

June 2008 Happenings—from where ever—no rally this month.

Good morning all.

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. No doubt some are feeling the cold and have certainly agreed that the month of June may well be too cold to go motor homing especially in good old Tassie. Whilst some of us are off enjoying life on the “big island” others are looking after each other down here on “God’s little acre”.

Have attempted to get some info from those that are away so that I could provide you with something different, other than my ramblings for the next two months (June & July) before we officially meet again at Bell Bay in August. As I start this newsletter, it’s early June (the 2nd in fact) and I am still awaiting Sue’s admission to hospital - not sure who is more nervous Sue or I. Hopefully by the time you receive this Communiqué, all is over and she is well. So I have decided to include in this newsletter some bits and pieces received over the last month from some of our members, no doubt a couple of reminders re rallies and updates as appropriate. You now - the kind of thing we would talk about at a monthly rally when we get together, chew the fat, enjoy each others company and on occasions have a glass of either red or white (so to speak). So here is the first from Sam & Barbara who are currently “on leave” at Bribie Island - their northern residence. No doubt Barbara enjoying the sun and not having to put up with the smoke inversion that settles over Launceston during the winter months and creates no end of trouble with her medical condition. Enjoy it Barbara we look forward to having you both back (with those noisy stuffed animals of yours) later this year. Regards Don M

Just a reminder - Sam & Barbara with their “mail box”.



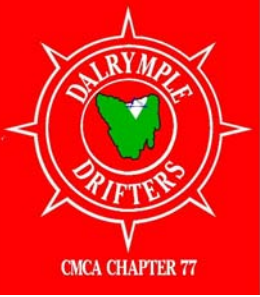
Hello Gang, For what it is worth here is our response to Don’s request, We left Tassie on the Spirit on 8 April heading for Bribie, we spent a couple of days in Melbourne with Barb's sister and then headed of to Rochester where we spent a few days with Mum and also our children/grandchildren at Ballendella and Nanneella.

B'ella is about 12k to the west of Roch and N'ella about 12 k to the East. On Wed 15th we set off for Qld and got about 7 hr along the road and were notified of Mum's passing. Back to Rochester for the funeral and once again headed away finally arriving on Sunday 20th. Work began on ground clearance and new fencing, the weather has been very good for the touristy side of things but dreadful for agricultural pursuits. The drought still rules and we are on level 6 restrictions. That being said we had a good downfall of rain over the last few days although it has not been as heavy as just 60 km to our north (Hervey Bay had 100mm overnight on 28th May) It is fine, but threatening, as I write this.

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“Where East Meets West”

Dalrymple Drifters
“Communiqué”



In mid May we had a young couple from England visit and stay for a couple of days, Kate Honeybill and Andy Lam, Kate is the granddaughter of Alice Mackrill of Lincolnshire and is tenuously related from some generations back, while Andy is a British born Chinese who speaks pommy like the native he is. A very pleasant couple indeed who were a pleasure to entertain.

Bribie, for those who may not know it, is a beautiful place to live, it has all that is needed in the way of shopping, medical, pharmaceutical, and caters well for the white leghorn and ex service communities with about 4 bowls clubs and a top class RSL, among others such as an active Tai Chi group, a gem club, a woodworking club etc. It was once known as a place for the "Newly Wed and Nearly Dead" but it is becoming more attractive to younger working couples with families who find housing more affordable than Brisbane and is not too far for commuting to the CBD using the bus and rail network via Caboolture, birthplace of one Keith Urban, (who is sleeping with Nicole Kidman). Have included a couple of snaps from up north.

Stay well everyone Sam & Barbara



Some pictures from S&B— No 1 with visitors from UK—In No2 can't see Sam anywhere, working, probably at those RSL's checking things out, No 3 beautiful view and yes No 4—well that's probably why he is working off the weight a little (Bellingham 2007)



Another reminder, Lyn & Glenn - somewhere in the top end of the "big island" - note the photo includes their original rig - not the latest Hino which no doubt is very comfortable.

Hi to all DD's— at the moment we in Blackhall are working tonight at Barcoo hotel hope to have a good one we have been busy for last couple weeks played Winton, Longreach & Barcaldine, had good gigs. While in the areas

we have been doing lots of sightseeing. The outback is an amazing place, had heaps of free camps and met some amazing people, one you would know Don, Rex and Marlene Watkins they send their regards to you and Sue, we seem to be bumping into them every couple of days. Next week we head to Tambo which is only about 100ks, work there on Friday night and then on to Rubyvale so are seeing a lot. "Smelling the Roses" is going like a dream, very happy with her performance. Well dear friends we miss you all heaps especially those monthly happy hours or two or three stay safe and will catch up in December God willing. love Lyn & Glenn on the road somewhere.



Members Jennie & Kevin advised me recently that they had completed a "dry run" of the proposed April 09 Rally/Safari. It is envisaged to hold this rally early in April 09 and some more details will be available in the next Communiqué. This will enable you to consider your participation, save some money before the 5 day safari and give it the "nod" at the next rally we have in August at Bell Bay. Things like towing trailers—carting wood water etc will need to be discussed and unfortunately remember diesel/petrol is not getting any cheaper.

I received a pleasant surprise in the mail the other day. The letter below received from the Van Demons, Chapter in my opinion, says it all and assists in making ones efforts worthwhile after providing, what we all consider a wonderful rally. We could be termed as bias—but when another Chapter writes and congratulates you, then I consider it time to, say simply- “take a bow Dalrymple Drifters you deserve it” Don M



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2nd June 2008

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Dear Don & Sue

I am writing on behalf of the Committee & Members of the Van Demons Chapter of C.M.C.A. to thank you very much for a wonderful weekend in Georgetown for the Tasmanian Combined Chapters Rally in February. For such a small club you have succeeded in achieving your goal. You are wonderful people.

With the warm sunny days and balmy nights everyone of us had a very relaxed and thoroughly enjoyable and pleasurable time, I can see why you feel Georgetown has a special place in your hearts.

So many people came to me and said their spirits have been lifted and you as a club have brought new life into our clubs. Some comments were “Dalrymple Drifters are very warm and this rally was well organised and run.”

I believe the crafts were well presented and the people who made things were happy with their results. Every one who went to the old time dance enjoyed it. Entertainment by Gina Timms was also enjoyed. The skit night was hilarious and the Disc Bowls was well presented. Alex and myself, along with some of us ventured out and went on walks up town. A few had a great meal at York Cove

I can understand why The President Timothy Cory of Georgetown Chamber of Commerce who arrived in Georgetown in January 2004 is so passionate about this town of which is the oldest in Australia. The people are friendly and are so willing to share in their generosity.

Once again Don & Sue I say thank you so much for a well organised rally, can't wait to do this again.

Your sincerely
Raclene McPhee T33171


Secretary
Van Demons Chapter CMCA