

CLAYTON BAY REPORT

Reporter: Graham Brown

Our arrival at Clayton Bay was delayed slightly as a result of the GPS directing us via Langhorne Creek. Jacquie was operating the GPS and Lucy was given the directions but, as I always do as I am told, I followed their advice of the ladies.

On arrival we were pleasantly surprised by the location of the park and scenic views. The arrival of Len and Sandra in their new van created interest amongst the members followed by Maz, a visitor introduced by Barbara. At Happy Hour, President Mal needed a rest after a reaction from something he had eaten earlier in the day and he deputised the undersigned to make the official welcome and open the Rally. I was most impressed by my performance and was so relieved that I was quickly able to overcome my shyness. Then came the smorgasbord of soup, mornays and casseroles from one end of the camp kitchen to the other, complimented by bread rolls supplied by the Club. The selection and tastes of the collection was sensational and compliments to all the Chefs involved (a job well done by all). It was a great night with every member present socializing and the noise level indicated that everyone was happy to catch up with their friends. A characteristic that good Clubs are built upon.

The weather on Friday was ideal and many sat outside enjoying the scenic bay while eating their breakfast. Then followed many explorers visiting the advantage points around Clayton Bay/Lake Alexandrina and the Wildlife Walks along the boardwalks. The view of the two black swans tethering their cygnets was a sight to be seen. Others visited local tourist spots. In the afternoon our new members Gloria and Roger introduced a new game called "Finska" that caught the interest of the members and many became involved. The winners were Roger (who owned the game, which is fair enough) but also Ian who soon got the idea of how to knock down the skittles.

Later we enjoyed a wine tasting session initiated by Tony, Trevor and Audrey as a result of the generosity of Gully Wines. At Happy Hour Gloria and Roger were presented with their badges as new members and a welcome folder initiated by Pres. Mal and Sec. Jeff. (Great idea). Valued members introduced by the Browns. Well, done Jacquie and Graham. Immediately Roger was appointed the new Webmaster and has already started working on upgrading our current page. That night was Caravan Perfect with a balmy night; just right for cooking a barbecue tea overlooking the bay.

That evening Pres. Mal conducted a Quiz Night and all members attended to test their general knowledge. There were some know-alls present and quickly began to lead the pack. It was difficult to control the mob because not all agreed with the answer announced and remonstrated with the Leader but as always, the Quiz Masters' decision was final. However, all participating quizzers were disqualified because they started leaving when the Quiz was only partly finished. The Quiz Master advised me that he had a further 400 questions before he felt confident in announcing a winner. The only question I got right was "Who Just passed wind" and I got that right because I was sitting alongside the culprit?

Saturday was a bit cooler and many toured the district seeking out the local attractions. The arrival of the Paddle Boat "Oscar-W" attracted a number of our members when it tied up at the Wharf. It travels from Goolwa to Clayton Bay and return but apparently when asked by Chris the Captain refused to tow his Caravan from Goolwa to the Rally (Chris was disappointed and I do not blame him) Happy Hour was an early because we had booked in at the Clayton Bay Café for dinner and, because of the number attending, we were required to line up at 5.30 p.m. We were served a wholesome good quality meal and entertained by a colourful pair who played music and sang while we wine and dined.

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Sunday morning along came the wind and some showers but it did not stop us from gathering in the Camp Kitchen and enjoy the pancakes provided by the Club and cooked by the volunteers. However due to the high standard of cooking required one member was stood down because his pan cakes were too small for the hungry Caravaneers. Unfortunately, because of the wind and rain, Disc Bowls was cancelled and when I suggested a walk, I was the only one that participated. The other members sat in the Camp Kitchen in front of a wood fire eating fried chips, playing games and listening to Chris play his charming music with encores from Pres. Mal and Club Coordinator John. I was not allowed to sing.

Monday, we packed up and came home. A fun rally at a good location, great facilities helpful and friendly Managers, a great reporter what else could you wish for to make the Rally a success? In general, the Park was in the process of being upgraded and the Camp kitchen was certainly an incentive to return to the park.

My only complaint was that as the reporter I was disappointed there was no gossip, nobody missed behaved or did anything naughty that I could report.

I congratulate Pres. Mal (held up by Nancy) and his team for a well organised first rally.

Regards Graham B – the Reporter.



Saturday night diners at "Sails", Clayton Bay

