



# COROMAL CAPERS

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Frank Smalley

Jeanette Burton

## From the President

Another year, 12 rallies and a few extra kilos (for some of us). Each year it's the same question, where did the time go. They say time flies when you are having fun and this year has gone in the blink of an eye. The club has grown bigger yet the new members fit in so well it seems they have always been with us.

We cooked a camp oven, "Christmas in July" dinner in Belanglo with enough food to feed three clubs, but managed not to let any go to waste, we had king size Easter Bunnies at Macquarie Woods and put up with "nature's little speed hump" trying to shake us out of our vans in Kangaroo Valley.

In what will be my last Christmas report as President, I thank you all for the friendship of the past years and I, like you, am looking forward to bigger and better times ahead

Regards

Frank

## STOP PRESS



COROMAL CARAVANS CENTRAL COAST  
have become our very first sponsor and are offering

10% OFF PARTS AND ACCESSORIES,  
FREE EXCESS ON INSURANCE REPAIRS  
AND

A FREE DETAIL WITH ANY VAN SERVICE.

To all our Members.

## Upcoming Rallies

February 12th—14th.....Bruinbun Reserve, Bathurst

March 12th -15th.....Lake Ainsworth Holiday Park Lennox Head , (State Rally)

March 12th -15th.....Shell Harbour Caravan Park (alternate)

### 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

## *Norah Heads Rally August 2009*



not yet completed.

A smaller gathering of only 9 vans attended this rally, at the beautiful Norah Head Holiday Park. The weather was sunny, but a little cold, usual for this time of year. The beachside park was very well appointed even though the new camp kitchen was



Also usual was the gradual arrival of vans from Thursday on. This rally had a much more relaxed agenda, i.e. do as you please! Happy Hour on Friday night was smaller than usual with some vans not yet arriving and some members going elsewhere or snuggling in early as the evening temperature dropped.



Saturday morning saw all gathered for the sign in and morning tea, followed by discussion of the various attractions in the area. Members chose to “do their own thing”, some heading for a walk on the beach and some settling in for a catch-up chat with others.

Later in the afternoon Steve entertained us all by dragging out his new toy – inflatable boat – and setting it up, with much encouragement and advice from bystanders.



Happy Hour was attended by all members and then we all walked to the Bowling Club, next door to the van park, for dinner. We were joined by Dave Rawlings, a past member of our club, and an enjoyable evening was had by all.



Sunday morning saw most members heading for the markets at The Entrance, or the markets at Toukley, or both.



Only 3 member vans left the rally on Sunday afternoon, with the rest electing to stay on longer.

## Cessnock Rally June 2009



Ah, Cessnock – wineries – what a perfect place for a Father’s Day rally! Ten vans braved the cold, but mostly sunny, weather. Our large tarp had its walls made, and they certainly came in handy. Unfortunately, the eyelet holes did not quite line up and it looked a bit wonky, but it still kept out the worst of the wind.

Most vans arrived on the Friday night and several member couples took advantage of the Thai restaurant on site for dinner. Most members then settled in for an early night.



Saturday morning saw the erection of our “club marquee”, normal sign on and morning tea, followed by a weigh-in for the Coromal “Biggest Loser” competition. Raffle tickets were sold for our Father’s Day raffle and then most members headed off for tours of the Hunter Valley Gardens or local wineries.

No guesses on where this newsletter editor, the president and the “first daughter” went, especially since Sam had a wineries pass entitling her to 6 free bottles of wine and several other privileges.

Of course, all returned in time for Happy Hour, followed by one of our favourite “Pot Luck” dinners. Our new marquee certainly got a work out and members were happy to stay on a little later for some social drinking and conversation.



Sunday morning dawned sunny and significantly warmer. We all joined in a Father’s Day breakfast of egg and bacon rolls. Di made some very clever Father’s Day gifts which were appreciated by all the male members at the rally.



The raffle was drawn, with first prize won by Frank (finally) and second prize won by Kathryn (again – our luckiest raffle winner to date).

About half of our rally member vans then had to pack up and head for home with the other half able to stay on a little longer.



