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The Great Escape Oz July 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.

It was close to 2.5 trips around the sun since many of us have caught up, but the ones who joined us for the start in Broken Hill, just wanted to get out and reconnect with the world. A low entry number but a high-spirited group who enjoyed their returned freedom and the Aussie bush.

We had a great start to the festivities for the rally with the Welcome Dinner in the Pavilion Room of the iconic and historic Palace Hotel, Broken Hill with its remarkable paint hangings and murals that decorate this wonderful room.

Meeting with CURE4 CYSTIC FIBROSIS FOUNDATION

We had the chance to meet and welcome Birgit Smith, Fundraising and Operations Coordinator for CURE4 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the recipients of all your fundraising efforts. Birgit gave a very impressive talk on what CURE4 CF is and what they do, their goal to raise money for research to find a cure for Cystic Fibrosis, which is the GEOz goal to raise as much money so that research can benefit, and a cure can be found.

After a wonderful Saturday night Welcome Dinner, Sunday morning was the start of the rally with a short transport section to Silverton where we enjoyed Brekkie at the Silverton Bakery. Birgit joined us for the short trip and brekkie before returning to Broken Hill to catch a flight back to Adelaide.

At last we are back on the TRACK Again

Well The Great Escape Oz September 2020 rally did get started in April 2022 but did not finish where it was planned to finish. The last 2 years we have been controlled by the covid pandemic and rain which has caused floods in our cites and the bush. We managed to get halfway along the course, then we had to turn around and back track for a while until we found some "dry" tracks, some accommodation and venues that could cater for us.

" Where the bloody hell are y'a"

I am sorry we did not get to all the places within the original course, as they were all places of interest and of course those towns and business miss our financial input, which is a great shame. I really want to thank everyone, entrants, officials for their patience, creative skills and just letting it happen as 3 of us dealt with the decisions and options that had to be made, making sure everyone was safe, the tracks interesting and making it all work, which it did. The Officials did an excellent job as it was not an easy rally but with their help, we made it happen.

A big thank you to entrants who developed or arranged activities or games to take everyone's mind off the disappointments, we had the "GEOZ" Coffee Club, mobile style travelling with us thanks to Stephen and John Car 188, 'Tassie Devil'. Then we had others who organised a Pool competition, the closest to the bottle of Rum coin toss comp, cards etc. It's all part of the inventive minds of entrants and officials working together. Also thanks to Bluey Miller and family (Zero Car) for his donation of the 4 Rally Jackets which were auctioned off at a good price, Bluey also had Stubbie Holders and Caps all with the new signage which he sold during the rally. Thanks to others who donated auction items during the rally that sold well.

Thank you to a long-time supporter of the Great Escape Oz

I would also like to make a special mention and thanks to Scott Mundy, GV Transport Shepperton who has donated the truck we have used and called the Spares Truck for at least 10 years, one day he might come on the rally with us.

Birdsville Track

In this rain effected rally we had a ball, travelled down The Birdsville Track, and that was another tick off the bucket list by many people who had never travelled that track, then had a wonderful 2-night stopover in Leigh Creek SA where we rallied one day and had the Awards Dinner that evening and from all accounts it was a total hoot, the staff at Leigh Creek Hotel could not do enough for us and was greatly appreciated by all.

Constant rain is doing great damage to our roads.

La Nina has not been good for NSW and Qld over the past 2 years or so, the floods in both of those states have been devastating to both farmers and households and it continues. The weather has caused big problems within our road network and that goes for both gravel and bitumen, as they have been cut to pieces. It was not going to take much to break up the top level, this is going to take a lot of time and money to repair these roads. So it was a mud bath and without accident, it was time to show off your skill and we all just had fun. Here is a question without notice

"60% of the Australian Road Network is unsealed."

Washed and home safely.

I hope by now all the mud and dust has been washed off both you and the rally car and preparation now started for the 2023 Great Escape OZ fun car rally for CURE4 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

I hope you and your families are all well as many of us were not well during the rally and I have certainly had some lingering aftereffects of covid. This of course has slowed setting the tracks for 2023 and what else do you think' weather of course. Remembering this will be

rally number 20, we have a couple of things to celebrate, 20 years of Great Escapes, we have been to the bottom of Australia, Tassie 2014 now we are going to near the top of Australia and we have certainly seen lots in between.

Rally Number 20 2023, what's next?

To seasoned Rallytatives or those hankering to get on board, and we have a few new starters, there are some exciting new experiences coming in the 2023 rally, there are areas that we have travelled in and that's always a good start. New areas, which makes for new adventure. Tracks are still being developed slowly as there are still flood waters around along with closed roads. We are back to the town that saw off the 1st Great Escape back in 2002 which was Dubbo NSW and finishing in Port Macquarie via Fraser Island. But this time we are heading north and finishing in the north at Karumba, which is a small fishing and holiday town at the southern end of the Gulf Carpentaria Nth Qld. All the towns in between have not been confirmed as yet but soon will be and we should get some sun to dry out the areas hit by the continuous rain.

I have someone who is looking to join a rally car for 2023 Great Escape Oz.

In 2022 we had a couple of cars looking for navigators/team members to join them on the rally, we also had a couple of people wanting to join teams for the rally, so I linked them up and it seemed to work out for both parties.

I have been contacted by a gentleman wanting to team up with a car, his name is Kevin, he is from Ballina NSW. If anyone has a position, please advise and I'll pass on Kevin's details.

