 2008

**Location:**  
Murgheboluc Hall,  
Murgheboluc

**Weather:**  
Breezy & Cold



## ATTENDEES

### Members;

Gary & Christine Appleford – John & Lynne Arnott - Alan Barnes – Steve & Linda Bishop  
Darryl & Lois Crouch - John Dadd & Jan Pickard – Sue & George McKay – Bob & Chrissy Eustace  
Peter Hinkley & Mary English - Pam Snelling - Frank & Marie Keogh – Hal & Karin Kraus  
Alan & Val McDonald – Terry & Kaye Pitman – Theo & Helen Siomos – Gary & Mina Stapleton  
Ian (Robbo) and Julie Robertson – Rod & Claire Taylor – Dorothy Hall  
Alan (Stretch) & Lynn Hodges (Sunday?)

### Visitors;

The singing bear with no undies.

## NOTICE:

**BUSHWACKER number plates;** the Bushwacker number plates are being re-issued, but before committing to an order the Committee NEEDS to know how many will be required ASAP.

**DON'T MISS OUT!** I think they're even cheaper this time at \$10ea. I'm ordering one just as a spare, because they might not be around when I purchase my next vehicle. You wouldn't even get a sticker made at this price, so HURRY...



## ACTIVITIES

### Friday:

It was a wild ride to Murgheboluc as the wind was gusting heavily. As is usual there were a few already in attendance on arrival and the chairs were being setup around the fireplace in the Hall.



Garry didn't disgrace himself with his Christine's Toastie dinner this time.

'Onya Garry, you must have been getting a good clean-out though with all that charcoal...

### Saturday:

Terry & Kaye turned up with a trailer load of firewood and the day was spent getting the Hall ready for the festivities, thanks to those that assisted.



The balloons up in the rafters did eventually come down on Sunday.



Gary & Mina arrived, and shared their stories about the new 'Eagle', and stayed for dinner.

Pam got a great deal on the Chickens from Safeway and collected them late afternoon. The Soup and Lasagne was warmed and the salads laid out.

The meal was a huge success with many commenting 'best ever'.



The deserts were great too, with some provided by members (including a huge Tiramisu from Hal & Karin) and others provided by the Club. The birthday cake was a '14', although there seemed to be something awry with the '4'. Each diner was provided with a small birthday cake with a candle to blow-out. John Dadd dipped the lights (I think the flash was a bit of a shock) and we all blew out the candles...



### **Sunday:**

With no trailer we were all given our breakfast to cook, and we returned to eat and proceed with the usual raffles. Peter thought he'd take John Dadd's solar panel as his prize, but his actual prize was a good alternative.



This is a great location at a great price, with very friendly locals. A combination which is bound to bring us back here in the future.

A special thanks to Alan Barnes for cleaning the Hall and to Terry & Kaye for a great trailer load of firewood.

### **Trailer;**

We didn't bring the trailer this weekend.

Hal & Karin kindly committed to towing the trailer to Avoca. This offer is much appreciated, as I know that they deferred plans to possibly travel to Coffs Harbour at this time.

## RECEIVED ON THE 'BUSH TELEGRAPH'

### Who's doing what;

We had a fantastic trip driving up to Rocky...leaving 9th July in our beloved motorhome.....it was more than chilly so we didn't have a good look at Hillston or Mt.Hope but drove on to Cargo.

Weather began to warm up at Bourke and we went on a paddle-steamer down the Darling River - very relaxing in the warmth of the sun.

Lightning Ridge was the highlight of the trip. Went in the hot artesian pool before brekkie and before bed - we slept like logs! We stayed 2 nights.....had dinner at the local Bowling Club \$9.50! The Black Hand and the Black Queen were 2 tourist attractions we visited and we believe they were worldclass. Have a look at the internet....well worth going to.

Another 2 swims/soak in the hot pools at Moree.... Isla Gorge N.P and Miles, arriving in Rockhampton on the Thursday. Our daughter and grandson came up for 3 days and we all thoroughly embraced the heated pool (about 31). Weather perfect....we all came home on Monday 21st.....leaving our motorhome in the care of a lovely gentleman from CMCA at Rocky.....until we return on the 31st August.

**Sylvia**

.oOo.

We are enjoying our summer, though it has been a little wet. There were a few good days to get some dry hay in but over all there's a shower quite often. There have been a few hot weeks just recently with high humidity which is a bit hard to take. Where we are in southern Ontario our weather comes up the Mississippi valley and can be quite muggy.

Our fuel prices are continuing upwards \$1.30's now. Not as high as yours but we are getting there.

**Ross and Donna**

.oOo.

