



The Prospect Whisper

Issue No. 290 – October 2025

Mudgee – 19th National Caravan Rally – October 2025



We enjoyed our stay at Mudgee. This was our first National rally, and we were amazed at how smoothly things ran, congratulations to the committee and volunteers for all their hard work. I think we were in the last group to arrive on Monday and also in the last group to depart on Wednesday. Special thanks to Ron for getting our power restored quickly, although we were a little worried when he told us he had called the plumber and shortly after a plumber's van arrived totally not related to our power issue. I thoroughly enjoyed the Musical Bingo, Ukulele, Market Day, 1 Tia Chi visit and helping



out with some extra crochet through the Yarn n Yarn. We didn't catch too many of the evening shows due to the weather, but Pete, Izzy and I enjoyed the performances from outside a few nights till it was just too cold and windy to stay. We were able to catch an absolutely amazing sunset on leaving the show Sunday night. Hope everyone arrived home



safely. Pete and Rob

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We both really enjoyed the musical bingo. All the entertainment was **very** entertaining, and we stayed till the end every night.

Barb really liked the Yarn n Yarn and the relaxing opportunity to chat with other club members. Barb and John



We had a terrific time at the National rally in Mudgee. The nighttime entertainment was excellent and some of the acts included Amitie, the Fab Two, Christine Tyrell, Brian Lorenz, FABBA, Baby Boomers and Darren Carr. There was singing, dancing and laughing with lots of audience participation. Brian Lorenz spent a lot of time standing



on a chair as he entertained us with his amazing voice. This was before he joined a conga line as he sung his way around the hall. Brian forgot to sing a particular song that he promised Anne and Sue, so after the show he sang John Farnham's version of 'Help' a cappella, and he did an amazing job. The Baby Boomers had us laughing and singing along as they dressed up and performed classics of the past. Darren Carr, ventriloquist extraordinaire, had us laughing so hard we had sore cheeks. But then when he got Rob up on stage as his 'human puppet' we laughed even harder again.



Thank you to the committee of the National Rally for not only organising an excellent rally but for organising such awesome entertainment for us all to enjoy. Karen S



Due to our workload at the national rally, we didn't get to experience a great deal of daytime events, but we were very pleased with the night entertainment. Thank goodness all the performers showed up, which was one of my concerns.

Aside from a few individuals who assumed we were paid staff (*could I mind their dogs while they go out to tea?*), feedback regarding the rally organisation was very positive. This result could only be achieved by having a large number of volunteers.



My main experience was being overwhelmed by the wonderful people who were eager to help. Giving so much of their time, their dedication to the charities, the extraordinary number of craft items, that kept growing each day, and readiness to assist whenever they were needed.



As a committee member of NSW Association, I am truly grateful for everyone's support and immensely proud of our achievements. Anne C

A number of club members arrived early prior to the official opening of the rally. Ron and my jobs were to assist with the marking out of the sites for our designated area (the green area), including checking water and electricity was available for our 70 sites. Our busiest day was the Monday when we were expecting approximation 350 vans in total. Keith had it all under control with precision timing. Great job Keith.



There was so much to do over the rally including disc bowls competition, line dancing, musical bingo, art and craft classes, card making, tours of the Men's shed (I'm still looking for the women's shed), morning teas, sausage sizzle and many more activities.

The nighttime entertainments were thoroughly enjoyable with my favourite Darren Carr, comedian and ventriloquist - absolutely hilarious.

Unfortunately, both Ron and myself made a visit to Mudgee Hospital as we were both unwell with respiratory infections (not Covid or RSV). This caused us to miss a lot of the entertainment and activities.

The weather was perfect and even though we were not well, we had a good time.

A job well done by all. Di and Ron

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These are a few of the highlights we enjoyed at Mudgee.

Handing out the lanyards and saying hello. Frank handing out the welcome green bags and explaining to each person about the cup covers and the grey water sox was a great pleasure for us.

My Art Class was very well patronised, and some good work done too.

The Ukelele gatherings were good, but we couldn't hear ourselves sing much but it was fun.



Yarn n' Yarn was productive, lots of sewing, knitting and a lot of talk and laughter, and we also helped one another and swapped ideas.

The nights' entertainment on the whole was pleasing – diverse.

Everything, from our perspective, ran smoothly and the weather was perfect all the time.

