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The Great Escape 2010 - Merimbula

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June - July - August - 2010 Newsletter

The Great Escape 2010

17th to 26th March

Wednesday - Day 1 - 17th

Well here we go again. Kevin and Jackie are here and we are off to the BP at Cooper Street. Ray and Sandra, Billy, Joe and Linda, it was great everyone was on time. So it was time to head down the highway to meet Phil & Cherie.



We lost Joe and Billy, but found them on Eastlink, but they were going backwards. It was all OK, but

Linda said she might come with us guys. Next stop was the BP at Longwarry, where Les and Sue, Wayne and June had already arrived. Pie cake and coffee was had. It was a hot day so it was time for a cold drink stop at Sale. I went to take some pictures with my camera and realised I had lost the memory card. It was great that everybody helped to find it but we didn't, cause' it was at home (DOH!). Joe and Billy came to Phil's rescue with a nut for his power steering.



We got to the Lakes about 3pm to find that Les, Maureen, Jim, and Helen had arrived. It was time then for a few drinks

and then off to the Club for tea. Somebody said it was just down the road so we decided to walk, yeah, "bullshit", but it was a good brisk walk home with a lot of laughs. It is not hard to have a good time with this group of people.

Mick & Debbie Breheny.

Thursday - Day 2 - 18th

We all assembled out the front of the Whiter Holiday Village Lakes Entrance ready for our trip to Merimbula.

The usual chit chat then into the cars and off we headed. All was going well in our convoy when



Ray and I, who were travelling in behind Billy had noticed that Billy's car would slow down to almost a stop and would start to go again, after a few of these incidents Billy waved us on to pass. We all arrived at Cann River and there was no Billy, so Joe went back down the road to find Billy with a 20 litre can of petrol.

Billy made it to Cann River where some of us had had lunch by now and a quick look around the place.



It was established that Bill's car was being starved of fuel and this was why the stop start thing was happening. It was a fast trip around some winding roads and then we reached Merimbula. While driving through the main street Bill's car again stopped and 3 lovely women got behind his car and gave him a push start. While others looked on, men and all (go girls well done you really showed the men up). We do like to make a grand entrance wherever we go and this was one of those times.

After we got settled into our Motel we had a few drinks and a laugh or two and later some of us caught the courtesy bus into the Club to have dinner while some of the more enthusiastic ones decided to walk there and back.

The meals were good and the day ended with everyone outside our room where we had the only water feature in the Motel and BBQ area.

Ray and Sandra Kilby.

It was great to see that John Newman and Pat Kelly had arrived safe and sound with no bonnet issues and the CUSSIE was gleaming with its new paint job.



Friday - Day 3 - 19th

We pulled out of the Seaspray Motel Merimbula where Robyn and John looked after us extremely well and took some great shots of our



vehicles as we were leaving. It was a lovely winding drive to Bermagui then off to Tilba Town where fresh licorice, shortbreads and goodies were purchased.

We were in a bit of a rush as we had a lunch booking at Anton's By the Sea for a fish and chip lunch, which was extremely enjoyable.

It was then just a short drive to Moruya where it was good to settle into our lodgings and it was great to know that for the next five days we really did not have to do anything.



This could have been written by anyone but Mick did it.

Saturday - Day 4 - 20th

All the guys started the day nice and early and ready to leave the caravan park to take their Cussy's over to the craft market and put them all on display by 7:00 am.



John Newman was very generous in lending us a car to be able to drive all the girls to the market later on in the morning and it was a pretty good market. A few of the guys ended up buying hats, as it was quite a hot day. Once all the girls arrived I was able to steer Jackie in the right direction to the shoe stall and Debbie to the bag stall. Debbie and I both ended up with nice bags.

Once everybody had finished walking around and buying all sorts of stuff, it was time to start our engines and head off to the races. We



arrived there about 11:00 am and were escorted into the area with lots of shade for all of us and of course the Cussy's.



Most of us had a bit of a look around, and a few of us didn't even know how to put a bet on (but it didn't take us long to learn). Debbie seemed to know how to pick a winner, but Phil I'm not so sure. In race five Phil decided to place a bet on horse No:13 (unlucky for some). No:13 broke the barrier and decided to run the race on his own with a roar and clapping and cheering from the crowd, not even five stewards could slow him down. As he passed the finishing line he then jumped the railing and headed back to the stables where they were able to contain him finally. Phil was able to get a refund back and the race was restarted without No:13. After the final race we headed back to the park to have a few drinks and decide what to do for dinner.



