

## The Official Newsletter of THE BUSHWACKERS



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## Jolly's Bend, Moira Park, November 2011

### Attendees:

Gary and Christine Appleford, Alan Barnes, Darryl and Lois Crouch, John and Jan Dadd, Ross Drake, Jerzy and Gail Dubczyk, Bob and Chrissy Eustace, Sandra Gleeson, Peter Hinkley and Mary English, Salty (Paul) Horigan, Alan James/ Teryl Boyce, Hal and Karin Kraus, Rob and Denise MacLennan, Russell and Hedy McAlicee, Udo and Stephanie Michels, Melva Morris, Ken Newton and Liz Pettigrew, Marg Quail, Theo and Helen Siomos, Pam Snelling, John and Miriam Stokes,

### Visitors:

Richard and Di Drayton, Mike and Lynn (and Sam) Latimer, Noel and Lenis Wilson, Jude Jackson, Magda Van de Ven, Heather Owen, Lynette Clarke, Phil, Jo, Ryan, Liam Hutchison and Liam, Colin and Lyn Spain, Harry and Maureen Jansen, Terry Kingston and Christine Thomas. Darryl and Lois had a visit from the lovely people who bought their big blue bus – how thrilled all parties were at the “handshake” sale and changeover.

### Friday:

Twas rather terrific that folk had arrived very early.....Ross - you scored Brownie points for being the first on Tuesday! After consultation with other early arrivals, a really suitable site was set-up, including grass trimming. Alan B brought the trailer up Thursday (by car), so thanks for that. By Friday, we had lots of motorhomes in place. Chocolate cakes became a regular procedure, so welcome to our new Bushies. 2 cakes last month, 3 this month and more at Xmas.....walks will certainly need to be increased!



Jude and Magda



Mike and Lynn plus Sam



Noel and Lenis

With so many people coming in, there was plenty of catching-up with the Bushie Victorian Winter escapees. Lots of tales and stories were told of sun, fish, rain, roads, food, places and who saw who somewhere up north or west!

## Saturday:

*There was rain overnight, but by the morning, we were fine. The sun came out, so we noticed groups of walkers, with and without dogs toddling off along the track to do the "big circle" or just a small distance. John D and Gary tried their hand at fishing and John quoted "they're not even biting the yabby bait!" Gary at least had a minor thrill, even if was not the right kind of fish! Marg Q drove 500km to say hello and organise Xmas bookings and quickly filled us in on the Kalgoorlie Rally. Linda Arthur and Lila Eden were our Banner bearers in the Parade, so thanks for that, and you look good in our Bushie Jackets too! Linda and Bob's blog has an excellent account and photos. Take a look at [www.boblindastravels.blogspot.com](http://www.boblindastravels.blogspot.com)*



One of the many walking groups



Knitting, crocheting and chatting under Gary and Christine's awning.



Cards under Dick and Di's awning....can't recall who won!

The beauty of the Bushie gatherings is the freedom and opportunity to just "do" whatever you feel like doing and whenever you wish. We hope our newer members feel comfortable just pulling up a chair and chatting or joining in – that's the aim! With the big group at Kialla West, there were heaps of just that, so well done! Ross did a great job being the Newspaper buyer on his bike – thanks! Oh yes, too, thanks Ross for your usual damper...bit hard to fit it in amongst all the cakes that were served! A campfire was lit and plenty of wood was gathered, with the usual camp cooking happening. A couple of our lads used the trolley to shift some big logs and Noel and Gary were keen to get a huge log on the fire. All was OK until....not sure what happened, but Gary tripped over and cut his leg and Noel didn't realise that some spuds in foil (I think Hal and Karin's) were below on the fire. The resulting comments like...pancakes....er....flat potatoes etc. were all taken in good fun – didn't hear what the rescued spuds tasted like.

## Sunday:

*Up and at 'em for brekkie. Thanks to Marg for cooking the tomatoes and onions, Theo, Gary and Russell for their BBQ efforts, Helen, Alan J and Teryl for the toast and Stephanie, Mary and Leni for their serving skills – good team effort for the 50+ brekkies served! Ken was our Raffle man, but first proposed "The Bushie Toast", something lots of us never knew about! Ken wrote the Toast about 10 years ago, as he thought it would be special for all Bushies...and we agree!*

**“To all happy and adventurous Bushwackers, wheresoever over this great country of ours we may be scattered, may we remain happy and adventurous and have a safe return to our home, if and when we so desire.”**



Yummy brekkie yet again.



Marg – the Bushie Raffle winner. First time EVER she says.



Little Maggie had some leftovers I think!

Another quiet afternoon in the beautiful sunshine was enjoyed by all. Some people had to leave to return to work on Monday, but the rest of us were gearing up for the Cup!



Darryl’s strength is returning and he uses this great stick which Terry made for him. Can you guess what type of wood was used?

