

COROMAL CAPERS

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Committee for 2011-2012

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DISCLAIMER: The news items, reports, comments and views expressed in this newsletter are by individuals and do not necessarily express the views of the CCC members.

Future Rallies:

June 8-11 Anna Bay.

Venue, BAYS HOLIDAY PARK,
Activities –TBA.
Your Host/Organisers Steve & Wendy Lloyd

July 6-8 Robertson.

Venue, Robertson Show Ground,
Activities – Christmas in July & General Meeting.
Your Hosts/Organisers, Robert & Deborah Knoke.

August 10-12 Patonga.

Venue, Patonga Camping Area,
Activities – TBA.
Hosts/Organisers TBA

September 7-9 Camden.

Venue, Poplar Tourist Park,
Activities – General Meeting.
Your Hosts/Organisers, Robert & Deborah Knoke.

If you are able to assist as a Rally Host, please contact Darryl.

Members News

Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers
Pauline & Bruce Lester: Bruce is in hospital undergoing treatment again
Yvonne Brady is very unwell and undergoing medical treatment.

Val Cannon has had good news and it was great to see her and Neville at Macquarie Woods
Congratulations to Leonie & Kevin for becoming grandparents again

A Message from Janice MacMahon.

A few months ago I spoke to Ben about doing the newsletter again as I felt it was a shame that we have not had one for several years now. By the time the committee had met and made a decision we were due going to be away for 4 months, as I was not going to be home to do the first one Sue Milne put her hand up to help out. I have to give a big "thank you" to Sue Milne for putting her hand up to do this issue. Sue Milne was our first newsletter editor, so I have big shoes to fill to do as good a job as she did.

Where are we, you may ask? Stephen and I, along with several other Coromal Club Members, (see attached photo) are travelling around Australia. We all met in Dubbo, straight after the Easter Rally, and have now been on the road for just over 4 weeks. From Dubbo we travelled to Cobar, Broken Hill, Wilpenda Pound, Port Augusta, Woomera, Coober Pedy, Yulara (Ayers Rock) to Alice Springs; this is where we are now. The weather has been just perfect for us and we are all having a great time travelling together. From here we head up to Darwin and should be there in 2 and a bit weeks. From Darwin the group will split with some going west and some going east, we are going east and will be catching up with our son in Noosa and other family members along the coast.

We will be home late July ready for the next issue of "The Coromal Capers".

Janice MacMahon



LASTEST REPORT from our travellers
On the 29th May they had made it to Darwin after seven weeks on the road.

Acting Editor's Note

The committee and membership have agreed to the reintroduction of **Coromal Capers** as a means of circulating upcoming and past occurrences to our members.

Future editions will feature a Presidents Report, list Future Rallies, previous Rally Reports including Images offered by the hosts/organisers or other willing participants, Committee members and their Contact details, recipes, birthdays, anniversaries, jokes, introduction of new members, helpful hints etc.

Members will be required to submit articles, so jot down items and send them through to the editor. The editor shall have the final say as to what is published, so they have the right to edit articles forwarded. Janice MacMahon has accepted the roll of editor through to the October 2012 where the position will need to be filled from nominees offered to the incoming committee to select from.

In the meantime, as Janice is away touring the inland, I have offered to publish the magazine you are currently perusing,
Sue. (initial Editor 2007-2009)

Acting President's Report

The club is progressing very well, a conclusion I've reached from the outcome of two recent general meetings. The membership has consolidated behind resolutions into the future of the club. Further details can be found in the minutes of first one contained at the rear of the magazine. There will be general meetings conducted every second rally and these will be brief and generally informative. Coromal Capers has been reintroduced to keep members more informed of club events as they happen. Rally venues have been geographically expanded to cater more equally to the membership. There will be 3 x Northern, 3 x Southern, 3 x Western as per the past but now there has been 3 x Far Western introduced to cater to the distant members. For coastal members this equates to 9 x rallies with equivalent distances as per previous, however it allows far western members 6 x rallies per year with equivalent travelling distances. Obviously there will be those whom are able to travel to all 12 as per previous, lucky people, ah retirement must be so good. The Christmas Rally for 2012 will be more central for all members, hence we are currently looking at a venue near Lithgow. Details will follow once the venue is confirmed.

Note: We still require rally hosts/organisers for Patonga in August so please if you live around the Central Coast and are familiar with them, consult with Darryl and arrange some activities.

