

FREEDOM CARAVANNERS MARCH 2022 RALLY

QUAIRADING/ WHITE GUM FARM

Quairading is an old country town, but with new and great facilities. Like most wheatbelt towns these days they seem to be struggling with a lot of shops closed and others only opening on certain days. However, the 6 vans attending our March rally were all in place by midday with Tony and Tilly first ones in (chalk that one up!)

The caravan park looks quite new and is well laid out with lots of green lawn, clean modern facilities, close to town, swimming pool and bowling club, all for patrons to use for free if staying in the park. Tuesday afternoon tea turned in to happy hour, which turned in to dinner with everyone catching up on all the news. Etc



the ladies who set up the long table for us. After lunch most of us walked back to the Museum...opened especially for us to view. Like a lot of wheatbelt towns of around the early 1900's, the town revolved around the railways, which made a big difference to travel and grain transport. In the late afternoon the boys very bravely challenged the girls to a game of Klop, which I might boldly report the boys won 2-1. The evening saw us having a BBQ, with salads to share. Well done to the ladies who all made different but enjoyable dishes. In the evening we played the Buzzer game, which requires a steady hand (very steady hand). One of the men who was with a group of workers staying at the park proved to be the best. After a glass of Port or two, we all retired around 10pm.



Thursday morning the men went off to the Vintage tractor museum, which is a little different, as it is part of the Men's shed, and they were in the process of restoring several pieces of machinery. Then it was off to Toapin Weir for a picnic lunch. Toapin Weir is a designated short stay camping site and would be a lovely place to overnight, although the camping area for caravanners is quite small. The weir was constructed in 1912 and is part of the largest privately constructed water scheme in WA. A climb to the top of the rock was rewarded with great views in all directions. Arriving back in town, it was time for a nana nap, followed later afternoon with Disc Bowls, with an all men's final. Tony and Tilly, Karen and Derek walked up to the Pub for dinner. The new owners had just taken over and informed us we were their first dinner customers. Hope it all goes well for them.

Friday we were all packed up and left the park by 9.30am, stopping in town for coffee and cake as we only had a short drive to White Gum farm. After Quairading, the facilities here are not overly flash, with 3 caravans squeezed into one site and with ablutions not quite like we were used too. It was quite a hot day, so it was a lazy afternoon until it cooled off and then we played Bean bag toss. Obviously, the girls are better than the boys at throwing things as they won 3 games 1. Must be the boys turn to need more practise. Happy hour then dinner and in the evening, we played Charades..." great fun" topped off the evening with Port and Baileys.

Saturday morning, we buddied up for the drive into York. Of course, the first stop was to the bakery for coffee and cake. Tony received a fair bit of ribbing, when he revealed he had only ordered coffee for himself and Tilly. He managed to keep a straight face until the coffee arrived at the table with the biggest Apple and cream turnover cut in half. The remainder of the morning we spent exploring and shopping and spending \$\$\$ in the town. We all gathered in the park by the river for lunch and later a game of Ladder Golf. Once again, the ladies beat the men 3-1. Oh well, back to the training f men. Back to White Gum Farm for happy hour and a club meeting. or us men. Back to White Gum Farm for happy hour and a club meeting



In the evening we played Left,

Right, Centre.

Sunday, weather wise was quite humid with cloud cover and the odd spit of rain. A lazy day was had by all and in the early evening we all walked over to the restaurant to watch the football on the big screen and have an enjoyable meal. There is a lovely outdoor area, cold drinks, and great food. It was an enjoyable evening. Back to Tony's van for a Port and then off to bed.

Monday morning was pack up time and head for home after a very enjoyable week. Once again, thanks to Tony and Tilly for their efforts and to everyone for participating.

Derek Nathan

Chairman