The one downer was our old car breaking down and being towed away to be fixed, but our son sent his ute up for us to use.

Thank you to all the organisers. Roslyn

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It was great to meet the other volunteers from other clubs to measure and mark about 350 sites. There were others who put welcome bags together, organised the lanyards and unloaded many boxes of donated books/CDs/DVDs to be sold. There were countless beautifully knitted and crocheted blankets, beanies and shawls that were put on display for several charities to collect at the end of the rally. Pizzas were kindly supplied for dinner by the national committee. Because of great

teamwork, most of the jobs were completed early, allowing us to have some down time and enjoy Mudgee before most of the vans arrived on Monday. The great job that Keith had done in the many months prior to the rally resulted in the parking of the vans in the various coloured areas going off without a hitch, which resulted in some great positive comments.... so, thanks again Keith!!

Greg enjoyed trying Tai Chi for the first time. I enjoyed the line dancing, music bingo with Brian (no brains required who also gave some very interesting trivial information regarding the song or artist) and just walking and talking to fellow caravaners from various parts of Australia.



Happy hour was a good chance to catch up with our PCC members and to hear what they had been enjoying throughout the day. The nightly entertainment was enjoyed

by all who attended with our favourite being Errol Gray and his original lyrics to his songs and jokes. Thanks to Dianne J and Karen S we were able to view the lovely photos they had taken throughout the day and night that were shown on the big screen each evening before the shows started, so I would like to thank them for giving up their own time



during the rally for this to happen. Greg and Rob were happy that they were able to drive down the road and get the drones up (away from the airport exclusion area) and get some stunning photos of the caravans from above. This was



our first national rally, and we loved our experience. The PCC team of volunteers did our club proud. Last but not least, a big thank you Anne, Ron T and all the committee for their countless hours of organisation required to make this rally run as smoothly as it did and be as enjoyable as possible for everyone. Barb and Greg

We arrived at Mudgee with a plan on how to do the marking of sites and after a couple of dummy runs our crew worked well together and got the job done in record time.



After a couple of days off we all got ready for our big day of parking vans, and what a great job everyone did. All communicated very well and wasted no time placing vans on sites. A big thanks to all of the



volunteers involved, could not have done it without you.



My time at the 19th National Rally wasn't what I had planned.

I thought that once the van parking was finished I would kick up my heels and enjoy myself, but I came down with this virus which knocked me out for the rest of the rally. Keith

Being a part of the volunteer team for the 19th National Caravan Rally was a memorable experience. It was a privilege to have met and worked with so many like-minded volunteers to reach our joint goal with many new friendships made in the process.

During the day I enjoyed Line Dancing and Music Bingo and thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment each night. I loved sorting and displaying all of the photos which were entered in the photo competition. So many great photos. I found having to judge the winners was not something I enjoyed. The other two judges and I actually chose a few photos the same but still had some compromising to do...awful job!



Keith became ill with some bug just a couple of days into the rally and spent most of the rally in bed. I took him to the hospital where we were triaged, saw the doctor and were back in the car with a prescription for antibiotics in 40 minutes!! The nurse and the doctor were very informative and friendly. Dianne

AGM this Saturday 25th October at 10.30am

Coolibah Hotel – 15-25 Sherwood Road, Merrylands

Please wear Club shirts

Berry Christmas Rally information

- **Friday afternoon:** a representative from the Salvation Army will come to pick up the hampers. Remember that the hampers will be handed out directly to each family.
- **Friday night:** we will play a Madness and Mayhem game organised by Karen and Rob with supper afterwards. We will also draw out names for the seating arrangements for Saturday night.
- **Saturday morning:** a game of barefoot bowls has been organised at the Berry Bowling Club starting at 11am with the cost of between \$5 - \$10 (to be confirmed). The club café will also be open for lunch for those interested.
- **Saturday night:** dinner is at the Berry Bowling Club starting at 6pm. The dinner includes mixed entrée of mini spring rolls, satay beef skewer and dim sims, then alternating roast beef or roast chicken with roast vegetables followed by alternating cheesecake or apple pie and ice cream. Vegetarians can choose an alternative option. ***You can decorate your tables any time after 4:30pm.***

For those who are interested, we will go back to the room under the grandstand for tea, coffee and supper and play a couple of games.

I look forward to seeing you in your best and brightest Christmas hats/outfits on Saturday night!!