*Sadly, this rally was the last attended by Veronica Raasch, who lost her long battle with cancer only a short time later. Our condolences were passed to her husband, Darryl, and many club members attended Veronica’s funeral service at the end of September.*

## *Hartley Rally October 2009*

### *Annual General Meeting*

Sixteen vans, and one day visitor, attended the AGM at Hartley. Unfortunately, this newsletter editor was unable to attend, having to remain at home tending to the President, who was recovering from surgery only a few days earlier.

I am aware of the number of vans attending and the new make-up of the committee. Bruce has stepped away from a committee position and we are all grateful for his input over the last several years. With the exception of Jeanette, he was the last of the original committee members who founded the club, and was instrumental in its re-birth in 2006.

Bruce's committee position was taken up by Janice MacMahon and we all welcome her on board. Jeanette and Ben swapped positions with Jeanette becoming Vice-President and Ben taking over as Secretary. The rest of the committee remains unchanged.

Unfortunately I am unable to give a rally report, but with snippets sent by e-mail and with a look at the slide-show on the website, I can see that it was most enjoyable, with many members expressing thanks to Kerry and Ruth Morris, who organized the rally.

## *Kangaroo Valley November 2009*



A very tranquil scene greeted our 14 vans as they came down the hill into the campsite at Bendeela Pondage, Kangaroo Valley. For a change, this newsletter editor was amongst the first few to arrive, having taken the day off work to drive the incapacitated President to the rally. The campground is unpowered, but there are toilets and good areas for camping by the river – and the price is great (free)!



As soon as Ben arrived, the serious business of setting up the marquee got under way. Our walls had been taken to Nan's Tarps, where new eyelets were set in, so that the walls and roof actually lined up. There was much hilarity trying to work out the maker's number and letter code to make sure that the right wall piece went in on the right side! Once

we had finished setting up, we all settled down for Happy Hour.



This was disturbed by the early arrival of one or two wombats, which are numerous in this area. Wombats also disturbed the night's sleep of many of our members, as they crawled under the vans and scratched their backs on the undersides of vans (the wombats – not the members). This action caused many of the vans to shake – at least that's their story!



Saturday morning dawned bright for our sign in, morning tea and weigh-in. Most members set off to explore the area including the scenic village of Kangaroo Valley, the historic bridge and the Tallowa Dam – which has a fish elevator!

All members then came back to camp to prepare food for our "Pot Luck" dinner.



These dinners have become very popular and the range of foods: finger foods, soups, main courses and our delightful desserts, continue to impress.

Once again, the marquee proved a popular area for Happy Hour, followed by dining and then partying the evening away. Chocolate cake for the combined 60<sup>th</sup> birthdays of Ted and Monica, rounded off a perfect night. Off to bed for us all, to be rocked to sleep by the wombats again.



Sunday morning brought the inevitable pack down of the marquee, individual vans and the departure of the majority of members.

## *Narrabeen December 2009 Christmas*

Wow! What a party! - is the best way to describe our Christmas rally at Narrabeen. A good roll up of 18 vans, and one day visitor were warmly welcomed to one of our favourite rally venues, situated by the lake and the ocean.



Members began arriving from Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> to begin the task of setting up our marquee. The majority of members wandered in over the next couple of days, with all on site for Happy Hour on Friday 4<sup>th</sup>.

Much socialising ensued, well into the night, with many members decorating their vans as well. A chance for all of us to greet the newlyweds – Jeanette Burton and Robert Brown – married the previous weekend. CCA (Jeanette and Rob's other club) were having their Christmas party as well and there was much to-ing and fro-ing between venues.

Saturday dawned bright and sunny, but windy, so the President expressed some concern regarding the marquee, which had almost blown down the day before. Our very tasty morning tea was



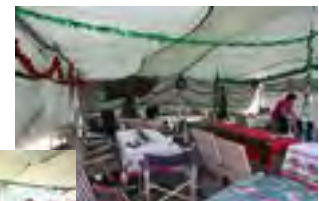
followed by our sign in and our final weigh in for the Coromal "Biggest Loser" competition. Tickets were sold in our enormous Christmas raffle. A fold-up bike, donated by Central Coast Coromal, was the major prize and it was decided to hold a separate raffle for that. Narrabeen Caravan Park donated a weekend cabin hire as the main prize for our second raffle and there were 18 other prizes as well.