I would also like to thank all who donated prizes for the successful raffle.

- 1st Prize Jura E8 Black Fully Automatic Coffee Maker Value \$2000. Arranged by Teresa Carlson (Car 65) and donated by Harvey Norman, Echuca
- 2nd Prize Hisense 65-inch 4K Ultra HD Smart TV. Value \$1400. Donated by Peter Roulstone (Zero Car)Harvey Norman ,Mount Gambier.
- 3rd Prize. Fuel Voucher to use anywhere. Value \$250 Donated by Teresa Carlson (Car 65) and Terry Stewart (Track Boss)

Congratulation to all winners, they were notified, and the items were delivered within a fortnight of the draw.

2022 THE GREAT ESCAPE OZ TROPHIES AND AWARD RECEIPTINTS

I have included a list of all winners from the 2022 GEOZ rally for your information which hopefully will rub off on you for an inspiring 2023 rally.

Congratulations to all the rallytatives who received Trophies and Awards in participating in the 2022 The Great Escape Oz Rally for CURE4 Cystic Fibrosis, everyone is a winner in this rally.

Outright Winners	Car #	Car Name	
1st	96	The Nannas	Craig & Justin
2nd	05	King of the Mountain	Peter & Jorja
3rd	282	Y Knot	Craig & Colleen
4th	168	F Troop	Travers & Ally
5th	66	Rolling Red	Troy & Nathan

Highest Fundraiser			
1st	66	Rolling Red	Troy & Nathan
2nd	65	Warriors 4CF	Teresa,Shryn,Linda
3rd	102	Old Muds	Jon & Troy
Recognition for a great effort			
	1915	Charlie Co	Craig & Fred
	99	The Veterans	Peter & Tony
	282	Y Knot	Craig & Colleen
Scoring Awards			
Family	96	The Nannas	Craig & Justin
Ladies	65	Warriors 4CF	Teresa,Sharyn,Linda
Class Awards			
A	168	F Troop	Travers & Ally
B	96	The NANNAS	Craig & Justin
C	66	Rolling Red	Troy & Nathan
State Awards			
NSW	282	Y Knot	Craig & Colleen
Vic	96	The Nannas	Craig & Justin
People's Choice Awards			
Best Presented			
1st	188	Tassie Devil	Stephen & Jon
2nd	77	Ultimate Holden	Darrell & Kylie
3rd	05	King of the Mountain	Peter & Jorje
Mateship & True Spirit			
	99	The Veterans	Peter & Tony
Wayne Coleman Award for Officials			
	C9	C9	Froggy & Kay
Zaniest Crew	96	The Nannas	Craig & Justin
Ya said you wouldn't make it	1915	Charlie Company	Craig & Fred
Promotor	65	Warriors 4CF	Teresa,Sharyn,Linda
Ambassador	169B	F Troop	Steve & Yvette
65 Roses Award	66	Rolling Red	Troy & Nathan
We would like to acknowledge and thank the Officials			
	Zero Car	Zero Car	Rolly & Bluey
	Sweep	Sweep Car	Lloydie & Rob
	C9	C9	Froggy & Kay

	C6	C6	Doc & Rick
	C8	C8	Greg & Paul
	Workshop	W1	Mal & Nathan
	Spares Truck	Spares	Brendon & Tony

4x4 Wheel Drive vehicles can now be part of The Great Escape Oz 2023

I have been asked by entrants and people wanting to join the GEOz for some years now can we use our 4-wheel drive and join the GEOZ. I have bitten the bullet and the 2023 rally is open to 4 X 4 Vehicles. A flyer will be out shortly, all the costing will be the same as the normal rally car fees.



The Naming of "Track Boss Creek"



A new reference point is now part of the Sturt Stoney Desert.

The incident happened on Thursday 3rd December 2020 as I was preparing tracks for the 2021 The Great Escape Oz car rally for CURE4 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Many of you have heard the story and I now want to thank you for your support and best wishes during the 3-month recovery period along with being with me on 3rd May 2022 to celebrate the erecting of the sign and the naming of 'TRACK BOSS CREEK'.

It was wonderful to experience the spirit within the rallyitives who got in and prepared the holes for the post (which was like concrete) as it is aptly name Sturts Stoney Desert.

This was all done in the company of Anthony and Janet Brooks, the owners of Cordillo Downs Station who kept me alive till the chopper arrived.

Not forgetting Michael Thompson the Lowes Fuel tanker driver who raised the alarm, the person who found me after following my footprints until he found me unconscious and slumped up against a tree in this dry creek area now called 'TRACK BOSS CREEK'. Unfortunately Michael could not join us for the opening of the now infamous creek site.

I am forever grateful to Michael, Janet and Anthony as they are all part of my survival.

Likewise to all the Rallyitives a massive thank you in joining with myself and Sharon in erecting the sign and being part of this chapter in my life. It is an honour to be friends with so many great people.

The next chapter in my life is to write a book about this incident and tell of my feelings and thoughts that are now part of my make up.



I have attached an Expression of Interest sheet which you can pass onto friends that have always wanted to do an Australian bush rally. Escape the Ordinary. "Life off the Beaten Track" come and join the GREAT ESCAPE OZ and help find a CURE for CF.

See 'Ya down the track

Terry Stewart

Track Boss

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