

The Official Newsletter of THE BUSHWACKERS



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Easter - April 22 to 26, 2011

Attendees:

Members: Bernie Alletsee & Lila Eden, Christine & Gary Appleford, Alan Barnes, Konrad & Karin Braun, Ross Drake, Dorothy Hall, Peter Hinkley & Mary English, Salty Horigan, Allan James & Teryl Boyce, Frank & Marie Keogh, Hal & Karin Kraus, Rob & Denise MacLennan, Alan & Val McDonald, Terry & Kaye Pitman, Barrie & Catherine Robson, Theo & Helen Siomos, Pam Snelling, Gleness & Amos Trask, Rob & Glenda Walters, Russel & Hedy McAlicee, Brendon & Petrina Gilligan.

Visitors: Ian & Carol Lawless (Tasmania), Garry & Kerryn Mennie, Ray & Phyll Hunt (Lakelanders) Arthur & Wendy Bugden (Qld), Gary & Joy Woods, Paul & Anita Flynn (Gold Coast), Dick & Di Drayton (Murray Borderliners), Sylvia Sharman (Eastern Rosellas), Brian & Pat James (Murray Borderliners), Tess Sampson (Eastern Rosellas), Dot & Ken Rice (Southern Explorers), Kevin Thornton (Qld.), Maureen Mander, Robyn Warburton, Jude Jackson, Magda Van de Ven, Malcolm Nottle (S.A.), Valda Robinson (Qld.)

Apologies: Bill & Lyne Roberts

Good Friday:

With our rally being the week after the CMCA rally at Deniliquin and our venue being transferred from Barmah to Ayson's Reserve due to flooding, quite a few headed direct to Elmore for a few extra days and to claim our territory at the exceptionally busy reserve, mid-way through the school holidays. Visitors from all states except W.A. and N.T. joined us to experience the "Bushies" hospitality with 37 vehicles and over 60 people attending. Thanks to Tassie visitors Ian and Carol for towing the trailer to and from storage at Mooroopna, the tea and coffee was hot, and the campfire ablaze for happy hour on a cloudy but dry afternoon.

Someone suggested fish and chips for dinner and before you could snap your fingers, Gleness and Melva had taken orders and phoned them through to the Elmore take-away for pick-up at 6.30pm. Seafood pizzas as well as fish and chips were quaffed down around the fire. A pleasant night ensued with the girls playing cards under lights while the rest enjoyed the evening by the fire.



Happy Hour



Cards by LED Light



Deep into Happy Hour

Saturday:

A cool morning with sunny patches greeted us as we arose and a few more units arrived. Tess' delicious chocolate slice was devoured at morning tea around the fire whilst Allan James helped re-stock the woodpile with several loads collected in his van. The girls passed the time knitting or playing cards whilst the fellas chatted about technical stuff.

Wonderful to see Frank and Marie Keogh arrive to spend a couple of days with us and introduce the latest addition to the family, "Heidi" the Dachshund, a new mate for Gretchen after the recent loss of Honey. Heidi duly brought her "Bushies" joining fee of Lamingtons, enjoyed for morning tea over two days.

Marie drew the Easter raffle at happy hour with 1st prize of a copy of Camps 6, wine and a fluffy bunny, won by Hedy McAleice and 2nd prize of wine won by Dot Rice. Glenda's Easter cake topped off a big happy hour followed by a great night round the fire with stumps at about 11.00pm.



Glenda's Easter Cake



Hedy McAleice—Raffle Winner



Marie & Heidi the Dachshund

Sunday:

Sunny blue skies welcomed the day and spurred the cooks into action conjuring up a culinary delight for 59 hungry humans with 6 kg each of bacon and snags, 9 doz. eggs, 8 loaves of bread and 4 litres of tomato and onions consumed by the happy throng. The Easter hat parade followed with some tough decisions made by judge Marie Keogh, and Glenda's feathery creation complete with chocolate chickens being declared the winner, and Pat's Black lace scarf with golden adornments judged as runner-up.

Amos and Catherine conducted the raffles with Peter and Mary trying their hand at washing up duties. A relaxing day around the fire with hot cross buns cooked on the coals on Brendon's cooking frame and later Ross produced another Damper, he's becoming an expert. Happy hour saw Brendon and Petrina produce their joining chocolate cake and we welcome them into the Bushwacker family. A sparkler waving session around the campfire brought the evening to a joyful close.



Easter Hat Parade



Marie and Glenda Hat Prize Winner



Mary and Peter washing up



Knitting class in session



Sparkler Waving at the fire



Brendon's Hot X Bun Cooking Class

Monday:

Another clear and sunny morning greeted us and being Anzac Day, several headed into Rochester for the local march and ceremony. Melva's cream waffles were delicious for morning tea followed by a relaxing day, sitting, knitting or nibbling on savoury tidbits that regularly appeared. Bill and Lyne escaped the clutches of the grandkids to catch up with us briefly at happy hour, and Brendon tested the sharpness of his chainsaw on a giant red gum log to replenish the wood supplies.

As the sun began to set Amos presented a short Anzac Day oration and the whole happy hour stood and observed a minute's silence in memory of our fallen country men and women in current and previous conflicts. A jovial joke telling session around the campfire topped off a very pleasant day.

