



CATS' TALES May 2016

As promised in last month's Cats Tales, a very comprehensive report on the Post Rally Tour by Ian and Vicki McKinney is included in this edition, however, we start with a report prepared by Lyn and Merv Jackson on their recent weekend away in Tin Can Bay.

Here is a bit of a story re the Tin Can Bay weekend.

On a showery Saturday on the 30th April we met Sue and Rod Greasley, Neil and Sharyn Coveney and Nic Case at the Puma Service Centre at Kybong for morning tea. From there we travelled to the Sleepy Lagoon Motel at Tin Can Bay. Then we drove to Norman Point where we caught up with Alan and Marie Buller and Alan's dad (Phil). We sat on the waterfront and watched the start of the Bay to Bay (Tin Can Bay to Hervey Bay) yacht race and had our lunch. Later that afternoon we went for a drive to Rainbow Beach and enjoyed afternoon tea at the Surf Lifesaving Club. After happy hour at the motel, we went to the Tin Can Bay Yacht Club for dinner, where we met up with Nic and his wife (Joanne). Joanne said to Nic "how about we walk to the yacht club - it is not very far". When it came time to go back to our units, it was pouring rain and we had no room in either of our cars, so fortunately we had two umbrellas to loan them. We offered to come back and collect them in the car, but they said it would be a nice, romantic walk in the rain back to the unit. We didn't see them again that night!!!! Next morning some of our group went to watch the dolphin feeding. Following this, we went to the Tin Can Bay Model Flying Club's annual Warbirds over Tin Can Bay. This is the premier event on the Southern Cross Air Force's calendar each year. Nic kindly got us a pit crew entry card each, which enabled us to talk to the owners of some of the fantastic aircraft. The aircraft had to be replicas of planes used during the wars (WW1, WW2, Vietnam etc). Nic very capably flew his yellow aircraft, which we named "The Yellow Terror". The largest aircraft there weighed 27kg. Anything over 7kg must have special certification. The jet aircraft was a bit involved to start, but once flying everything was controlled by a mini computer. As it went overhead, you could smell the same jet fuel

smell that you smell at the airport. After a very entertaining time at the warbirds display, we departed for a drive to Cooloola Cove, Inskip Point, Rainbow Beach etc. We found a nice area on the point to take some photos of the cars. Following happy hour we went to the Tin Can Bay Hotel where we enjoyed a nice meal. Next morning we headed for home. It was great to see Alan and Marie (and Phil) travel all the way from Toowoomba in their Japanese Jag (the Series III was having the air conditioning repaired). There was only 11 of us, but we all had a wonderful weekend. Thank you Nic and Joanne for organising a great weekend. Merv and Lyn Jackson



Watching start of yacht race



Nick, organiser of the weekend.



At Norman Point about to have lunch



Happy hour at Motel



The next three shots taken at War birds



Warbirds planes



Nick and Joanna's business banner



John Smith ex XJS owner and former JDCQ member
now living in Eumundi



Cars at the point a few Kms past Rainbow Beach



Cars parked outside Sleepy Lagoon Motel

Thank you lyn and Merv for this excellent report

COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY 29TH MAY 2016 EVENT.

BUSH TO BEACH

Meeting in the car park close to the Landsborough Museum, Maleny St Landsborough.

For a 9.15am departure heading to the Glasshouse Café, 182 Glasshouse-Woodford Rd, Glasshouse Mountain, for a scrumptious Devonshire Tea or coffee. 0498 471 232



Departing around 10:45 we will head towards the Bruce Highway, and travel south to the Bribie Island turn off, heading for Bribie.

Our destination is the Sandstone Point Hotel, 1800 Bribie Island Road, Sandstone Point arriving just before 12:00pm.

A table booking has been made for our lunch, so can you please confirm if you will be attending, on or before the 20th May.

Email: ianandvicki@bigpond.com

Mobile: 0438 733 140.

Lunch Menu can be viewed on this link <http://sandstonepointhotel.com.au/dining/>

SUNDAY 19th JUNE 2016

TOURING THE BLACKALL RANGES

Meeting in the car park close to the Landsborough Museum, Maleny St Landsborough.

For a 9.30 am departure heading to The Garden Maleny, 34 Mountain View Rd Maleny, for a scrumptious Devonshire Tea or coffee.