Venues for 2013 are still being sort, so with the general locations being outlined above, please put your thinking caps on and put suggestions to Darryl and offer to host/organise the venues you put forward, basically sell the location to him so he takes you up on it.

Concluding on a sadder note, the membership would be aware of the passing of Frank's & Kate's eldest son Mark. This has been an extremely upsetting time for their family and we do acknowledge their temporary absence from club outings whilst they regroup as a family.

State Delegate Report

The State Rally at Forbes was quite successful despite the rain. A number of vans cancelled due to the weather and the inability to get to Forbes. Most vans vacated on the Sunday at the advice of the local police as the river was expected to rise and flood the area. Coromal members went onto Bathurst to the club rally and the weather was not too bad.

The 2013 State Rally will be held at Kempsey and bookings are invited to be lodged with the State Secretary. The venue looks good and the State committee will be holding its meeting there in November 2012 to check it out.

The State rally committee advised all members to check about the 'fail safe' brake system. According to legislation there should be a light on the dash board to indicate that the system is working. However, it appears that the Authorised Inspection Stations is registering without checking this item. One must always be careful.

The Tamworth Caravan Club sent a letter regarding the cost of registering vans in NSW as against the cost of registering in other states. The advise is 'Take Care' it may not be cost effective if there is an accident and it comes out that the van is actually domiciled in NSW the insurance may be nullified. The matter will be passed onto Motouring the organisation set up to deal with this kind of complaint.

Jeanette Burton-Brown State Delegate

Bathurst Rally Report, 9th, 10th, 11th March 2012.



The entire camp, all twenty four of us at the Bathurst Showground.

The week prior was off to a shaky start as the weather wasn't being too kind to us, as all whom attended the Forbes State Rally just prior would know. Eventually the rain cleared and the much publicised surrounding flood waters resided, Phew, What a relief. Now it was just a case of convincing attending members that the showground wasn't underwater as was being alleged, a simple image emailed out clarified the situation and whalla, 24 vans out of 27 arrived, only three cancelled.

Friday evening saw a Birthday Bash for the Birthday Boy, yes Gary turned a year older on this day.



A few of the Chicks and Roosters gathered in the Poultry Pavilion.



Ah shucks, all this for me, gees thanks folks

We had a collection of hens and roosters gathered in the awkwardly named "Poultry Pavilion" for the evening's entertainment, Judith Durham, Athol Guy, Bruce Woodley & Keith Potger sang songs from the past, yes it was The Seekers verbrating from Vinyl spinning on the turntable folks, so whilst the "**Train Whistle**" was blowing members gathered to socialise and reminisce about "**Georgy Girl**".

Saturday dawned to be a cracker of a day. After a very casual start for most Ian eventually sorted whom was attending the Navigation Trial and had them congregate at the Tourist Information Centre just across the road basically. You know how the best plans go awry at the last moment, this was to be no exception as the prized centre of joy, The 1909 BRUSH car was missing, yes council had it removed as new carpet was going to be installed, so rather than seeing the first car to come west of the mountains for themselves I had to tell participants about it, Bugga it's just not the same, is it? With the introduction done it was each participants turn to move off and follow the instructions provided to find their way around Bathurst and the surrounds. This little jaunt completed at Burgess Caravan Centre just to introduce members to a Comprehensive Service Centre west of the mountains. It was at this location each couples questionnaire was retrieved and set aside to be scored. From here couples either went into town & sourced their lunch or returned to the Showground

After a lunch break it was off to Chifley Cottage where members learnt of the prime ministry under Joseph Benedick Chifley, Ben Chifley. Members were amused that a Prime Minister was able to conduct a catch up with the neighbours and surrounding community over the back fence. We agreed the current mob just don't get that down to earth feedback no more hence the ludicrous policies we end up with. All noted just how basic a home this post war prime minister and wife Elizabeth lived in.



