



ABN 62 842 468 219

A Van Advocate

Sydney-Central Coast A Van Group Inc.
The Club for all types of A'Vans

Web: <http://www.sccavanners.com>

Nov, 2014—Volume 4/2014



The 2014 committee would like to extend to all members best wishes for the Christmas season. Safe driving and much more caravanning in 2015.

We hope everyone enjoys the Norah Head gathering.

Program report

✓ The AGM gathering at Norah Head is promising to be a big one with around 80 people coming to the dinner dance and many doing other activities. This is the gathering of the year. I hope you all enjoy it.

✓ By contrast we only get small numbers at gatherings during the year. I haven't worked that one out yet.

✓ The Tasmanian trip has only two vans going at this time. There is room for more but don't delay if you are interested. If you would like more Information the itinerary is on the Avan website or you can contact me at **sccavan.program@gmail.com** or telephone **4976 3635** to show your interest.

✓ The Mix'N'Match gathering for March next year has no takers yet. There is information on the website and also enclosed with hard copy newsletters. I can personally recommend the Nundle segment of this and the other parts, including Lake Keepit should also be interesting.

✓ Having said there is information on our website, does anyone have difficulty accessing the information. If no one complains we won't know. Do you all know the password to the members' page? Any Committee member will tell you if you don't know.

✓ There are eight vans currently at Windang for the Melbourne Cup gathering. I trust you are all enjoying yourselves.

✓ The 2015 program will be available at Norah Head and I believe there will be at least a couple of gatherings which will appeal to you. We will also have a member sponsored facility soon and this may provide some flexibility.

✓ Happy Trails.....Kevin

Welfare Report



We send our congratulations to **Glenda and Larry Day** on the arrival of a new Grandson and **Margaret and Fred Crowe** on the arrival of twin Grandchildren a girl and a boy.

Also best wishes to **Anita and Ron O'Neil** who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Get well and quick recovery wishes to:

- Mike Hall after a very nasty cut to his hand narrowly missing the tendons,
- John Brown had a night in Leigh Creek Hospital during our trip to the Flinders Rangers with some irregular heart rhythm (Arrhythmia), now home and with doctor and Elaine's great care on the road to recovery.

Some updates:

- Anne and Bob Corbett are doing well and going on their cruise, (to celebrate their good health I think)
- Tom Thomas is feeling a little bit of relief after Cortisone injections for his herniated back disc,
- It will be great to see Joan and Clive Smith at Norah Head now Clive has passed his medical and driving test to get his licence back after RTA cancelled it without warning.

Our thoughts and best wishes go out to **Kay and Robert Parrott** who have lost 3 close members of their family this year and having their own serious medical health problems to deal with,

Robert and I are looking forward to seeing you all at Norah Head.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and lots of Avanning for 2015.

Barb.



★ Norah Head Christmas Gathering and AGM

★ Just a few reminders:

- ★ • If you wish to decorate your van with Christmas lights they will be judged on Saturday evening while we are at the dinner dance. Good luck everyone.
- ★ • We will be holding the trading tables again this year so if you have anything you would like to sell, bring it along.
- ★ • The Rock Pool walk and History Tour have proved very popular, as well as the light house tour. The history tour can only accommodate 30 people at a time, so as a result of this we are adding an extra walk on Monday afternoon. We hope some people are willing to change to this day, so that everyone will fit in. Bring along closed in shoes for all of these events as well as a hat and sunscreen.
- ★ • The sausage sizzle will be held once again on Sunday. We hope those who are leaving early are able to stay for this as well.
- ★ • AVanners have talent—We have a few acts booked but if anyone else is willing to entertain the rest of us please let June know. It should be lots of fun. The audience will also be participating , so be aware!!!



Presidents message

The following information has been provided by National Association of Caravan Clubs Ltd (NACC) with whom the AVan Group is affiliated through the NSW Caravans Association.

NACC Benefits Scheme

In September 2013, NACC successfully negotiated with Ken Tame & Assoc. to gain access to their RV Insurance products. Members of the AVan group may wish to pursue this insurance through the NACC by completing a registration form, available from our secretary, Mike Hall, email sccavan@bigpond.com or download from NACC website www.nacc.asn.au. An office bearer from our club has to sign the form and a registration fee of \$5.00 PA is payable either by cheque or direct deposit to NACC. (Account details available from Mike Hall). Telephone 9484 7604 – 0412 274 419. **Ken Tame RV Insurance is not available to the general public.**

The NACC RV Insurance Program provides the following benefits, specifically for recreational vehicles:

- Accidental loss or damage to your vehicle or van, cover includes all fixed accessories, fittings and/or appliances anywhere in Australia
- Accidental breakage of windscreen and glass cover
- Towing and storage cover as a result of an accident
- 24hr Emergency Towing assistance as a result of an electrical or mechanical breakdown - Phone 1800 731 912 and tell them you are with the KTA RV Insurance scheme.
- Hire of replacement vehicle if your vehicle is stolen
- Third party legal liability property damage cover for \$20,000,000
- Up to \$500 emergency temporary repairs cover
- Repatriation costs to return to family home after major accident
- Cover for your tinnies and inflatable dinghies
- Automatic \$2,000 contents and personal belongings cover whilst contained within your vehicle or van. (additional cover can be purchased)
- Alternative accommodation cover while vehicle is being repaired after a coverable accident or loss

Disclaimer

Information provided in relation to the NACC RV Insurance scheme is of a general nature and is non-specific. You need to determine if this product is appropriate after considering all policy documentation and other information provided.

