

Willow Wren Caravan Club Newsletter

21-23 April 2023 Rally



Narrogin Caravan Park

The campers set up in perfect weather at the newly renovated and refurbished Narrogin Caravan Park, and members helped the newcomers to settle in. After the official opening the newcomers, Jenny, Mark, and Margie were warmly welcomed and a toast was made to seal it. Then Geraldine introduced all to Coral, Senior of the Year for the district, who joined us for a BBQ dinner followed by some fun and games and a brief talk on the weekend's activities. Fortunately, no-one else at the Caravan Park wanted to use the Camp Kitchen as it was thoroughly taken over by the rowdy mob. Coral departed with strict instructions to be ready on time the next morning for a full day of activities.



We carpoled to the Visitors Centre where the men were collected by Lester in the bus to see what the Men's Shed in Narrogin are up to.

The ladies walked over the railway bridge in to the big city of Narrogin for sightseeing with some history, shopping and coffee. I think we all managed to find something we couldn't live without, and contributed to the town's coffers, which helped us on our mission to show what good spenders we are in the Willow Wren Club. We then met the men for a lovely lunch at the Nursery, where some of us found a few more items to add to our shopping baskets.



Next was a tour of the town with Lester at the wheel again, and commentary from Coral. Even those familiar with the town discovered some history they hadn't been aware of.



Then it was back to the Info Centre where, surprise! we were piped in by Don Bird and his bagpipes. What a lovely thing for Coral and Geraldine to organise for us!



Then we were given a private tour/talk about the (as yet incomplete) miniature Narrogin Townsite that is being built as a joint project in conjunction with the Shire.

Suffering exhaustion, we headed back to camp to gather our wits for the next outing.

After a quick dinner we carpooled again to head off via the Dryandra Woodland National Park to Barna Mia. After a talk including photos and video, we were taken out into the enclosure where by red torchlight (the animals can be temporarily blinded by ordinary torches) we did as told and stuck to the tracks, and with some temptation (food!)

some of the nocturnal animals came out of hiding. We didn't see every species of brushtail possum, woylie, boodie, quenda, bilby, and the other one no-one had heard of before – mala, but were enthralled with what we did see. Numbats, being diurnal, were not spotted either, but apparently it is becoming more and more common to see in them in the daylight.



It was a wonderful experience and it is highly recommended to those who were not able to attend the rally. There is a free campsite in town, and the caravan park is very good. I think there is also camping at the Dryandra settlement, but certainly cottages to hire there.

After a tiring day we headed back to camp for a quick nightcap before lights out.

Next morning, we met briefly for the formalities and farewells, where Jenny was thanked for taking on the role of photographer extraordinaire for the weekend, Mark for being King of the Car-poolers, and Margie for taking on the newsletter (we are trying to ingratiate ourselves so that we are invited again). Geraldine was thanked wholeheartedly for the fantastic programme, not just the sightseeing but the games and prizes too.

I think Jenny and Mark will agree that it was great fun and I personally would like to say thank you for getting me doing something that I have long wanted to do amongst lovely people and new friends.

Margie



MEMBERS UPDATES

From the Chair

Welcome to the new visitors we had at Narrogin rally - Margaret Parkinson, Mark and Jenny Potts.

Our new banners have arrived and were flown proudly at Narrogin.

Winter is upon us and our numbers are less due to people being away and seeking warmer climes or just away somewhere. This however will never diminish us having enjoyable times away with friends and seeing new locations.

However, just a reminder to all members that an acceptance of rally attendance or an apology is requested for all rallies. There are some among us who do not bother, which is a concern. It's not hard. There is always a phone call to the rally Co-ordinator or Webmaster or myself.

- Does the member receive the communications at all? If not seek assistance.
- Is the member familiar with the website where the accept /apology buttons are located? If not, seek assistance.
- Remember, the acceptable minimum rally attendance is 3 per calendar year. They can be in a caravan, tent, camper van or even a motel/cabin, as has been done by some members over our short existence.

The upcoming Maranup rally will have a committee meeting where we will be discussing the Xmas rally arrangements. Probably there will be the forming of a small committee.

Thank You

To our new intrepid visitors Jenny and Margaret for offering to do the photo's and weekend round-up on their first visit to a club outing and to Geraldine for organising the weekend's activities. Your efforts are truly appreciated by all the members who attended the rally.

Thank you to Coral Mahoney (Winner of the Senior Citizen of the Year) for a very entertaining Saturday and contributor to this edition's recipe of the month.

HARLEQUIN PASTA SALAD – CORAL MAHONEY

INGREDIENTS:

2 cups shell/spiral pasta	1 cup diced red capsicum
450g tin of pineapple pieces drained	3 chopped spring onions
2 sticks of diced celery	¾ cup coleslaw dressing
¼ cup currants/raisins/sultanas	Salt and Pepper, paprika
¼ cup shredded coconut – optional	

METHOD:

Cook pasta until tender. Drain, rinse under cold water, and drain again.
Mix all ingredients, season and chill until needed.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday and many happy returns to:

- ❖ Christine (Chris) Griggspall – 26 April
- ❖ Diane Silcock – 2 May
- ❖ Gary Brown – 10 May
- ❖ Sally Brown – 12 May

Trivia from Narrogin



Did you know

The Salmon gum has been nominated as Western Australia's State Tree and can grow to a height of up to 30 metres. They are very long-lived, perhaps reaching several hundred years of age.

George Brockway was a conservationist who was responsible for the conservation of WA woodlands and the promotion and propagation of our native trees. This salmon gum at Yilliminning was named in his honour in 2019 and can be found at Yilliminning Rock close to Narrogin.



2023 Upcoming Rallies/Gatherings .

May: 19-21 Maranup Ford – Ph 0488600190. Ring park to book. **NB New date**

June : 9-11 York Travellers Rest Caravan Park - Ph 0414510503. Ring park to book.

July : 21-23 Christmas in July at Wannamal Community Hall (Bindoon)
Off-grid camping on the oval for the weekend. Toilets available at the hall - no showers. Hall is equipped with kitchen and indoor games if weather is bad. Room for a huge fire and firewood is available close by.

August : Estuary Hideaway Park, Bouvard. Details on the website soon.

