

## Freedom Caravanners Wagin Rally Sept 2023

The first white settlers arrived in Wagin around 1840. Freedom Caravan Club members arrived in 2023. Why did we leave it so long???? Wagin, which is an aboriginal word meaning “Emus watering place” was proclaimed a town in 1889 and became the centre of a large wool and grain growing area.

The caravan park which is operated by the Shire Council is neat and tidy with good facilities. We had all arrived by Friday mid afternoon and so happy hour was time for catching up with everyone. Several of our members have been away travelling post Barmera National Rally. Friday evening saw us all at the local Palace Hotel for dinner. Cheery staff, great food and typical old country pub surroundings made for a very pleasant evening.

On Saturday morning we had a club meeting combined with morning tea, including the beautiful scones, jam, and cream supplied by Karyn & Peter and then it was off on a tag along. First stop was the Ram Park, which was just around the corner. “Baart”



the ram was built in 1985 and weighs in at 3.5

tonne. We then moved on to Wagin Historical Village. This venue is well worth a visit. There are 26 either original or rebuilt buildings displaying their furniture, fittings and equipment from bygone days. Allow at least a couple of hours to look



around.

We

then drove over to Dumbleyung for a picnic lunch. The display and replica of Donald Campbell's world water speed record is well worth a visit. On our way home we called into Lake Dumbleyung to see where it all happened. If you are travelling that way, make sure you drive up to the lookout, where you can see the whole lake. It would have been an awe inspiring sight to see the jet powered boat skimming across the water at over 400km per hour. Back to Wagin for happy hour. Saturday night dinner was a shared Italian dinner and it was beautiful food. Not one double up on the menu.

A very enjoyable day except in the evening the Mossies were about the size of spitfire planes and eventually drove us inside.



Sunday was billed as an easy day and after a leisurely morning tea, some of us went for a drive around town and back for lunch and a nanna nap. In the afternoon we played Klop...girls v boys. The first 2 games the boys won easily, then the girls got their eye in and much to our embarrassment the girls won 5 games to the boys 4. Anyway, Desley took pity on us and so it was choccie frogs all round. Unfortunately the Mozzies drove us inside again this evening and so it was an early night.

Monday morning and we were all packed up and heading for home by midmorning. Wagin town and surrounding area is a great place to visit with plenty of places of interest to visit and we all enjoyed our stay.

Derek Nathan

Chairman