That's the kitchen. Members in front of the cottage

Immediately following the Chifley Cottage we made our way to the National Motor Racing Museum located at the base of Mount Panorama. On admission we were ushered into the theatre for a presentation. I have to seriously apologise, as the presentation in my view was **appalling** in a word. The previous presentation was actual filmed footage from years ago, not the current **flick a pic** of more current day events. I'm not sure whom wants to see this rubbish but I sure didn't, I wanted to see footage from the past, it is a museum supposedly. Moving on, we then made our way around the display of motor vehicles and it was also ordinary in my view, it has been expanded considerably, however it has been filled with vehicles of little interest, the current management has obviously lost the plot. The fact that most attendees went directly to the coffee shop pretty much confirms my summing up of the display. Should send a copy of this report to them to get the feedback they obviously require. Once we left here most made their way back to the Show ground but a few die hard rev heads made their way to the top of the Mount Panorama Circuit for a view towards the Blue Mountains that is just superb, awesome actually.



Viewing the Commodore that won the Round Oz Rally

Once curiosities were answered we made our way to Bathurst Railway Station where Steam Locomotive 5112 is on display. This is the locomotive one Ben Chifley used to drive, yes before he was Prime Minister of Australia he was treasurer and before that, a humble Train Driver, how awesome was that? This should encourage all to follow your dreams.



Steam Locomotive 5112

From here we ventured back to the Showground where attending members were encouraged to relax and partake in happy hour whilst a evening meal of Sirloin Steaks, Sausages, Onion, Boiled Eggs, Pineapple Rings, Beetroot and Salads - Tossed, Noodle, & Potato were prepared and presented ready for all to just get up, serve, sit and eat. How good was that? Now it is time to thank those that insisted on helping forgoing happy hour. They were, Annette & Jeanette Brown whom spent the afternoon preparing the afore mentioned dishes whilst Doug, Darryl & Rob Noack insisted on helping at the BBQ Plates.



Members and Visitors enjoying the evening BBQ

I have no doubt others assisted whilst I was busy cooking Steaks, so if I've missed you take a bow anyhow, you will have earned it. After the main meal we enjoyed deserts that were organised by Jeanette Noack, Janice and Annette. During this time we also enjoyed another Birthday Celebration, Frank Hopkins celebrated his 70th with us one week early, Marree organised a Cheese Cake to share along with the other deserts, wow what a feed, no one had any reason to go hungry. We had some visitors join us to partake in dinner and watch the subsequent viewing of the Cape York DVD, they were Pat & Marg, Errol & Jan whom are members of the Central West 4WD Club.

After a brief talkfest members congregated in the pavilion ready for the DVD. Prior to the viewing it was explained why this DVD had been chosen. It was to highlight the admiration of one Darryl Raasch, our Rally Coordinator whom in 2010 took on this trip in his Hyundai Terican demonstrating that if you have the correct amount of preparation and the correct assistance plus the desire and ability, there is no limit to your horizons, just go do it. After Cape York this chap went on to traverse the Simpson Desert as well and since then, the Canning Stock Route in 2011, Wow!!!!!!!After the completion of the DVD presentation it was determined by most that the bed was calling, besides tomorrow required an early start.

Sunday morning also dawned a cracker. After a quick brekkie it was into the cars headed towards Abercrombie Estate. Once greeted a run down on this estate from the past was described to our members prior to entering where the impact was just WOW! As we wandered throughout this majestic house, much was learnt of its origins and subsequent demise prior to the Morgan family acquiring it and making it their home. It is apparent their restoration is meeting with approval due to the complimentary comments made. Having been fortunate enough to have toured the home in 2005, I was most pleased to see ornate restoration continued to take place. After our tour was completed we partook in morning tea on the veranda just to complete this special interaction from an era of the past.



Wow, is this for real? Just Awesome



We moved from the veranda to the front lawns for our group photo. This took longer than anticipated as cameras just kept appearing for yet another shot. From here we wandered down to view the horse stables, both the Clydesdales draft horses (work) and those utilised by Cobb & Co.'s travelling horses of the bygone era of transport. It was at this point Ian gave all the results of the Navigation Tour that was conducted Saturday morning.

Congratulations went to Darryl, Margaret & Craig whom won by the finest of margins,

3 points from a tied second of Doug & Joan Cramp, Rob & Jeanette Noack. Then came the trio of the Brunton's, the Hopkin's & MacMahon's all on the same points. That's where the tied points stopped after which we had the Newton's, Allen's – Jones's, Marshall's, Morris's, Dezman's, Buckingham's, Clark – Gardiner, Smith's finalising the event. The best comment of the event came from a couple whom were lost and had found their way to the Perthville Hotel. Upon Ian's suggestion he'd come and guide them home they replied, "Don't want to come back, we're happy here thanks". The best answer to a question had to come from Kathryn's observant eye.