Home by Sept 16 - may get to October but not sure as they have a wedding at the same month. Really looking forward to seeing everyone then. Have had a great time away - caught up with old friends, made lots of new ones - who could believe that they would spend so much talking and happy hours Amos said.

Send their love to everyone

**Gleness & Amos**

.oOo.

I would like to put a note in the Bushwackers newsletter to thank Allan and Teryl for the concern and care they showed me. Allan drove out especially on Tuesday morning (after the English Bridge weekend) to see that I was okay.

I really appreciated it.

**Jennifer Baulch**

Hi Folks,

Well it has been a while!!! Have been on the road again since 29th May. Left Yarrawonga as the weather was starting to get cool. On my bucket list was to make the CMCA Christmas in July Rally, held at Mareeba, in-land from Cairns, approx 3,000K's from Melb. I can now tick it off and as well I wanted to spend another birthday in Cooktown and that also I was able to do.

I travelled to Bundaberg on my own (with Jack & Rosie ), spent 10 days in Sydney with my eldest nephew and his wife, where I was able to park the truck out the back off his house, on the street but with power, fantastic as it rained for almost all the days I was there. In Bundaberg I met up with Nancy another solo motorhomer, will have been travelling together until today when she has headed off to visit her daughter.

I am currently in Townsville enjoying the best of weather about 25-28 every day and in the last 8 weeks only had 4 days of rain. But everything is green, the bad weather seems to go around where I am at present. Trying to finish this letter off I note that the cold weather from down south has hit us it is only 20 today and a little windy. I am parked at a free camp at Saunders Beach just north of Townsville. Although I am now travelling alone there were about 20 vehicles here last night so not really alone.

Jack and Rosie are enjoying the walks on the beach, but no surf due to islands and reefs. I have been visiting many of the places this trip that I did on an organized camping trip with my friend Pat Love several years ago (before motorhome), I am amazed how much I can recall from then, when back in the same location. Not sure of my plans for the future, reluctant to head south just yet, due to weather, want to catch up with friends in Brisbane and Sunshine Coast before heading to northern NSW for the beginning of Oct. my 1st appt. at home is the 21st of Oct.

Please remember house at Yarrawonga is empty, please don't be as tardy as me and reply to let me know how you are and if you want more travel let me know and can fill you in.

Keep Safe,

**Marg**

G'day George, sorry I missed the Ned Kelly weekend, it looked like a lot of fun. I'm just back from a round trip to Jervis Bay NSW for my daughter, Clare's, Graduation Parade at the Naval College at HMAS Creswell. You can all feel safe in your beds now that the Navy has a new Midshipman and fledgling helicopter pilot on duty.

My 92 year old Dad Albert travelled with me and we took the coast road to renew some experiences of earlier trips to Mallacoota Inlet, his first sitting on the tailgate of a Chev furniture van in 1931.

We did it in a bit more comfort this time. Jervis Bay has to be one of Australia's most beautiful waterways. The Naval College is situated right on the bay just inside the Heads and this year celebrates 50 years since its commissioning in 1958.

The ceremonial Sunset parade the night before the March-out was fantastic and my dad was so proud to see his youngest grand-daughter as the swordbearer in the Heritage Guard.

We travelled home via Canberra and turned off the freeway as soon as we could at Gundagai. This alternate route took us via Tumut, Batlow and overnight at Tumbarumba. Just behind the main street we found a delightful park on the Tumbarumba creek set up with Caravan park type power outlets, perfect spot for a motor home. This is as motorhome friendly as a town can get. I reckon autumn would be even more spectacular in this valley.

There were lots of other options to camp for the night, we discovered another idyllic spot called Paddy's river campsite not far out of town on the way to Corryong. It's in the Camps 4 book.

I recommend anyone travelling home to turn off the Hume and wind your way from Gundagai to Wangaratta, especially while the Hume on the NSW side is such a stop start affair due to roadworks.

**Bob Mac the twobobtraveller**

## CHAPTER NOTICES:

### Editor Resigns...

I have accepted a 12 month contract at Bendigo-Adelaide Bank in Adelaide. Avoca will be our last Bushwackers for a while, so I'll be handing in my resignation at the meeting.

Thanks for all the great feedback, I'm glad you've enjoyed what I've produced. I'm sorry I can't fulfill my term, but I've been seeking a long term contract in South Australia for sometime, and at last the opportunity has come.

We call home Callington, on the South Eastern freeway 55km on the Melbourne side of Adelaide. We have plenty of land, so don't hesitate to call in and see us, stay as long as you wish, or use Callington as a stepping stone to Adelaide and the west.