Departing around 10:45 we will take the scenic drive via Conondale to arrive in Kenilworth for lunch at the hotel. We have been there before and had a great meal at reasonable prices. After lunch you will have time to explore the local shops and walk off lunch, before you embarking on a leisurely drive home through the country.

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

Parking is at the rear of the hotel.

Table bookings have been made so please let me know if you plan to join us and secure our bookings, on or before the 10th June.

Email: ianandvicki@bigpond.com

Mobile: 0438 733 140



POST RALLY TOUR SUMMARY

BEACH TO BUSH

The PRT was a site seeing food festival, full of fun and friendship. All vehicles of 23 Jaguars, 1 Daimler, 1 Nissan, 1 Subaru, and 1 Mazda left the Caloundra Power Boat Club car park on Monday the 18th April after a beautiful brunch and headed out excitedly on the road north to Gympie. We travelled back roads to Gunabul Homestead for a light lunch, before heading off to our overnight accommodation at the Ramada Resort, Urangan.

Somebody had to start the happy hour and before dinner it was an ideal opportunity for everyone to meet and mingle with others in our group.



After a great buffet dinner which included scrumptious seafood chowder, some retired early to prepare for our 7.30 am bus to the barge and Fraser Island, but not before some of us had a big hearty breakfast.



Once on the island there were two air-conditioned buses waiting to take us across the island, first stopping at Eurong for morning tea, and a comfort stop.



Our tour included the wreck of the Mehen, The



Pinicles, Eli creek, Central Station, and Lake McKenzie.

There was also an opportunity for some of us to take to the air for a 15 minute exhilarating flight over the island.



Butterfly Lake



Eli Creek

Before visiting Lake McKenzie, we stopped off at Central Station for a walk through the rain forest.



The walk gets a bit hot for some

Caught on the Bus camera

Next stop was Lake McKenzie, 100 meters above sea level. The sand around Lake McKenzie is perfectly round and can be used to clean jewelery, so most of the ladies took the opportunity to put some shine back on bangles and rings.

Some of our group made good use of the time and had a swim in the beautiful fresh, crystal clear water.



It was now time to return to our buses for the journey back to the barge, on the way we spotted two dingos roaming and our driver detoured cross country along a bush runway to view closer, before continuing back to the Ramada on the coach. Arriving back at approximately 6:00, just missing happy hour, but after a bit of smooth talking we were granted one drink at happy hour prices.

That was a big day, but still we found time and the need to have some more food including the seafood chowder etc, before calling it an early night.

Next morning, Wednesday, was a late start leaving the Ramada around 9:30 heading to Bamboo Land near Howard. Here we learnt about the many varieties of bamboo, and that the nursery has over 100 species which they supply to customers all over Australia. One particular bamboo can grow a one meter per day if conditions are right.



It was back into our cars and head for Childers for our lunch stop, which was a good time to just wonder the shops after and also visit the memorial to the 15 victims of the Childers Palace Backpackers Hostel fire 15 years ago.



With our food baskets full of beautiful home made pasteries, savoury slices and fresh salads to devour, the fuel tanks full in our cars, it was time to head west, going through Biggenden, Ban Ban Springs, finally arriving at our overnight stop of Gayndah, the oldest town in Queensland, and dinner at the oldest hotel for the country meal of alternate drop of either rib eye fillet or lamb shank, Crème Caramel or Bread & Butter Pudding with ice cream. During the evening one of the locals came in from the bar and gave us a brief talk on the history of Gayndah.



An early start on Thursday morning to visit Peter Huth and family, who have been collecting Citroens for over 35 years. Peter had arranged some of his collection in 2 sheds, (he has 5) as he guided us through the cars explaining their history and details, answering questions as he went.



It became obvious that we had to move as the ladies had had enough, and their need for homemade morning tea at the local bowls club was a bigger draw card than looking at cars, and the club had prepared pikelets, scones, fresh jam and cream, and if we needed any more, there were freshly made sandwiches and tea or coffee. We presented Peter and his family with a clock in appreciation of his time, complete with a Jaguar Leaper and a small plaque inscribed with Jaguar National Rally 2016.

As is with most post rally tours they are not complete without a visit to a winery, so it was time for us to head off to one. We back track from Gayndah through Ban Ban Springs, then Goomeri, before taking a left turn into Kilcoy Murgon Road, about 12 klms south of Goomeri.

This area known as Moffatdale and has several wineries and the one we chose was Dusty Hill, where we had lunch of fish or chicken alternative drop. There several of our group settled in for some wine tasting, and purchases made ready for happy hour.

