



Your very own Highway Wanderers newsletter for June, 2019

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The Highway Wanderers Committee including the newly elected incumbents at AGM held on Sunday, 5 May 2019.



President - Hans Dusink



Vice President - Derek Tremain (Horror)



Secretary - Suzi Hardwick



Treasurer - Michael Gold



Merchandising - Petels



Membership - Fred Whitford



Highway Wanderers 25th Birthday Celebrations

126 Highway Wanderer members attended the 25th Birthday of the CMCA Chapter, Highway Wanderers at the Gateway Village – Casino, NSW. Some members arrived early and were invited to join the residents for a soup night on the Thursday night.

Friday saw the official rolling in of vehicles. Was great to catch up with all members.



Activities that are available at the Village were open for all the HW to join in. These included Disc Bowls, Carpet Bowls, Eight Ball, Craft, Card Games, Library etc.



Friday night started with the Welcome 'Gourmet Sausage' get together with the funny hat competition. Music by Carl Bennett had members up wobbling.





A Historical walk of local watering holes was held on the Saturday afternoon. Bill Prime and Horror had a warm up reconnoitre on the Thursday, which was not a pretty sight, so some members were keen to maybe not drink, just do the walk!!!! Baaaah, said Bill and Horror, you can't go to a pub without having a drink, so water and soft drink was allowed. All members participated in playing Joker with a \$5 entrance fee. This was won by Geoffrey.

As the weather disappointed us on Saturday, happy hour was held in the Club House. Games were played including teams feeding the string through their clothes and passing onto their next team mate. Lots of laughter as usual with the Highway Wanderers.



Saturday night was Trivia which resulted in two teams tying for first place. Well done all. CMCA had given the chapter some merchandise, so the winners had caps and stubby coolers to use with pride.

Sunday morning was the AGM. Outgoing President, Jan Binskin thanked everyone and 25th year pins were given to all members as a legacy from Vicki Samin.



The Camp Oven dinner on Sunday night was a huge success with thanks to Frank Sainsbury and his team of helpers. Also thanks to all the volunteers to help with the Sausage night and Camp Oven night. Music by Leigh Warren ensured there was dancing with our own 'musical' members having sets which were enjoyed by all.

The celebration cake was cut, including photos of the three previous Presidents (Dave, Jan and Jo) and the current Hans.

It seemed to be over so quickly, Monday saw most of the members rolling out and the remainder leaving on Tuesday.

Thanks to all involved in the organising of this weekend. One thing is always ensured, wherever Highway Wanderers are, we have a great time.



Fully loaded, ready to go

My apologies to all those avid readers who were waiting with baited breath for the second instalment of the 'Camps' story. Technical problems, now overcome. So, here's part two...

Camps Australia Wide – The Concept, the Creation and the Consequences....

Part 2. The Creation.

To start with I worked on a page layout for the book that would display facilities at each site, not just the standard ones like toilet, pets, water, showers etc, but ones I thought were also essential, at least to me. These included shade, mobile phone coverage, TV reception, site close to road, room for big rigs, dump points and maximum staying time, to name a few.

The location of each site, apart from GPS co-ordinates, along the road or highways was critical, so the distances of each site from adjacent towns needed to be calculated. Luckily I had an Opisometer (look that one up) from previous employment and lots of maps to help where necessary.

Over the next month I made a mock-up of a sample page of the intended book and started looking for book publishers. A few trips to publishers in Brisbane were frustrating as those publishers were only interested in publishing the book themselves in their way and paying a pittance for the information.

I also approached HEMA Maps who were very enthusiastic and offered three options: 1. They would produce the book entirely to what I wanted, 2. They would produce it and pay for half the printing costs, or 3. I do everything and they just distribute. Unfortunately their fee varied between 95% and 72% depending on the option. I basically had no money for the last two options and the first wasn't really feasible. The only thing left was to see if I could do it myself, but how?

By a stroke of luck, while visited the gym near the Nambour TAFE one night, I was looking through the Yellow Pages for publishers, when a woman nearby asked what I was doing and said that her ex was a local printer and he may be able to help.

I contacted him who gave me an idea of what it would cost to print and then he put me on to a couple of graphic designers who suggested computer software programmes that could do the job. (These included Publisher, Pagemaker, CorelDraw).