We have plenty of work to do, so won't be using the Motorhome so much, but we hope to get along to a local chapter meeting or two, maybe even the Mt Lofty Bushies!!!

With any luck I'll be able to work in Bendigo occasionally, and make it to a Bushwacker weekend.

### New Member:

The Bushwackers would like to give a huge welcome to our newest member, Dorothy Hall. Dorothy has been a regular with us recently, and has fitted into the Bushwacker profile perfectly.

Dorothy made a cake for us at Murgheboic, in her oven in her van, and even though it was not the traditional chocolate cake it was accepted gratefully,

It seems that a pattern is occurring, Kaye baked her membership cake in her camper oven at Stringybark Creek....



Dorothy with the singing bear.

## 2009 Meetings - Proposed Dates and Locations

- |           |                                    |   |  |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| January   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> | – | Elmore Field Days Site   |
| February  | 20 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> | – | Mt. Franklin   |
| March     | 20 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> | – | Alexandra (Brooks Reserve) – sussed out by Robbo when researching the Easter Rally.  |
| April     | 10 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> | – | Safari – Gippsland area.<br>Neerim rest area Rec reserve (Thurs),<br>Marley Point (Fri/Sat),<br>Rosedale Willow Park (Sun/Mon) |
| May       | 15 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> | – | Benalla (Casey's Weir)   |
| June      | 5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>  | – | Chinaman's Creek   |
| July      |                                    | – | King Parrot Creek Roadside reserve (Goulburn Valley Highway)   |
| August    |                                    | – | Birthday - Mannibidar (Soldier's memorial Hall?????)<br><i>Investigation needed.</i>   |
| September |                                    | – | Anderson Mills or Keppels Creek Marysville area.<br><i>Investigation needed.</i>   |
| October   |                                    | – | Ballan (Caledonian Park)   |
| November  |                                    | – | Karingal Park, Moe. Fee  |
| December  |                                    | – | Christmas - Grenville (Ballarat)   |



Several new sites included from Member's suggested campsites, keep them coming... Feedback on these recommendations (dates and sites) would be appreciated. To assist, you'll find them mapped out below (pink pins) on Daryl's members map, or refer to the map on the website.... [www.bushwacker.com.au/bushwackers\\_2009.htm](http://www.bushwacker.com.au/bushwackers_2009.htm)

### **Christmas Bookings:**

A Christmas meeting list has been started with names on already, don't hesitate, book!

### **Bushwacker Logo:**

Continued thanks to Lynne Arnott for providing Bushwacker badges for sale, with ALL proceeds to our coffers. Our logo is great, and raffle prizes of tea towels with the logo are greatly coveted by the winners. This weekend we not only had the usual present from Lynne, Karin Kraus also provided 2 commemorative sets. Thanks to you both, keep them coming...

If you have a great idea on how to use the logo, or the Bushwacker name, let us know, we may be able to make them available to the club members e.g. hat bands.

If you have a use for the logo, a version is available for download from the member's section of the website, or email [george@surge.com.au](mailto:george@surge.com.au) and I'll email it to you. Did you know that you can purchase T-Shirt printing sheets and canvas for your inkjet printer – be creative...

### **COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

Early notice is given to give thought to nomination Committee members for next year. The Christmas meeting approaches and it's nice to have the nominations in hand in good time for this.

## **NOTICES**

### **Drink Can Tops** – excerpt from Ararat West Primary School Newsletter

Ararat West Primary School children have collected 138kg of aluminium can ring pull tabs during the past 18 months. This is an amazing 525,000 tabs.

The tabs are given to the Bendigo Bank which is coordinating the collection of 2.2 million tabs. Ararat West PS has collected nearly a quarter of the total required. The Bendigo Bank has informed us that they have now reached their goal, but we can still collect more tabs and send them to a community group in Bendigo who is coordinating the collection.

The top collectors have been given certificates, a show bag of Bendigo Bank products and a \$20 voucher to open a bank account. This is sponsored by the Bendigo Bank.

The three top collectors this semester have collected an amazing amount of tabs:

- Jakki Orszaczki collected nearly 39,000, which is over 10kg. of tabs (Jakki was given a \$20 Bendigo Bank voucher)
- Morgan May and Blake Thomas have collected 26,500 tabs and Larni and Josh Cain have collected over 16,000 tabs.

The community service program is coordinated by two grade five girls, Lara Neil and Grace Smith. They count or weigh the tabs and organise certificates for any child who has collected 500 tabs. So-far over eighty of the 240 students enrolled in the school have handed in some tabs.

### **BOOK EXCHANGE**

The 'swap-a-book' exchange system is going great, with many a swap proceeding during the weekend. Thanks Pam for carrying them from meeting to meeting.

