

Willow Wren Caravan Club Newsletter 8-10 December – Yallingup Rally



The end of year rally for 2023 was held at the Tasman Yallingup Caves caravan park 8th – 10th December. It was very well attended and those who were able to juggle their commitments extended to a four night stay to make the most of the discounted rate offered. The caravan park is directly opposite the historic Caves House, a bakery and small coffee shop and a short walk to the beach either through Caves House gardens or via a track that joins the Cape to Cape trail.

We had 11 vans attending the rally, Jim and Lynne, Ron and Julie, Terry and Geraldine, Colin and Christine, Rod and Helen, Blair and Kathy, Garry and Sandy, Mark and Jenny, Trevor and Christine, Alan and Chris and Didi and Alex. We missed our travellers, Ron, Paul and the two Caroline's and Graham who was unable to attend. No guests were invited however we have several booked in to attend the February rally.



On Friday evening the rally was opened in the outdoor camp kitchen and members cooked a bbq or took advantage of a mobile pizza van on the front lawn.

Saturday morning saw the AGM held under the trees with all the necessary official business presented and office bearers elected for 2024.

Following the AGM it was off to put on the glad rags and head down Caves Road to Woody Nook Winery for our Christmas Lunch.



We were seated in an outdoor under-covered area and greeted with a glass of icy cold bubbles to get the party started. The menu included gnocchi, venison or salmon to start and traditional roast or fish for mains with a choice of two desserts. The kitchen did a splendid job and there were murmurs of appreciation all round.

There was just enough time for a little nap before the second Christmas of the day took off in the recreation room. Ron and Julie had arranged a “pin the bell on the Santa” game which caused great hilarity as blindfolded folk tried to find an

appropriate spot to stick their bell. Fortunately no accidents were caused by Julies enthusiastic spinning of the blindfolded members and Garry took out the chocolates with a well placed bell at the end of the game.



Everyone brought along a plate to share and surprisingly we found the appetite to get through a substantial amount of it before the next activity of secret Santa. Kathy and Blair had devised some sneaky rules with random people getting the chance to steal a gift and one lucky (Helen) getting a wildcard to create havoc and steal anyones gift at the very end. Julie had her heart broken twice losing not one but two gifts but the ever gallant Alex saved the day and re-gifted her stolen prize.

There was a lot of thought put into the gifts with a strong caravanning theme which made the stealing much more competitive.

The rally was officially closed on Sunday morning but as many were able to stay longer, there were a few “unofficial” activities organised on the days pre and post the official rally which included a scrumptious high tea at Cape Lodge on Friday afternoon, a dinner or two at Caves House, and games of bocce and horse racing.

Gary and Sandy introduced us to yet another way to part people from their 20c with a horse racing game that involved 3 hobby horses, coloured dice and a grid laden bed sheet. Loads of fun and hopefully the horses will return to a future rally.

The bocce turned into a Stewart play off with Jim winning the competition between the men and Lynne winning the competition between the women.



New committee for 2024

Chair – Christine Steer

Vice Chair – Ron Davey

Secretary - Helen Dymond

Treasurer – Blair Shackleton

Rally Coordinator – Jim Stewart

Webmaster – Kathy Shackleton

Registrar – Sandy Smith

General Member – Trevor Prebble



Special thanks to Geraldine and Colin who both stepped down from their positions having served on the committee since inception.

Helen

MEMBERS UPDATES

Upcoming Birthdays in 2024

Happy Birthday and many happy returns to those celebrating birthdays in January

- ❖ Sandy Smith – 3rd January
- ❖ Ron Davey – 6th January
- ❖ Alan Griggspall – 12th February



2024 Upcoming Rallies/Gatherings.

February: 23-25 Big Valley Caravan Park, Margaret River – 46 Boronia Rd, Rosa Glen

March : 15-17 Pinjarrah Park – 326 Pinjarra-Williams Rd, Blythewood (Pinjarra)



All Rallies are advertised on the website with full details





And that's a wrap for 2023. Merry Christmas to all and here's to seeing you all in 2024.