Of course I didn't know how any of these worked, so the next few weekends were spent in Brisbane having private tutorials on how they worked. In the end I selected one that would work (CorelDraw), but it was very tedious in that it was a cut and paste application, which meant that a template was set up and then the descriptive text and relative icons for each facility was copied and pasted for each site. A laborious task.

But nothing else seemed to be available, so I persevered, and with the help of the local paper's editor who lived down the road, we completed Queensland in one month. But this was going to take too long and be subject to human error on a big scale. Fortunately at that time I received a call from the local printer who had found out about a computer programme (Ventura) that could publish a book from a database; just what I needed. Unfortunately it was very complicated and hardly used in Australia at the time, except that somebody in Maroochydore did know how to use it! Off I dashed and after explaining what I required he was convinced it would do the job. We ran a trial of the Tasmanian database over the next couple of days and apart from a few adjustments here and there, it worked!

Over the next two months the rest of the database was run and eventually a proof was produced which seemed acceptable. A quick proof reading by

me over a month produced an acceptable result. That was one component completed in the scheme of things.

While waiting for the original job to be run through I looked at producing the maps to show the location of the sites. HEMA had offered the use of their maps to me, but at quite a cost, and at that stage the financial outcome of the whole project was unknown.

Because of my background in previous jobs relating to map making (Topographical Surveyor, Cartographer, Photogrammetrist) I decided to produce my own. For a small cost I purchased a map database then produced the relevant maps at my desired scale. These were eventually all hand drawn showing only the basics required; roads, rivers, railways, towns and the corresponding names. I then positioned each site on the maps, together with each site number, and scanned the whole lot. That component took six weeks.

The other components for the book included a dump point list, explanatory notes, a legend, an index of all the sites, and setting up a website for sales, feedback and updates (something I thought was essential).

Somehow it was all coming together so I looked at the time frame and decided to get it printed ready for Christmas. When I first came up with the book idea I had talked it over with Helene, but she hadn't liked the idea and didn't think it would be viable. As a result she didn't want anything to do with it and just wanted to concentrate on college. (For those curious, that was the reason I became the sole author).

It took a lot of persuading to convince her to allow a mortgage on the house to pay for the printing, but she finally agreed. Now I just had to work out how many copies to print. I had always intended to sell mainly to members of the CMCA, so some basic maths by me suggested 3,000 copies could be achievable and that would break even with the costs. The printer also assured me it could be printed in time for Christmas.

I placed an ad in the November Wanderer and in the Caravan World and promoted it where I could at Chapter meetings and at the CMCA rally at

Canberra in October. I managed to pre-sell quite a few copies (at a discount) which showed me that it did have potential.

At the end of November I received the first batch of books which I dispatched to those pre-sold orders and when the Wanderer came out the phone started ringing.

To be continued – Part 3 (The consequences)....

Phil Procter Q1881



Longest Line of LED Lights and Longest Line of RV's

Congratulations are due to the Australian Motorhoming Lions Club, (who copped a few negative comments and much advice on how they should have done it), the participants who shelled out for the lights, and anybody else who was a part of the attempt on The Guinness World Record®, Longest Line of LED Lights and Longest Line of RV's.

The current World Record was set on 22 June 2003 when 672 RV's took part in a parade in Canelli, Italy.

We all assembled in the showgrounds of Barcaldine from Thursday. The

Barcaldine Downs road, not far from town was selected as the suitable road.

On the Saturday, we drifted out of the showgrounds, and under the guidance of traffic controllers we lined up on the side of the road. It was quite exciting. The line disappeared over the horizon in both directions. As the afternoon moved on, the LED lights came out and were to be left laying along the road-side. Then a team of officials came past and securely joined them all together. Happy hours started, chairs were pulled up, fires were lit, and we settled in waiting for dark and the event.

Existing record: six hundred and fiftyfive metres. The new record: six thousand, two hundred metres. Almost four miles!





Then, the officials came along and hooked up the lights.



More fires . . . more happy hours . . .

Thanks to Geoff Phillips for the above photos

LARGEST PARADE OF CAMPING VEHICLES (RVs).

Sunday morning the anticipation grew. We knew we needed to be ready from 9am and once we saw the helicopters overhead around 10am, we knew the media had arrived to record this auspicious occasion.

The Guinness World Records® rules require that all vehicles must be moving along the road when the count takes place.

The Guinness World Record® official rules were strictly applied by a team of marshals, who conducted the count and measurements required to establish the record.

The minimum distance of the parade had to be 3.2km (from starting line to finish line).