Time to move out and head for Kingaroy for our overnight accommodation. Dinner was planned for 6:30 which gave some members time to take a look around before members selected their seats to await another alternate drop, this time it was lamb cutlets or slow cooked pork.



Friday morning was our last full day together and I still had to ring the cow bell regularly to get their attention and hear the responding "Mooooooo". The Kingaroy Pea Nut man Rob arrived in the motel car park and take us to his farm and view peanuts which had just been harvested.



Rob leading the convoy



Rob explaining all about peanuts



<http://www.peanutvan.com.au/how-peanuts-are-grown.php>

After Rob's talk we broke into two groups, one going to the Pea Nut van, and the rest of us headed for the Bunya Mountains.



Some of our cars on lawn at Bunya Mountains.

Rising abruptly from the surrounding plains, the cool peaks of the Bunya Mountains reach more than 1100 m and offer spectacular mountain scenery, views and abundant wildlife. Bunya Mountains National Park (declared in 1908) is Queensland's second oldest national park. It shelters the world's largest stand of ancient bunya pines *Araucaria bidwillii* and more than 30 rare and threatened species.

Everyone enjoyed the drive up the Bunya's and it was now time, after fresh scones and cream, to negotiate our trip down the mountain and head for the Jondaryan Wool shed. We were escorted to our parking close to a massive old wool shed, but not before a few members went over to chat to a couple of draft horses.

This was our lunch stop, and here we had fresh warm damper, with syrup, plus a huge variety of sandwiches, fresh fruit, and billy tea.

The country air had not slowed our groups' appetite as the damper was gone very quickly. The dining area over looked a beautiful green grassed area was an ideal spot for our group photo.



Love those shorts Charles - can we swap for a cow bell??

What are Ian & Helen praying for??

We left Jondaryan Wool Shed and headed for our accommodation in Toowoomba, and it did not take long for everyone to get out their western outfit for our special evening. Our bus arrived on time and it was off to Regents on the Lake for our bush dinner prepared by Colin of authentic bush tucker. As this will be our last night together as a group and it is only fitting that we have a farewell dinner to celebrate a great post rally tour.

In keeping with our Beach to Bush theme we felt it would not be complete without some bush poetry. Jack Drake, a well-known bush poet in Australia, who entertained us with some stand-up comedy and funny poems, one in particular is the story of Rinderella and protected certain sacred environment.



During the evening there were a couple of presentations made. The first award was to the car which gave the owner the most trouble on the tour, and that was Brian Bult from WA in his beautiful XK150, the second award went to another Western Australian and this person ran over what he thought was a cane toad, only to discover it was his mobile phone, and the winner is Luke Zambotti.

The next award was for the most appropriately dressed person in western outfit, so Jack Drake judged and the winner was Denyce Beasley from WA, who took home the beautiful wall hanging, made by Susan Price of SC Register, which is shown on the back page of your rally guide.

There was one last award decided by the organisers of the tour and this award went to the person who we believe was one of the most travelled people in the group. The person has been recognised around the world and been awarded many times in recognition of his effort in various roles. Bob Adby was our selected person, and Bob's award was special cake of soap with an appropriate hole which has a label attached claiming it to be a Willy Washer.

The label read: *A daily Willy Washer that surely is a treat. It's not to wash your hands or face, it's not to wash your feet. It's only for your Willy, poke it in and give a scrub. Make sure you wash it though be careful as you rub. It's only meant to clean it, not to give you a good time. It's just so that each and every day....your Willy's looking fine*

Our post rally tour is almost over, but it would not be appropriate to have everyone head off without a decent meal. So off we all went to Down Steam Tourist Railway for beautiful breakfast either in a restored carriage or on the station platform. Unfortunately, both Vicki & I both collapsed with a virus and headed back to the coast and hospital, and were unable to attend this brunch.



The Dream Time Journey Coach takes you on a spiritual journey from dawn to dusk. Choosing either a coastal route or an inland journey, patrons are looked after by the Rainbow Serpent who created the mountains and rivers according to aboriginal lore.

We are sure that all participants in this PRT thoroughly enjoyed joining the organisers and viewing glimpses of beauty in our Sunshine State.

Safe travels to you all - hope to see you all in Port Stephens 2017

Ian McKinney

Chairman

JDCQ Sunshine Coast Register



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