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The Great Escape Oz February 2023 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.

THE CLEAN-UP AFTER THE RECENT FLOODS.

I hope in some areas things have started to get back to normal following the rain and storms which effected 4 states over the last 4 months of last year. This effected towns people and farmers and we will feel the cost of that within our food supply in the coming months. Remember the farmers support us in opening up their farms for the rally so we can pass through or get on some farm tracks and have some fun.

4X4 VEHICLES NOW IN THE RALLY.

I hope there is further interest in joining the rally as it is now open to 4 X 4 Vehicles, I have been asked many times about the opportunity of using their 4x4 vehicle, well now it is open. All 4x4 vehicles will be in a class of their own, it will be the same course and control points, all regulations will be the same for all competing vehicles. We certainly have had some serious inquiries from new and returning entrants to bring their 4-wheel drive vehicles.

WELCOME BACK STRANGER

I have had a lot of interest and enquiries from new or entrants that have not participated in The Great Escape Oz for some time which is wonderful as these good 'old rallyitives want to come back for the fun and friendship. I have had some great phone call conversations and pleasing to hear they want to return. So if you know someone who has had a spell for a few years give them a call or email and let them know that **in August 2023 is Rally Number 20 Dubbo to Karumba on the Shores of the Gulf of Carpentaria Nth Qld. 12 to 20 August 2023.**

I am continuing to send out letters/emails to past rallyitives in the hope they just might want to come back and say hi to all those friends that they made way back then. So if they have disposed of their rally car, they can jump in the 4x4 and restart the fun and knowing you are competing.

NEW RALLY BROCHURE TO HAND OUT TO YOUR SUPPORTERS AND/OR NEW ENTRANTS.

I would also like to thank Teresa Carlson from CAR 65 in getting the New Brochure printed and offering to send these out to people to help in their fundraising activities. We are hoping that this 'back to the future' brochure will spark interest in getting involved again or new entrants within the 4-wheel drive sector. If you need 10 or more of these brochures, please give me a call or better still send me an email with your postal address and I'll get them to you ASAP. trackboss508@gmail.com

CELEBRATIONS FOR OUR 20 YR ANNIVERSARY DINNER SO COME JOIN US.

If you are not competing in rally #20 well how about joining us in the celebrations in Dubbo on Saturday 12 August 2023 at Club Dubbo, just register send me an email and get it in as it will be a ticket event for those not on the rally If you are keen on being there to say hi to all those friends you remember, send me an email saying you are keen to be there, we need to know numbers for catering reasons.

Attending Anniversary - Welcome Dinner Saturday 12 August 2023 for those not on the rally

The cost will be \$60 per person, it will cover; Canape Platters on arrival and before dinner, A La-Cart Dinner, the cutting of the 20 yrs. Anniversary Cake which will be served with Ice Cream and fresh fruit garnish Tea & Coffee. Cash Bar. **DINNER FROM 6.30 PM.**

During the day on Saturday we will be holding a Street Parade within the business area of Dubbo, this will be around 11.30/12 noon as this is the busy time within Dubbo. Registration and Scrutineering will be after the Street Parade at the car park area at the Dubbo Club.

THE DUBBO CLUB 82 WHYANDRA STREET, DUBBO

For those wanting to attend the Anniversary Dinner but not the Rally Please provide me with your name or names of those coming, send to my email address Trackboss508@gmail.com

THE GREAT ESCAPE OZ BREKKIE SUNDAY 13 AUGUST 2023.

Day 1 of the Rally will be BREKKIE at the Tourist Office Car Park, which is behind the Library, where we started the 2016 rally. Non entrants who attended the Anniversary Dinner are welcome.

Brekkie will be provided by The Lions Club of Dubbo.

WE HAVE CARS AND PEOPLE LOOKING TO BE INVOLVED.

I have had a lot of interest from people who are very keen on coming on the rally but no response to help out. I have put this in the last 2 Newsletters and nothing has been picked up. I have said in earlier Newsletters, I hope I can help in matching people with other people and forming a team in a car,(I am not the matchmaker). We have a new team who is looking for a team member and we have people wanting to join a team. So any further interest please send me an email and we'll help to join the dots.

- **We have a Sydney driver** who has a car ready and is looking for a team member.
- **Ken from Ballina** is looking to team up with a car/team.
- **Sharon Ellinsworth**, as this is the 20th Rally, she would love to come on the rally but needs a ride, please advise if you have a spare seat.