Sydney Central Coast AVan Web Site: www.sccavanners.com

Have you checked out our clubs new look Web page?? If not do it now—it is being updated regularly with information about gatherings and other things. We also want your feedback re what else you would like to see. There is a possibility of a blog page—we can have a recipe page—a question and answer page—endless possibilities.

Let Herman know what you would like to see.

Photo update: Members photos have now been placed on the members page and many photos make people appear 10 years younger. If you have a better more recent photo email it to Herman so he can update it.

Herman's contact: sccavan.webmaster@gmail.com

Gathering News

A Brief Report on the "Outback Adventure" - 4th August 2014 to 18th August 2014

Report by Tom Thomas:

Seven vans finally made it to the starting line after a couple of late scratchings, and the first "happy hour" got under way at Nyngan under blue skies and a promise for many more.

Day 2 had us travelling at our own pace via either Cobar or Bourke, and eating large volumes of outback dust, to our first major destination of Trilby Station via the little town of Louth which comes alive for the second weekend of August every year.

A'vans are notorious for leaking dust, and leaking dust is what most of them did. We were nonetheless all set up, cleaned up and washing all the dust down with the appropriate fluids well before the scheduled happy hour, so Mr President, you would be proud of us all LOL!! Huge and glorious camp fires in the very mature fire pit are a feature of stays at Trilby in winter - and a big thank you to our specialist pyromaniac JB (John Brown) (with trainee helpers) for a sterling effort.

Activities at Louth included a one stick golf day in aid of the RFDS, a mud map tour of a part of Trilby (including the old homestead, and a bogged goat rescue) , the local school fete (4 students there at present), river walks, and of course the main Race Day on the Saturday. This was all interspersed with happy hours, social intercourse and periods of sleep.

Race day in and out of our marquee went well, with most but not all of us returning the expected financial loss on the horses, and generally soaking up the atmosphere. It's not the sort of thing we would do every year, but once in a while (read once in a lifetime perhaps.. ??) it is an interesting and worthwhile experience.

I think we all enjoyed the time at Trilby I know Lyn and I did.

Stage 2 of the "Adventure" was a stay at Rawnsley Park Station in the Flinders Ranges of South Australia - we all got there at our own pace, with a stopover at Broken Hill, and a group dinner at the Demo Club, suggested and set up by the Young's thank you Robert and Barb.

After a couple of nice days at Rawnsley, the weather took a turn for the worse and made conditions a bit moist. The Flinders Ranges NP is a very scenic precinct, and we took in the main points of interest over our stay. We worked our way through the Bunyeroo/ Brachina gorges, Aroona Valley, Moralana Scenic Drive, the old Blinman copper mine, Parachilna Gorge, the Prairie Hotel (feral food) and much more. We ate at the Woolshed Restaurant - impressions varied from very nice to just OK, but generally *too* expensive. It's gone up market, but we feel it *ain't* as good as it used to be.

We had camp fires when possible, though after Trilby where unlimited supplies of wood were provided and the weather was perfect, there was a major wind chill (and moisture on a couple of evenings), and wood at \$15/bag put a damper on things such that damper was off the menu!! We did manage a few nice fires nonetheless. A very nice camp kitchen is now available at Rawnsley, which was a godsend on a couple of occasions.

Three vans departed on 17/8 to travel further afield; 2 couples (without vans) went up to Arkaroola on the 18/8 to round off the experience. The other 2 departed Rawnsley on the 18th & 19/8.

Lyn and I would like to thank you all for attending we certainly enjoyed the experience (we always do in the Flinders), and we hope you did.



