

CVR November Newsletter



What a great band of volunteers from amongst our chapter members this year. We had 30 individuals on site each day, with Terry and Judy, Shirley and Margaret coming in each day, Lee Follers collecting vouchers pre Jaca, and Diane and Slim having to withdraw through ill health. Each one of these people is a credit to themselves and to the

chapter. They worked tirelessly, and hopefully enjoyed some free time for themselves, and nearly all were assisting in some way before the event as well.

Three visitors also worked hard during the week. Bill, a friend of Rex's, and Chris and Don, friends of Don and Yvonne. The latter two have now joined our chapter.

We had 122 registrations, a new record by one, but we also had 13 vehicles need to withdraw beforehand because of ill health mainly, but one poor vehicle got virtually destroyed by hailstorms south of Sydney on his way to the rally. The number of first timers attending the rally was also very high, about 90% indicating that they came because of the article in The Wanderer in May. Many of these will return, and some will venture out now to other rallies and National rallies. We had Ralph Teeson, one of our members, join us for the week as his November outing.



We had five town tours, two to the Alpacas at Southgate, two buses going to the Blueberry farms at Corindi and one bus to the Bell Collection in Lawrence and the Olives and rural museum at Carrs Peninsular. Two buses went on the very popular Lower Clarence Foodies tour, dropping in at the Fishermen's Coop and Botero's coffee in Maclean and Nicholson's Fine Foods in Yamba, then lunch at the Yamba Co-op.



Three buses did the long trip to Nimbin via New Italy which I will revise a bit next year to make it less tiring.

Thursday morning saw buses rolling out at 6.00am so that there was still food for the free breakfast before attacking the markets in Prince Street.



On Thursday afternoon we had a very well received Opp Shop Fashion Parade. Most visitors sported the red and yellow colours of the Westpac Helicopter Appeal with a bottle of wine going to the best outfit by a man and a woman.

Lorraine and Tim were very dressed up for the event, so much so that some of their outfits were purchased after the event.

A raffle for the appeal, a gem auction, sale of clothing, donations, tagging and other sundries, saw us raise over \$1500 for the Westpac Helicopter Appeal. A fantastic effort by all.

During the week we had many trade talks, the Greyhound and horse races to attend, free barefoot bowls, disc bowls, finska, jigsaw puzzles and board games to keep everyone busy.



Carla had a great roll up with her beaded Christmas decorations, and later in the week Maria, a visitor, gave lessons on crotchet lessons.

The night at the GDSC was again very successful with many winning the meat trays.

I think that everyone went home for a rest, feedback sheets from the visitors certainly indicated this. It was a great week, only made possible by your members who gave up their time to host and work before, during and after the week. Some of these members are in their 80's, and a lot are getting close to it.

We need new members to step up and help. It may be only for a day or two, or it may be before the event, or it may be for the entire week. Even if you only give it a go once. Until you have made the effort, you don't know how you will go. Most of the work does not need a degree, it can be anything from tidying up the undercover area of a morning, serving morning or afternoon tea, helping with the disc bowls or the finska, or if you are able, to help with the setting up of sites etc. Please think about giving it a go, not only do you get to know your fellow chapter members better, you get to meet wonderful people who form the CMCA community, and Grafton and the district benefits so much from the money coming into the area from our visitors.

Talk to some of those who volunteered, or to myself, but please think about it for 2018 if we are to continue this rally.

Lorraine Seale
Coordinator, 2017
CVR Jacaranda Motorhome Rally