



Towing Tales

Concord Caravan Club of WA
September

Harvey Caravan Park



We were blessed with beautiful weather for the Monarch's Birthday long weekend this year, and must have got lucky with our travel window, light traffic and no breakdowns. Lush green paddocks and abundant wildflowers made the journey pass quickly and we arrived to Happy Hour in full swing and everyone well settled in.

The new park owners greeted us and advised us to pick our own spot as we were the last ones expected. Despite the extensive renovations clearly in progress, we were able to pick a lovely shady spot, but could have also chosen a spot on the extensive lush grassed area.

By the time we set up and were able to join them all, we had missed the welcome by Robert but Kath had waited to hand out a pamphlet detailing the weekends activities, suggestions of places to visit in town and information about the historical places that she had planned for us to visit.

Graeme had kindly built an old school Bobs Game rack (a kitchen table Billiard game from the 1940'S), and playoffs had started on Friday with much hilarity and friendly banter. The late comers were told their playoff times, everyone broke for dinner, with many joining up later for a drink and a chat.

Another beautiful day dawned on Saturday with an early round of Bobs, followed by morning tea. The Raffle was won by Terry and Sue, Runners up Ray & Lisa and Pat. Kath let us know the set off time for the planned activities.



First stop Harvey Internment Camp No 11 memorial. Kath had organised the key so we were able to enter the main Chapel building which boasted an interesting array of facts, photographs, history covering this fascinating part of 1940's history. The shrine which is now housed inside was particularly moving. The area was surrounded by beautiful gardens and a lovely water wheel.



Next stop was the Harvey River Diversion and Drainage Scheme historical site. A information hut which detailed the history including photos was informative. A wonderful artwork made from shovels now stands over the diverted river and other statues and artifacts have been erected around the gardens making for an interesting stroll.



Back to the caravan park for lunch and more rounds of Bobs and a rest before heading off to Harvey Cheese in the afternoon where we got to partake in yummy cheeses, delicious ice cream and chocolatey treats. The gift shop provided a wonderful selection to choose from. A quick stroll around the grounds before heading off to Wokalup Tavern for dinner.



We all enjoyed a wonderful meal, with great banter and a huge selection of inhouse beers and drinks to choose from. Evening finished with another catch up and chat well into the night.



Sunday was sunny and perfect for another outing, so after another very generous morning tea those inclined headed off to investigate historic Stirling Cottage (home to Sir James Stirling and May Gibbs) The Gardens were lush and tranquil, a charming family of ducks and ducklings being a popular favourite on the shady river. We all enjoyed a stroll around the gardens, dotted with excerpts from the Gumnut stories and historical references.

Adjacent was the Boola Bidi Cultural Centre. It contained an interesting museum and gallery of Aboriginal art, as well as a small shop run by an extremely knowledgeable indigenous custodian who was very helpful and shared her knowledge of the natural products as well as great gardening hints.

After lunch the eagerly awaited and serious business of the Bobs semi-finals was undertaken, which after a close competition saw Terry and Ray the ultimate winners of their rounds to go through to the grand final. All the members gathered to watch the exciting finish, with some very interesting commentary by Wolfgang from his outside position, as well as vigorous cheering and comments from the sidelines. They had saved their best for last, with both of them scoring





the highest scores of the whole competition. Each scored multiple double scores, but despite Terry's very impressive score, Ray finally finished with the win and was awarded first place with a box of chocolates. Wally won the wooden spoon (we won't mention his score) and was awarded a Chocolate Frog.

We had a lovely surprise during Happy Hour with a Facetime call from Jodie, who is now recovering at home. It was great to hear from her and see that she was happy to be home and in good spirits. Everyone was able to say hello and pass on their good wishes.

Stuart thanked Kath for organising excellent entertainment, as well as thanking Graeme for making the Bobs Game pieces, with us all agreeing with a round of applause.

Robert advised that the rally would finish with a 9am morning tea Monday and a reminder to stay safe on the road.

More drinks and chat followed dinner that night (a bit on the chilly side which saw the emergence of Terry's famous boots).

Waking to milder day with the threat of showers we are all packed up, said our goodbyes and headed off having enjoyed another great Club meet.

Your 2024 Committee



**Norma – President, Ericka – Vice President, Graham – Treasurer,
Robert – Secretary, Arthur – Membership, Kath – Entertainment,
Ray – Property, Lisa - Editor**

Thank you to all those who sent photos for consideration.

Cheers Lisa (and Ray)



To view more photos, go to Concord Facebook page





September to October Birthdays

Sept – Terry 14th, Allen & Paul 27th,
Oct - Lyn 2nd, Norma 3rd, Diane 5th, Nancy 27th

For those on the sick list,
we wish you a speedy recovery & hope to see you caravanning soon.

Next Rallies & Events

- Little Eden Pine Camp 25th to 27th October
(book on hicamp see Robert for more information)
- Xmas Dinner 30th Nov
(*and optional*) Swan Valley Tourist Park Rally 29th Nov to 1st December
Xmas Dinner to be a “bring a plate”, Salad or Desert, with cold meat provided by the club. Kath will coordinate what to bring, watch out for her email. We will have Happy Hour at 4.30pm followed by the Xmas dinner at 6.30pm
- Lazy Days Caravan Park 24th Jan to 27th Jan
See Kath for more information
- Donnybrook Transit Park 28th Feb to 3rd March
See Kath for more information

Please assist our Treasurer by listing info on deposits as follows:
SURNAME Event description \$
Eg: EDWARDS Roving Rally \$20

Membership Officer is Arthur Pincham, please check your details & if any changes please let Arthur know npi14709@bigpond.net.au

Safety First Remember that you need to carry 2 fire blankets in your caravan, 1 in the front inside near the Entry Door & 1 in the back, plus 1 extinguisher near the front door. This is for your own safety.

Bookings for your Dairy 2024

All information is on your Rally Calendars

You must contact the Secretary to confirm your booking.

Please note cut off dates for Rallies

If you are not arriving on the due date, PLEASE let the particular caravan park know so they can re book that site for the night or if you require extra days.

Remember To keep your van & valuables locked. They cost too much to replace. Consider installing a tracking device for when your van is unattended and stay safe.

President Norma Pincham - npi14709@bigpond.net.au

Secretary Robert Thomas – rdthomas49@outlook.com

Treasurer Graeme Colmer - gcolmer@westnet.com.au