Any vehicles unable to complete had be deducted from the total count. There was to be no significant 'gaps' in flow of vehicles and no more than two vehicle-lengths apart.

The entire parade was filmed and has been sent to The Guinness World Record® as part of the evidence requirements. The result would be known in approximately 10 weeks.

From when we started rolling, at position 800, it took us two hours to complete and then return to the Barcaldine Showgrounds to continue the partying.



The <https://thelongestline.net.au/> website has more photos and details.

May has again defied the norm weather wise – but I am not complaining with the warm weather as we move up through the centre of Queensland to enjoy the green that we haven't seen here for so long.

The few weeks at Banana were busy as we finally finished the massive job of sorting the things that had accumulated over years and had been stored in our shed for the last 13 years while we have been on the road. Each time we came back we said we must sort it and get rid of much un needed stuff and each time we had garage sales to lighten the pile a bit so this time we bit the bullet and after many hours of sorting, packing and re-packing, selling and giving away, plus several trips to the dump have managed to get the job done! All in one storage shed with the other keys handed back to the Real Estate for someone else to use those sheds so if/when we finally get a buyer we shouldn't have to come back to move things but can keep going with our planned Western Australia trip at last!

We had two trips to Rockhampton the last week at Banana – one to catch up with Heather as we wouldn't make it to Blackwater, she had her car in for repairs so we provided wheels for the day to get things done, then Andrew's last eye checks with a clean bill of health there and all working well after the cataracts were removed six week earlier.

A day to recover from the trip and finish the bus packing then Sunday 19th saw us out on the road again at last – the last fuel, coffee and burgers at Bauhinia as the Store will close on June 30th (it will be missed by truckies and grey nomads) then on to the Lions Park at Springsure for lunch and to stay the night. We were first in but it didn't take long for neighbours to arrive and by night-fall there wasn't much space left although the camping area has been extended since we were last there.

Monday morning saw us through Emerald and stopping at the Anakie turn-off for coffee – only to discover we were missing a tyre on the trailer! The rim was undamaged with the edge strip of the tyre still attached to each side of the rim! While Andrew changed the wheel I did a quick Internet check – no use wasting good service – then we were back on the road again. Lunch just before Alpha then on through to "our" gravel pit just before Jericho where we pulled in and camped up. Andrew got the car out and we took the rim into Jericho to get a new tyre – calling first at the information centre to pick up our Participants registration card to avail ourselves of the chance to win \$500.00. The

Barcaldine Regional Council has take advantage of the unusually high number of visitors to the region with the Longest Line of Camping RVs record breaking attempt and has put up a \$500.00 prize draw for each of the five towns in the region – Alpha, Jericho. Barcaldine, Blackall and Aramac - plus another for any who spend money in all five towns. First a participant must be registered for the event, pick up a registration card from one of the Information Centres then show the card when spending a minimum of \$50.00 and receive marked tickets to prove the purchase. The tickets will then be handed in to the Barcaldine Information Centre and on a set date the lucky winners will be drawn – the tyre was definitely worth getting entry tickets for the draw for Jericho, and no doubt we will also visit the IGA in Barcaldine and possibly other places to get more tickets in the Barcaldine draw.





Camped up, Highway Wanderers flag flying.

While in town we also checked out the camping spot along the side of the creek – lots of water in the waterhole this time where last time we were here the hole was completely dry! We didn't see anyone we knew there so went out to the Showgrounds where we found some Highway Wanderers and other CMCA people previously met and spent a while chatting before returning home to the gravel-pit.

We had two quiet days waiting until it was time to go into the Showgrounds, had the firepit going and enjoyed being able to catch up on some sleep, some reading and a few jobs in the sunshine each day. Thursday saw us join a short convoy from Jericho in to Barcaldine where we were parked (as usual) out in the boondocks – this time beside the cattle yards and weed wash-down bay across the road from the Showgrounds. We had plenty of sunshine & not far too walk to anything happening over the road so we had a great few days before, during and after those two world record attempts. I will leave it to someone else to do a report on these...

Travel safe everyone which ever way you are going, and stay well. Those on the sick list we hope that you will have good results and soon be on the mend.

Until next month – cheers, Andrew & Ev, "Wheel Estate".

We have received the following request for assistance.....

We are looking for a farm sitter from the end of June for about 2 months ~ we live on 25 acre property about 8 kms from Coraki and approximately 25 minutes from Evans Head on the coast. There are 3 dogs and some chooks to feed, look after the house and maybe mow the lawn. Everything is in very good order!.