Halloween enabled Pete to “unwind”! Mind you, we never have to encourage him to do so, but thanks for your frivolity and sense of fun!



*Bushies love to relax and none of these photos were set up either. Interesting to see a Halloween Devil reading the Cup guide!*

Well, all was in readiness for the big Cup Day! Gary organised the Sweep (thanks), shared lunch at 12.30 was being prepared, John D had the television organised outside under his awning, many ladies had their hats on and the table was set for a Feast! And what a feast it was, by far the most elegant and scrumptious delicacies were produced. With champers and other beverages flowing, we enjoyed every bite – great work by all. The Cup Race was exciting wasn’t it? Didn’t get the details of all Bushie minor placegetters, but congratulations if you were a winner. Gail and Jerzy – I have your money-back “last placing” prize.....don’t worry, I won’t leave the country!



A decorative hat



The Feast, including soup.



2 Sweeps – 2 Winners

Another Cup Weekend over.....but as some vans stayed until Wednesday, it was a L...O...N...G weekend indeed and *thanks Hal for towing the trailer from Kialla West and to the Meredith Rally. And thanks also to Ross for thinking of getting the banner down and just “doing it”.*

*The Bushwackers' Members Contacts List will be updated and sent to all members in the New Year.*

## Members News:

- Marie K is feeling stronger after her operation – good news.
- Good luck to Gail D in her bowls competition next month.....can't remember when she last missed a Xmas do.
- Happy and safe house-boating to Darryl and Lois C, John and Jan D, Rob and Denise M.
- Theo S still counting down the weeks to retirement – it's now down to about 15 weeks!
- Rang Karin B who broke her foot – should be safely home by now with a 9kg plaster cast on until mid-December!
- Rob and Glenda W have booked in for Xmas – fingers crossed, their bus will do the right thing by them this time!
- Marg Q safely home and to quote “is cleaning!”
- Gleness Trask has a new email address. It's [gleness.s.trask@live.com](mailto:gleness.s.trask@live.com)
- Elaine W has sorted more photos, so we're nearly there with our History compilation– thanks Elaine.
- Dorothy H is fit and well. In Perth at the moment and had her computer fixed, so she's in communication again! Has been on website and loves Ann's Reflections (very much her ideals too), plus of course, our newsletters. Sees lots of new names and pleased that new people can experience the Bushie aims and lifestyle. Her knees are good and loves the fact that she has “no deadlines to meet” and “doesn't have to watch the clock!” Dorothy's thrilled that her “rescued” banana plant in her Melb. unit actually has fruit on it! Yeh! Don't reckon we'll see Dorothy for a while – remember she told her daughter that she'd be away for “2-10 years”!
- Nini and Wayne P are a Xmas apology. They've been up north this year.

## Next Month's Venue:

Meredith-Pioneer Park and Memorial Hall (for AGM and dinner). 45km NW of Geelong on Midland Hwy (A300). On entering town, turn left into Wilson St, Pioneer Park 200m on left past sports oval.

GPS S37 50 49 E144 04 23

### Some details for you:

- You would have already received the Xmas flyer and Nomination form for the AGM, but a more detailed Weekend information note will be given to you at Meredith, with specific logistic details for decorating Hall, dress-up parade timing etc.
- Dinner is chicken, pork and beef, accompanied by spuds and salads. Desserts are fruit salad, pavlovas, chocolate torte and cheesecake.
- Our excellent Xmas Hamper (will be displayed) is being organised for our Big Raffle. Tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5.
- The wonderful Meredith Hall co-ordinator has sent me a pack of Touristy info. about the Golden Plains area. I will create a special Noticeboard for your perusal, in case you want to stay longer or meander home via other nearby towns. Country towns' folk are usually special and Meredith people are no exception. The behind the scenes back-up has been amazing, especially when it was on the cards in June that we may have had to go through Shire Council, and that always involves heaps of paperwork, insurance stuff etc.
- Meredith has pubs - one just "over the road" and at our last visit, several Bushies had an excellent Friday night meal there. I enquired about reservations, but was told it wasn't necessary, but maybe someone could do a Friday arvo. "hands-up" job!
- Meredith township doesn't have Xmas lights, but the residents decorate their front fences with "sheep". It's a nice walk around to see these.
- A local store and coffee stops are within walking distance too! Meredith township and the Hall rep. has again been wonderful to us, so we encourage the friendship by supporting the local businesses.

## Future venues:

20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January – Ayson's Reserve, Elmore

10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> February – Kurth Kiln. Please note, it's along the same track in the same area, but is in a better location. More details later.

A big thank you to all Bushies who phone, send emails or letters to us, or comments now via Facebook, (which is a personal initiative and not a Chapter requirement). It's lovely to hear your news and we're pleased that you want your news circulated to other Bushies.