- **John (Mule) Milne** from Finley. Mule is a very experienced rally man as he did many rallies with us also a successful fundraiser during his time and wants to join a crew for Rally #20 in 2023

If you are able to assist, please come back to me, and I'll put you in touch with prospective person. Trackboss508@gmail.com

What to do in getting home from Karumba, this is important, please read and consider.

I guess many of you are thinking about getting home from Karumba, it does not matter where you live it's a long way home. Rather than organising your car to be picked up and loaded in Karumba as that may be a long wait and expensive, I am suggesting that you drive to Cairns in convey, get the car on a car carrier then fly home. Can I get the number of teams who are interested in having their rally cars loaded onto a car carrying trailer and sent to their nearest pick-up point. I need numbers and destinations, mainly Sydney and Melbourne so then I can start discussions on price etc with the Car Carrying Transport companies.

Remember we finish in Karumba on a Sunday and the Awards Dinner that evening, I suggest the convey leaves Tuesday as it will take 2 days travelling to Cairns, so I need to know those who are interested in travelling in convey, you may just want to go to the coast and drive back home via the coast. so I am suggesting that those interested in forming a convey travel together across to Cairns, the distance is 766 klm.

I would suggest you stay overnight at Georgetown, 382 klms from Karumba and 384 klms from Cairns. Accommodation in Georgetown, a good halfway point.

Rally Convey to Cairns Accommodation Georgetown.

- Undara Experience Hotel 074097 1900 Railway Carriages. We stayed here in 2011.
- Latara Resort Motel 0740521190

If you are thinking of driving to Cairns, you need to decide early so you can book accommodation.

Likewise those who are going to drive home via Longreach, Mal will be heading that way on his way home to Maitland, Hunter area so again form a convey and you can branch off when needed.

GOING TO THE TIP, CAPE YORK.

After we finish the rally in Karumba Sharon and I and 3 others all 4-wheel drive vehicles are heading up to the top of Australia, Cape York. If others are interested, please contact me by phone or email, preferably in a 4-wheel drive.

SPARES TRUCK.

We will not have a Spares Truck with us this year, so you need to make provision in your vehicle as you will be carrying everything you need. Over the last near 10 years Scott Mundy has provided a truck to do the rally and used as a Spares Truck. He has provided the vehicle free of charge and the last 3 rallies he has had to hire a truck to do this as all his trucks have been extremely busy, so we say thank you to Scott in what he has done.

THE WELCOME DINNER SATURDAY 12 AUGUST 2023

CLUB DUBBO 82 WHYLANDRA St DUBBO.

BELOW ACCOMMODATION FOR THE RALLY IN ALL TOWNS FROM START TO FINISH.

The CLUB DUBBO own 2 motels quite near to the Club.

- I have booked a number of rooms at All Seasons Motor Lodge 78 Whylandra St,
P: 02 6882 6377
- They also own Akuna Motor Inn 109 Whylandra St Dubbo 02 6885 4422
- NRMA DUBBO HOLIDAY PARK Whylandra St 1800 824 820

Both motels and caravan park are in walking distance to the Club

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

Accommodation available in all towns, but you must get in early, I have given you options.

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. Sheepyard Inn 02 68293932, this will incorporate Glengarry Hilton accommodation and both locations free camping.

Friday, Saturday 11 and 12 August Dubbo. Book if you are requiring accommodation on Friday 11 August '23

PLEASE BOOK EARLY, LIKE NOW!

Entry form for the rally attached -Please fill in and email return to me.

Important message to Rallytives who have email addresses within BIG POND

Over the last 6 months I have been having extreme difficulties in getting emails out to people who have their email addresses with **BIGPOND**. If Newsletters or other correspondence are sent out to BIGPOND, within bulk mail we get bounce back, it only happens when it is emailed out using the bulk mail out system. So if you have a team member using big pond within their email address, could you please onforward this Newsletter as if we get bounce back, I then

need to send the big pond addresses out singularly and that takes time. We are looking at a system to overcome the problem, but until then it would be appreciated if you could help in the distribution of Newsletter. We had success in sending out the October Newsletter, but we want to maintain that success, so just check with your team member who has their email account with BIGPOND and make sure they received the February 2023 Newsletter. We are reducing this problem but you'll still need to help in getting it to your team members who have BIG POND.

See 'Ya down the track.

Terry Stewart

Track Boss

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