Q). What structure is at the peak of Stewart Mount?

A). Phallic Symbol.

Now you may laugh but Ian had to look this term up. Phallic – refer to Phallus, it's not looking good. Phallus – Stage of Psychosexual Development, What? Merrilee should look away at this point.

Erect Human Penis.

Kathryn was obviously getting a very different view to everyone else from the passenger seat of John's vehicle. Kathryn, you were meant to be looking up outside of the vehicle to see an Obelisk. Gosh, what a ripper of an answer. Trust our Kathryn to have us all in stitches of laughter, mind you we didn't see John after the event, so just what did occur at Stewarts Mount? Once the laughter subsided all made their respective ways back to the showground. As per usual, some had to pack & make their way home with various commitments pending.

Sunday afternoon saw no interest in attending Ben Chifley Dam, so the balance sat around and socialised prior to happy hour and that evenings various meals. Some inspected the newer vans that have been acquired into the club. Ian spent the afternoon addressing electrical circuits & fuses in Steve's & Janice's new van. Marree was also keen to show Ian thru their new van, highlighting the alternative escape thru their large European style windows which he was tempted to utilise apart from the fact he'd probably break a leg in the resultant fall, so the door was utilised.

After the evening meal it was back to the pavilion for a DVD presentation of the 2011 Tag-a-long. After this couples retired and that concluded a brilliantly well organised patronised weekend.

A Huge Thank You To All Participants.
Report and photos from Ian and Annette Weal

Don't Freeze Your Heater

A timely reminder to all members to drain their water lines & HWS in Shower Toilet Model vans during the Winter Months. This will avoid an expensive repair should a cold snap/frost freeze the waterlines HWS. In the winter months, owners of Shower Toilet Vans who live in cooler climates should be vigilant in regard to cold weather and frosts. In the event of water freezing in your van water lines, the damage bill can be enormous, hence the following is advised.

Drain excess water from your water lines by means of turning off the water pump, turn on all internal taps partially, and then the external tap on the drawbar. This action allows some water to siphon out of your lines and should residual water freeze, it is no longer under pressure, hence it is less likely to cause damage to your water lines. Now, switch off your HWS (if it is on). Locate your HWS release valve located externally under your van close to the HWS. (Note: The HWS needs to be cold to avoid scalding yourself. If the HWS is hot, let it cool before attempting the following). Activate the release valve by hinging the lever back and leave it released. Some water will run down your arm. Next, open your HWS door and activate the release valve at the top of your tank. Water should flow out the lower release valve. You could completely empty the HWS this way. However all you need do is drain a portion off to allow for expansion in the event the HWS freezes. Now, let the top release valve return to it's normal position. You have done as much as you can to avoid damage to your water lines.

Do not turn your HWS on again until you fill it with water. (Stick a reminder on the switch) To refill, climb back under the van and let the release valve return to it's normal position. Turn off all taps again, including the external drawbar tap, with the exception of the Hot Tap over the sink. Apply water to the system by external source or turn on the water pump and pump water from your tanks into the system. When you get an even flow at the tap with no air, it is safe to activate your HWS. Check all parts of your water system for leaks. If you discover a leak, cut the water supply and have it fixed prior to causing water damage to your pride and joy. An occasional drip from the HWS release valve is normal, as the water expands under heat and the valve is doing it's job.

Regards to all, Ian Weal. (taken from an earlier edition, but a good time for a reminder)

Macquarie Woods Rally Easter 2012

We had to adjust to a new camp site because of some rather nasty folks had set up camp on the usual site. We didn't need them as neighbours anyway and we ended up being a little more private along the road. This time we were nearer the water and Thursday morning the frogs gave us a lovely example of their choir work. The vans that arrived early had fun choosing sites, looking for ones that were level enough or working out how many chocks would be needed to make their van level.



By Thursday evening we had 7 vans in camp and because the weather was so fresh we didn't do a lot of social gathering at any central point but there was a bit of van hopping going on. Why were there so many folks holding hot coffee/mugs so tightly?

Friday morning saw the usual early rises up and about.....Rob walking André, Darryl walking Lilly, Neville and Thomas off to their yabby pots, all walking briskly in the light mist.



