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## The Great Escape Oz August 2022 Newsletter

G'day to all Rallyitives and those who are interested in joining our trusty group.

### **THIS IS A RALLY HEALTH CHECK ON ENTRANTS AND CARS.**

Hi all, getting emails to those who have their email accounts with “bigpond” has been extremely difficult and I have no answer for the reason, most of the “bigpond” accounts have been in the country. I have tried a few things recently and I hope that will solve the problem. So if you have another email address outside of your “bigpond” account, please pass on the additional email address.

Currently I am in full swing in getting the tracks, catering and accommodation together for the 2023 Great Escape Oz rally in August 2023.

Before we get onto the plans for 2023, I would like to advise that The Great Escape Oz car rally passed over **\$88,090.16** to CURE4 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, which were the results of the on again, off again 2022 rally.

A truly great result as we only had 14 cars so well done to all involved and thank you. CURE4 CF have acknowledged that amount and have asked me to pass on their thanks to everyone who participated in the rally and worked hard over the months/years leading up to the rally in raising those funds.

These funds as you know will give CURE4 CF the opportunity to increase the volume of research they can fund this year. Once this information is shared with the CURE4 CF community we **hope that it will encourage others to join with us next in rally number 20.**

We look forward to hearing from Cure4 CF on how this money will be spent or what research grants will be taken up

Before I go onto the overview for the 2023 rally, I have a couple of callouts to each and everyone of you.

1. **Photographer** – we need a **photographer/video person for the rally**. Please send me details of anyone you may know who has an interest
2. **Car looking for a team** – anyone who really wants to go but doesn't have a car, this is your chance! Get in early. Driver & Car located in Sydney.
3. **Ken** – **Looking for a car to join their crew**. Located in Ballina
4. **Sharon Ellinsworth** – as this is the 20<sup>th</sup> Rally, Sharon would love to come on the rally but is in need of a ride. Anyone with a spare seat, let us know.

## **RALLY NUMBER 20**

Mal Boardman (W2) and myself have just finished the survey for the August 12 to 20 2023 rally, which is also our number 20<sup>th</sup> Rally. A lot of congratulations to all those who have helped in all sorts of ways, those that have raised money in all sorts of way, as that's what makes it so successful. People developing their own ideas and goals and going out and achieving those, is what is going to make the difference to people's lives who have CF.

I am truly glad that Mal was keen to do the survey with me and further keen to learn more about how the rally operates. He certainly is a very keen and has a country eye to finding good tracks. I enjoyed his company and conversations, he was keen to find out more about the behind the track book methods of putting things together, thanks Mal it was great having you with me you did an excellent job and you now have a better understanding of the rally.

It was probably one of the most difficult surveys I have done not specifically due to tracks but a combination of finding dry tracks, caterers who are interested in serving up to 100 people and if you are lucky, getting a bed. There is still a lot of water lying about and of course closed roads and farmers concerned about having 30-40 cars rolling through their property, and I get that, so you look elsewhere to find tracks off the black stuff. It has been achieved but only through perseverance! We have great tracks for 2023 and with the caterers who have come onboard, it should be a good tucker rally.

So now I am going to release a list of accommodation venues that you can enjoy, but I warn you please be quick and make sure you get your booking confirmed. There is not only holiday makers out there, but I was also advised there will be a lot of maintenance and project work going to happen in western Queensland next year and they will book out accommodation for extended periods and as you will only be staying a night, the accommodation will go to the long-term hirer. So in the chart that I have put together you have a few options. I placed the first accommodation on my list as my preferred accommodation, so you have motels, hotels, caravan parks and some that have cabins, or you can camp. **JUST GET IN EARLY.**

For over 2 years Covid has dominated our world. In Australia, we've evaluated every sniffle, undergone extensive lockdowns, and double-vaccinated (over 90%) of adults to combat this lethal virus. For many of us Covid-19 has prevented us from traveling for a prolonged period, so this has caused the reason people are just getting out. There are 1000's of caravans on the roads, many drivers having no experience in towing a caravan and that was obvious in seeing a couple of rolled over caravans, you just hope the occupants are okay. and that is why accommodation is so difficult to get particularly up north.

### **Accommodation/Camping for 2023 Rally.**

Listed below are the Towns and Accommodation/Camping venues within those towns. We are all camping at Caldervale Station on the third night out of Dubbo and extremely limited accommodation in Grawin via Sheeppark Inn and Glengarry Hilton on the second night out, so again most will be in a swag. So it is imperative that you book your accommodation early if you are looking for a bed in the remaining towns.

There is still more to sort out in regard to the Welcome Dinner in Dubbo on Saturday 12 August 2023. That will be all completed mid to late next week and will be announced in the next Newsletter. Accommodation will not be a problem within the area we will be using in Dubbo.

In Karumba I would suggest that you book for Sunday night 20 August and depending on when you are leaving and what you are doing on the Monday, I would book that night also as it will go very quicky.

I will be getting quotes from the car carrying operators in getting a pickup point and charges of transporting your cars back to Sydney and Melbourne. I'll pass those details on in the next Newsletter so you can get information of delivery to other towns.

**ACCOMMODATION/CAMPING FOR THE GREAT ESCAPE OZ 2023 CAR RALLY.**

**Sunday 20 August Karumba.** Ash's Holiday Units 07 47459132, End of the Road Motel, 07 47459132. Gee-Dee's family cabins 07 47459433, Gone Fishing holiday units 07 47459502, Jay Seas holiday units 07 4745 9414. Karumba Point Sunset 07 47459277. Karumba Point Tourist & Holiday Park 07 4745 9306

**Saturday 19 August Normanton.** Gulfland Motel and Caravan Park 07 47451290. Central Hotel 07 47451215, The Purple Pub/Motel 07 4745 1324

**Friday 18 August Cloncurry.** Leichhardt Hotel/Motel 07 47421389. Gidgee Inn 07 4742 1599. Wagon Wheel Motel 07 47421366. Cloncurry Caravan Park Oasis 07 47421313.

**Thursday 17 August Winton.** Winton Outback Motel 07 46571422\_North Gregory Hotel 0746570647. Winton Roadhouse Cabins & Caravan Park 07 46570404.

**Wednesday 16 August Ilfracombe.** Wellshot Hotel 07 46582106. Ilfracombe Caravan Park & Cabins 07 46581510

**Tuesday 15 August Caldervale.** Caldervale Station. No accommodation everyone will swag.

**Monday 14 August Mitchell.** Mitchell Motel 07 46231355. Cambridge Motel 07 31802170. Major Mitchell Caravan Park Camping & Cabins 07 46236600.

**Sunday 13 August Grawin.** Sheeppark Inn 02 68293932, this will incorporate Glengarry Hilton accommodation and both locations free camping.

**Friday, Saturday 11 and 12 August Dubbo.** To be advised.

**PLEASE BOOK EARLY, LIKE NOW!**

More next month !! Keep well, start your fundraising and send me updates if you would like to have them included in the Newsletter.

See 'Ya down the track

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