The Easter break came to an end on Tuesday and many headed home to tackle the short working week after a great and busy weekend.

Deniliquin Rally

Our largest ever Bushwackers representation attended the CMCA anniversary rally at Deniliquin, with 38 "Bushies" making the pilgrimage to the Riverina town. We had members lecturing at seminars, volunteering as helpers and also Bill & Lyne participating with their trade stand. Although we were spread far and wide across the rally grounds, the bush telegraph drew all to the regular afternoon happy hours. The Black and White Ball on Saturday night was a feature and the "Bushy" girls excelled in dressing up the tables with customised placemats and coasters, balloons and tablecloths, all with a musical theme. All then donned their finery for the 7.00pm start with many unrecognisable, as top-hatted dancing girls complete with canes, and the guys in dinner suits as gangsters. Pam has put together an album of photos which is a must see, and suggestions are that we may have another large attendance at the 26th Anniversary rally at Sale over Easter in 2012. PS. Ross won the title of top mouse catcher at the rally and even brought some to Elmore with him.

Polo Shirts / Polar Fleece Jackets:

For several years members have commented that the Bushies did not have an "official uniform" to wear when representing the chapter at rallies or functions. The Committee has discussed the matter and Pam and Alan have attended a supplier, and artwork for the Bushwackers logo, as it appears on the masthead of the newsletter, has been commissioned. Initially, a Polar Fleece Jacket in a Bottle Green colour complemented by a Polo Shirt in a Bone/ Light Beige colour will be offered, with the Green symbolizing our connection with the bush. The logo will be embroidered on the left side of the upper front of both jacket and polo, with the black lettering and tripod being substituted for a silver-grey to contrast with the green of the Polar Fleece Jacket. Test samples of the embroidery will be approved before orders are produced. Pam and Alan have ordered one of each item and hope to have them for members to see by the June Chinaman's Camp rally. We'll also have sample polos and jackets to check your size prior to placing orders. It is proposed that orders and payment will be accepted, with delivery by the following month's rally. Pricing will be \$22.00 for the Polo Shirt and \$38.00 for the Polar Fleece Jacket plus 10% GST and is factored so that no minimum order is required, so that orders can be placed as and when members request them. If the jackets and polos prove to be popular, other items may be introduced in future.

Canine Companions:

The Bushwackers are renowned for welcoming and encouraging CMCA members with canine companions to join the chapter and enjoy the freedom of bush camping with your four legged friends. With many new members joining the chapter with canine companions, it is timely to remind members of the Bushwackers' policy regarding the behaviour and conduct of your canine companion, and your responsibilities as its master.

Generally, your canine companion should be securely restrained at your vehicle during; **mealtimes, happy hour (nominally between 4.30pm and 6.30pm) and the Sunday morning breakfast.** Whilst CMCA policy suggests your friend should be on-leash at all other times, providing your companion is socially friendly, the Bushwackers are happy to allow he or she to roam off-leash. However, if you elect to allow your companion off-leash, in the interests of the harmony of all members, you should ensure that he or she is under your control and within your line of sight at all times to avoid becoming an annoyance or nuisance to others. Naturally, you are responsible for the cleaning up of any "deposits" that your companion may leave in the camp area.

To clarify the commencement of happy-hour we will trial the sounding of the hooter at 4.30pm daily.

On the Grapevine:

Thanks to Alan McDonald for making two trips to Barmah to inspect the condition of that camp prior to our decision to transfer the rally venue to Ayson's Reserve.

Good news that Hal Kraus is feeling fine again after taking ill and leaving Elmore on Good Friday evening. Look after yourself Hal, we enjoy your company.

Just back from a cruise, Theo and Helen are off again, this time to Bali to attend the wedding of Theo's brother. Hope they watch out for the infamous Bali-belly and don't drink the water.

Word from John and Jan Dadd that they've made it across the Nullabor and are in the Esperance area, and they relented and allowed their minute mutt Meg to accompany them on their long trip.

An update to your members contact list with new members Brendon and Petrina Gilligam to be added. Phone Numbers, (03) 9710 1654 Mob. 0417 575 264 email inmotions@live.com

Next Month's Venue Goulburn River - Murchison - 13th to 15th May 2011

The camp is on the Goulburn River north-east of the town. Take the Goulburn Valley Highway to Murchison and turn right after crossing the river into Tatura road for 2kms, then turn right into Mooropna road for 3kms. Immediately after passing the flower farm hothouses, turn right into the 2nd driveway, continuing 400m then cross the cattle grid and follow the road to the camp area. No facilities. Dogs OK. Bring Wood.

GPS S36.58238 E 145.26029

<i>Future venues</i>		
June 10 to 13	Queens Birthday Weekend	Chinaman's Camp, Ararat
July 8 to 10		King Parrot Creek, Kerrisdale

Don't forget to send your travel news to share with the Bushies.

Email chrissy@around-oz.com or psnelling@hotmail.com or a_barnes@live.com.au

As from January 2010, the monthly newsletter is free, but donations are welcome to cover postage and printing, if you feel like doing so.