Several members then set off to explore the area or go for a swim at the tidal pool. The President and a few other hardy members set to completely over-decorating our marquee (no such thing as over-decorating he informs me). The afternoon saw many heading off for a nanna nap, with rumours of another tag-along being planned for 2011 (see end of newsletter).



Happy Hour was held earlier than usual to allow for members to then prepare salads, carve ham, turkey and chicken, in time for our main event later in the evening. 7pm brought all members together in our beautifully decorated and well-lit party marquee for Christmas Grace, spoken by Jeanette.

Then we all partook of a delicious dinner prepared by many of the members, with the Club picking up the tab (paid for by all the raffle tickets sold).





Dinner was followed by the presentation of the prize for CCC's "Biggest Loser" competition, which was won by Penny, who lost an incredible 17.6kg!!!!



Our raffle draws ensued, accompanied by much hilarity as winners chose their prizes, arguing with their respective partners over choices. The main prize in the second raffle was won by Jim Alexander of CCA. The major prize of the fold-up bike was won by Joan Cramp, an avid cyclist!

Partying went on well into the evening, with much good-natured fighting over lollies (Penny could eat them now – if Frank let her get any). Everybody then headed off to their vans with full tummies, faces sore from laughing, and more than a few light heads, which may be sore in the morning.

Sunday morning had us all gathering for breakfast at the Caravan Park Marquee. This was a charity breakfast at \$10 per head, with all proceeds going to The Clown Doctors. A short video presentation of their work followed and then we all purchased "Smiles" and had our group photos taken back at our own marquee.



Sadly this brought the inevitable end to the rally. All members helped to pull down the decorations and the marquee was packed away for the next time. Unfortunately, the majority of members then had to leave, with a lucky few staying on for a few more days.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish every member a **HAPPY & HEALTHY 2010**

# TAGALONG 2011

*It's on again and planning has started. At the 2009 Christmas party I was asked to plan another Tagalong along the Victorian coast and a little inland contend.*

*I'm asking for expressions of interest. Please let me know if you are interested in going and your suggestions: [egriffin31@bigpond.com](mailto:egriffin31@bigpond.com) (I'M MORE LIKELY TO REMEMBER IF IT'S IN WRITING.)*

*Suggestions of places to visit. Do you know a great bush walks, water falls or places with incredible views, mind blowing attractions and wonderful caravan parks to stay?*

*Let me know and I will just put something together that will surprise and blow you away—some more of my favorite places.*

*Some suggestions so far. Start Shoalhaven, down to Eden and Wilson's Prom. Phillip Island, Melbourne (Day travelers only) Great Ocean road and Port Campbell. Warrnambool, Grampians, Daylesford and those spas, - with day trips to Ballarat and/or Bendigo, Jerilderie and finish at Wagga or Narandra.*

**What do you want?**

*Yes I will put an accompanying travel bible together for this one with a few changes in presentation---hey it's a different route.*

*Next question? How long? About 30 days*

*It's up to you.*

ALREADY WE ARE LOOKING AT

# **Tagalong 2014**

*South Australia*

# TAGALONG 2011

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
DATE							
						Shoalhaven Rally	Shoalhaven Rally
DATE							
WEEK 1	Shoalhaven To Mystery Bay	Mystery Bay To Eden	Eden	Eden To Mallacoota	Mallacoota To Lake Tyers	Lake Tyers	Lake Tyers To Yanakie
DATE							
WEEK 2	Yanakie	Yanakie To Cowes	Cowes	Cowes	Cowes	Werribee South	Werribee South
DATE							
WEEK 3	Werribee South To Princetown	Princetown To Warrnambool	Warrnambool	Warrnambool	Warrnambool To Halls Gap	Halls Gap	Halls Gap
DATE							
WEEK 4	Halls Gap To Daylesford	Daylesford	Daylesford	Daylesford To Tocumwal	Tocumwal To Wagga Wagga	Wagga Wagga Rally	Wagga Wagga Rally