Trilby Station



06/08/2014



06/08/2014

Charity Golf Day



The rescued goat



07/09/2014



07/09/2014

The property tour



At the Louth Races



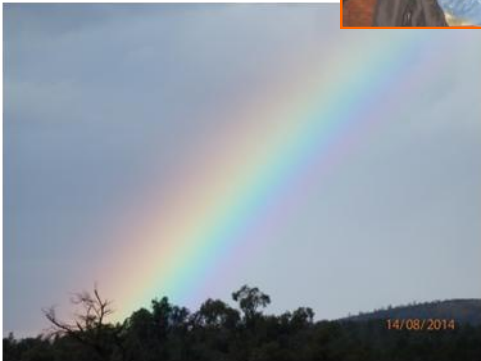


Rugged up around the Camp Fire at
Rawnsley Park



Aroona Valley area

Woolshed Restaurant
dinner



Parachilna—the Prairie Hotel
lunch



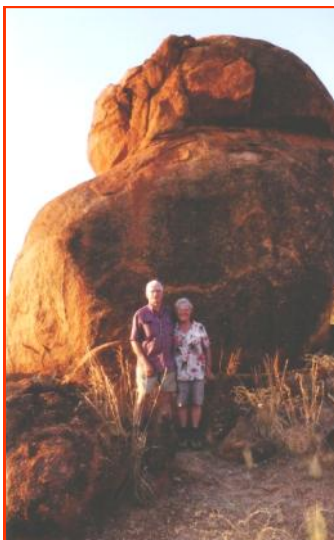
Bronwen and Warwick Williams were one of the couples who left the Flinders early in order to continue further into outback Australia. They explored the East and West MacDonnell Ranges; drove through Gosses Bluff and discovered lovely camps at The Devils Marbles and the Billabong at Camooweal.

They had an unfortunate incident just past Tee Tree when a tyre on their van was shredded and the wheel had to be changed on the Highway in 35^o heat. All was fixed at Tennant Creek.

Here are some of their photos:



No explanation needed!!!



Bronwen & Warwick at
Devils Marbles



West MacDonnell Ranges —spectacular

The Dubbo Gathering 12th – 17th September 2014

By Ian & Kay Miller (Sole participants)

The host, Kay Miller, was democratically elected in Dubbo with the vote being tied but she had the casting vote.

The whole event turned into a “Nano Tag-A-Long” with one van drifting, unaided, on through Parkes, Forbes and Wellington and other towns too small to notice: our Avan is very speedy and keeps pushing the car to go faster.

As can be seen in the photos both the Avanners and the animals rubbed along together quite well: Ian no longer has problems with Haemorrhoids (thank goodness for spellchecker).

An executive decision was made to bring Happy Hour forward to 1pm so that the drinking no longer limited the compulsory “nanna nap”. We tried to get a picture of this event but all the other attendees were elsewhere at the time. Needless to say, by the time we had toasted the health of all the members who were not there, we needed a nap!

After driving/walking around the zoo we repaired to a local winery for pre Happy Hour drinkies and lunch. We can't remember much about the HH that day.

Kay enjoyed the Sunday markets and the heritage walk around Dubbo where Ian spent most of the time mumbling, “Have you seen enough yet?” and “When can I sit down and rest my feet?”.

The Henry Parkes Museum @ Parkes was quite impressive but you can only look at so many lame jackets, ear plugs and lounge chairs that belong to some “King”. The little car museum was of a great deal more interest: “What was that you said Kay?”

Mcfeeters Car Museum & Super Bee Café @ Forbes was another highlight of the tour (not de force) where the attendees split into two groups and each enjoyed their separate and very individual choices. The Honeys on sale were very varied but NOWHERE NEAR AS MUCH AS THE OLD CARS. I'll leave the reader to guess who did what. The, mostly canvas, car shown would be perfect to tow Lindsay Baker's little Avan.

Nothing much happened in Wellington but that's probably normal.

The final night was held in Casillis where HH was delayed until the Bowling Club opened for 2 hours at 5pm: I tell you we were both gasping by that time. It's a funny little place with room for 15 powered van but the power points are found in the most unlikely places: well worth a night if you happen to be passing. On leaving the driver wanted to turn left but the host had other plans and in turning right we missed out on seeing the town.



A little to the left please!!



AA Happy Hour



Nana Nap



Mini Avan tow-er



Avan—Circa 1910



HH Host

CLUB TEE SHIRTS – can be ordered from John Brown 4963 2877.

The \$50.00 cost includes the manufacture of the shirt including a knitted collar, embroidered logo and GST. There are no freight charges as we collect the shirts from the manufacturer. There is no minimum order and they will make one shirt if required to your desired length. Typical lead times - about 3 weeks.

Tracksuit Jackets and pants can also be ordered from John

Embroidered Cloth Logo Badges \$5.00 each (suitable for attaching to caps or jackets) Logo Stickers \$4.00 each.

All above available from Treasurer, David Luttrell, 4388 1936

Expressions of interest — Tasmania 2015

We have now finished an itinerary for the Tasmanian trip which will commence on 15th February, with the day ferry from Melbourne to Devonport. The trip on the island is for 29 days but if members want to extend or do their own thing this flexibility is available. To view the itinerary visit our website at www.sccavanners.com and then to the members page.

Contact Trips Co-ordinator via email: sccavan.program@gmail.com or telephone **4976 3635** to show your interest.

There are 2 vans booked.

Would any members like to purchase a copy of **Caravanning Australia** which is published quarterly.

RRP = \$14.95 — Price to AVan club members—\$7.00 including postage

Contact Secretary Mike Hall to order — 9484 7604 – 0412 274 419 – sccavan@bigpond.com

2014 Committee

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