We would like to have a sitter each winter and maybe at other times but these would be for less time.

I can be contacted on 0456 410 138

Many thanks, Peter Marshall



Once upon a time there was a motorhome travelling Oz called "No Vacancy" in it lived Pauline with her hubby Steve, they travelled this country for a good few years & were happy HW.

Steve became known as a rascal spreading fun across the country wherever he went!

Most of you will remember the fire buckets, which sat by the passenger wheel " in case of fire", another great idea from the H&S squad!

Steve decided it would be more use as a duck pond so began the duck tale! He started with 2 ducks bobbing about in the bucket, before long they'd multiplied.

People brought ducks from their travels & left them by the bucket...

Eventually Steve & Pauline decided Stevie had terrorised Oz enough & it was time to settle down they sold their motorhome & moved to a village on the Sunshine coast..

So, the ducks become homeless..

One day at happy hour at Maroochydore State School just before the big move the ducks were given with great pomp & ceremony to their new keeper Roy from "Coco"

Just what you need in a motorhome a bucket of plastic ducks!

Anyway they were too much a part of the HW story to abandon... These poor ducks suffered many indignities in their time, they'd been hung on lines, shot at in duck season, attacked by a pack of marauding dinosaurs & melted into a pile of yellow plastic by one certain Ex El Prez!

They were on display in front of Coco at many events in different formations, once decorated for Christmas with white beards & then showing their true State of Origin colours, maroon for Qld, even in formation for linedancing..

The kids always loved them at open day at rallies, they were a real draw card.

They'd often be found wandering the campsite appearing outside someone elses home, you never knew where they'd be!

Roy & I sold Coco & are now motorhomeless, so once again so were the ducks..



Where are the ducks, Mr Duckmaster?



At the recent 25th Anniversary Rally in Casino the ducks, with great reverence, were passed on to their new happy owners Bruce (Sookie) & Di Symons. (Dog Gone), who will carry on the great tradition of duck handlers...

Look out for them around Barcy & remember watch out for a duck or 2 & feel free to drop 'em off on their doorstep at anytime! You can never have too many ducks..

They will love ya forever! 😊

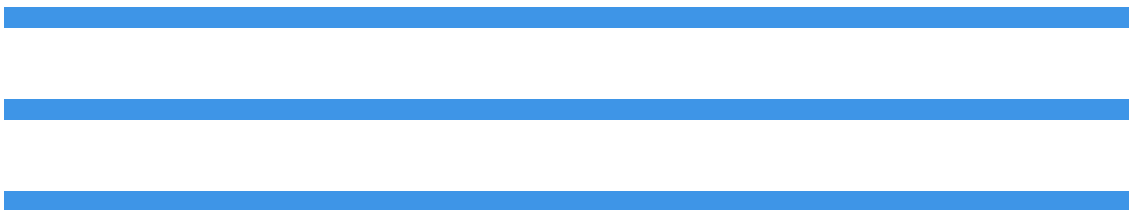
May you all manage to keep your ducks in formation!

Travel safe...

Cheers Roy & Georgina Coalter...

VALE ALLAN ROSS

It is with great sadness that the Highway Wanderers advise the passing of our long time member, Allan ("Techno") Ross on April 28th, 2019 after a relatively short illness. Allan and Willa joined the CMCA in 1999 and originally were members of the WideBay Wanderers Chapter before joining Highway Wanderers in 2013. Allan was also well known amongst the Blazeaid community having worked on the 2013 Monto Camp as well as working the gate night shift at a number of CMCA rallies to raise funds for that organisation. Our sincere condolences go to Willa and her family – Allan will be fondly remembered by all who knew him.



Member's Blogs

Jo and Derek

<http://v2.travelark.org/travel-blog-entry/joderekononhome/1/1553818063>

Tim the Tourist

www.time4tour.com

George and Brigitte Prince

www.laughter4wellbeing.com

Michelle and Rob De Rooy

<http://robbiebago.blogspot.com.au/>

Add your blog to our next Newsletter...email with the link
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Hi fellow HWW. Anyone travelling through Katherine, NT to Perth this year?

I'm needing to get a Thermomix to Perth, but don't trust any freight company or Australia Post with such a fragile item. It will be securely packaged and boxed for transport.

Can you help please?

Liz Timewell - trippingout1@hotmail.com or 0437 590 000

Hi <<First Name>>

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