After nine o'clock the camp came alive and I suspect that had something to do with us getting the gear out to erect the marquee. A lot of discussion took place as to where to put it and how to erect it. Where were Joan and Doug, or Frank and Kate? Or whoever else had had experience; they knew how to do it. So we adapted the logical approach and well it went up easy, we were all talking to each other and working to a system. Well done folks.



Most folks took it easy and assisted other vans as they arrived. There was a little exploring around the site and lots of happy chatter. I would have loved to have done a tally of the tea/coffee that drunk that day.

We had one of the same rangers from last year, you remember that very handsome young chap, he remembered us and wanted to know if we were going to break our record from last year for the number of beer cans we were going to empty. What a thing to be remembered for?

After lunch some of us went for a drive around the forest only the whole northern section was locked to visitors because of the work going on, so we explored the southern part then went



over to "White Rocks" and those fabulous view over to the Macquarie.

Happy hour under the marquee had a very relaxed element about it. Darryl took a small group spotlighting but there seem to be more rabbits running around the campsite so we didn't have to venture very far.



Most folk seem to make an early night of it.

Saturday morning was all go around the site, Ian was repairing problem vans. After morning tea a number of us went into town via Lucknow where we had a compulsory stop at “Two Fat Ladies” a shopaholic’s delight for unusual clothes and nick/knacks.

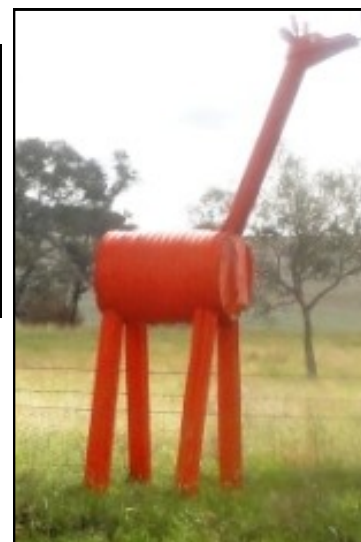
Next stop was at Woolies, new supermarket in north Orange for supplies for the day. A few extra food items, fresh bread, tap up the grog, Easter eggs before we headed out to Burrendong Dam. As we drove through the country side point of interest were pointed by yours truly.



A bit of lunch near the dam wall before we headed into Wellington then further onto the village of Yeoval. It was here where folks were show some of the local stonemasons work along the creek on the history of the village. The house where “Banjo” Paterson lived as a child was just around the creek bend.



On the drive back from Yeoval we had many stops to view the animals on bikes. This was a project by the locals to tidy up some of the farm machinery and make sculptures along the road. (See either our webpage or the webpage “Animals on Bike”



We had a longer stop at Cumnock at Lou’s where you can get Wheelie, Wheelie good food. That what the sign says. And we did have a lovely afternoon tea.

On returning to Orange we all went our separate ways...food, petrol....things that I had forgotten but managed to arrive back at camp all nearly at the same time. Ian was still working on vans.

Happy Hour was much colder than the previous evening and most folks retire early to their vans or gathered in small groups for tea then further drinks and a chat.



Easter Sunday, the temperature remained low and the wind was bone biting, so folks rugged up. Some went off for the day, while others did running repairs to their vans or talking about the latest gadget. Ian was worn out. It was fairly quite on most fronts until the meeting in the afternoon. (See minutes on the web-

page)



We arranged to meet in the marquee for tea but only a few turned up and the wind had dropped the temperature a few more degrees. Those that were there enjoyed each others company. But the night didn't draw on and most folks made an early night



Monday morning saw those left gather for a group photo down by the dam then most of the vans disappear after we pulled the marquee down. Those that stayed on were to leave for Dubbo the next morning and the great adventure to Central Australia. Ian was still doing repairs to vans.



Neville shared his yabbies with everyone at happy hour and properly had a few converts to the art of yabby nets.

It had been a more relaxed weekend with folks doing what they wanted, and I'm sure most would say that they enjoyed the change of pace. It is an area where you could be on the move all weekend and only see some of the high lights and that's always a good idea to have some reason to come back to this area.



Written by Elizabeth Griffin (rally Host)
Photos Sue Milne



Did anyone spot this sculpture on the way back from Yeoval?

The chicken had flown the coop and was at the Royal Easter Show.

Website of "Animals on Bikes"

<http://www.animalsonbikes.com.au/>