### **HANDY HINT**

Carry your 'happy hour' wine glass in a stubby holder. Cleaned empty milk cartons are good to stabilize wine bottles.

## EVENT CALENDAR;



**September 5th-8<sup>th</sup>**

Avoca

Beside Avoca River, opposite Avoca Lions Park rest area, Bridport St.

From Ballarat, take Sunraysia Hwy (B220) to Avoca. Turn left at Bridport St/Pyrenees Hwy (B180).  
Camp between bridge and Skate park ramp.

**Pub meal Sat. night, don't miss out, call Christine (Pres.) to book early on;**

**(03) 9434 0186 or 0427 839 934**

GPS 37 05 25S 143 28 22E.

**October 3rd-6<sup>th</sup>**

Upper Yarra Dam, via Warburton - *bookings preferred - fees apply*

From Warburton, travel 24km on Woods Point Rd (C511-continuation of Warburton Hwy), to entrance of park. Gates close at 5pm. Camp fees of \$5.70pppn apply.

Bookings preferred to Christine Appleford (Pres) 94340186 or 0427839934.

GPS 37 40 08.9S 145 53 34.5E

**November 1st-4<sup>th</sup>**

Dando's Campground.

Camp area 13km SE of Gellibrand. Turn E off C155, 1km S of Gellibrand onto Gellibrand East Rd, Lardners Track and Sayers Track. Dirt road. Camping beside river. Bring firewood.

GPS 38 33 16S 143 37 05E

**December 6th-8<sup>th</sup>**

Meredith Pioneer Park - *bookings essential* - Xmas Dinner & AGM

From Geelong, take Midland Hwy (A300) to Meredith. Turn left into Wilson St. Dogs OK. Meredith Hall is just a short walk from the Pioneer Park.

Christmas Bookings essential to Christine Appleford (Pres) 94340186 or 0427839934.

GPS 37 50 49S 144 04 23E.

**MEMBERS CONTENT IS APPRECIATED**, please email your content to;

[editor@bushwacker.com.au](mailto:editor@bushwacker.com.au) or post it to;

George McKay, P.O. Box 520 Hawthorn Vic 3122

E. & O. E. (errors and omissions excepted)

## A Bit of an Update From Sean & Mandy & Tessa the Dog.

G'Day. It's been a good long while since we put fingers to keyboard and let people know what is happening in the Manners world, Antipodean division.



A couple of years ago, Feb 2006 in fact, we left Bathurst in our Motorhome to continue to journey around and about this vast country. We dawdled here and there with Mandy working as a Locum radiographer and Sean performing puppet shows and running varying kinds of Community Arts workshops. We kept the house in Bathurst with tenants in it but with our little Granny Flat and Sean's studio as a place to return to if necessary.

Well in December 2007 that became unfortunately necessary as when we were returning to explore Tasmania for a second time Sean was diagnosed with an Idiopathic Cardiomyopathy and was in Intensive Care in Bendigo, Victoria for several days.

An Idiopathic Cardiomyopathy is an enlarged heart. Caused they think in this case by a virus to the heart. Being enlarged it does not beat as strongly as it should and fluids can build up in the lungs. All very nasty.

When they let Sean out we decided to return to Bathurst to rest and recuperate. After six months of gradually building up energy and seeing specialists we decided that it was time to get away from Bathurst. Sean's heart had almost returned to normal according to the tests and scans so we headed back to Tasmania in June (winter time to those of you in Northern Hemisphere). Now Tassie in winter is supposed to be cold and damp. Yes it is but hauntingly beautiful and not as cold as Bathurst is at the moment.

So we have decide to settle here in Tasmania and have bought a house in a village called Westbury, some 35km's North West of Launceston in the north of the Island. The house was built in the 1950's. It has a tin roof and weatherboard walls, sits on half an acre of ground and needs a wee bit of TLC. Well a lot of TLC but it has sound bones and should be a lot of fun renovating. We settle and move in on the 16 of July all being well.

Mandy is working for BreastScreen in Launceston and Sean will be resuming his puppetry antics come the Springtime.



So that's it in a nutshell. We will be documenting the renovation on a website as it is being done with an eye to sustainable principles with solar panels on the roof etc etc.

If you are ever down this way please give us a call. We are centrally located for touring the North of the Island with plenty of room for rigs and dogs etc. Our new address is:-

85 Meander Valley Road, Westbury, Tasmania

or if posting by snailmail then PO Box 148, Westbury, Tasmania, 7303.

Our mobile numbers are the same as always.

Sean's 0412 294 779

Mandy's 0422 263 716

Cheers, Sean & Mandy & Tessa the Dog