Sandra and Graedon finally arrived and checked into their cabin and then they wandered around to see everyone and say hello. Then some of us decided to catch the courtesy bus and head over to the bowling club. Some of the others just walked next door to the little pub and the rest of them decided to stay in the park and have a BBQ.

Another great day and night was had by all, Sue and Les Cross.

Sunday - Day 5 - 21st

Sunday was a great day, we convoyed off to Mogo Town which was full of great shops to squiz in but for me it was a safe day for my wallet, came away with only a new hat, not like someone else who has a Bear obsession, who came away with two additions to her Bear Family



and luckily NO shoes. Then it was on to Batemans Bay for a Fish & Chip lunch, which was good and then a cruise back to Moruya along the coast road.

Sunday also happened to be, Kevin Mulroney's BIRTHDAY!, fancy that! How silly of him to think that he could get away with having a birthday on the Great Escape without so much



as a quiet happy birthday. So of course in keeping with Kevin's wild imaginings of the Earth being tilted off its axis, due to all the rockets blasting into outer reaches of space, Sandra Kilby managed to find a nice little Globe of the earth and myself found a facsimile of a

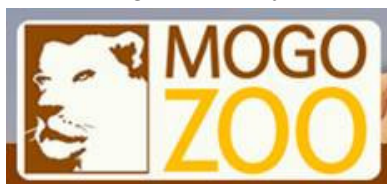
rocket ship. Once Jim managed to attach the two items to each other, we had a birthday trophy to top all birthday trophies.

After a BBQ tea, we presented the birthday boy with his cake and present with much noise and laughter, I think the evening went very well, although I do wish that the person responsible for the "Teacher" should own up.

Helen & Jim Pierce.

Monday - Day 6 - 22nd

While the fishing trip was on Graedon and I thought we may as well visit the Mogo Zoo - a



not so small, fantastic Zoo. It has several breeding programs for endangered species from all around the world.

We found the small monkeys and Tamarin fascinating, definitely interacting with us, playing peck-a-boo from behind objects in their enclosures. The chimps however seemed to not be so happy with their lot - stamping, screaming and having tantrums - we wondered what they were thinking and whether they were wanting to be somewhere else; quite sad really.



The big cats as usual were awesome, the Brazilian Tapir showed us how well he could swim and the baby giraffe was cute in his own 'tall' way. We went to the reptile house and saw some massive Boa

constrictors, one of which was drinking water as we watched it.

After about 2 hours we left, having enjoyed our time there and made our way back to Moruya.

Sandra and Graedon Munro.

THE FISHING TRIP

Out of the six members who ventured out onto the high seas three had a really good time, Mick felt a bit off, Kevin in sympathy felt a bit off with Mick, then Joe felt sorry for everyone and supplied plenty of burley. When Helen strapped



Winda Woppa - Moruya

on her gimbal she showed her dominance and expertise, we all felt sorry for Jim as we know who is the boss. What was said on the high seas stays there.

Mick Again.

Tuesday - Day 7 - 23rd

Everybody decided to go on the Boat Cruise at Batemans Bay, except for Mick and Debbie as Mick was still suffering from his high seas adventure. To all accounts the cruise was an enjoyable day, the group also got to meet the "scone gobblers" as nicknamed by Joe.



This was our last day at Moruya before making our way home. Many thanks to John and Pat for making our stay very pleasant and enjoyable. Mick Again.

Wednesday - Day 8 - 24th

Its time to leave Moruya and head for Yass. I would just like to thank the management of the River Breeze Park for their hospitality, which made our stay very enjoyable.

The Cussies performed excellently driving through the winding roads which was a very enjoyable exercise as we all



felt the thrill of pushing our cars through the hill and valleys. We stopped at the Braidwood Model Shop to the great excitement of Phil.

It was a very good display of models and some bargains were obtained. We were then off to Bunningsdore to taste the best Pies in the state,



so John said, and he was right. Then it was the last leg to the Thunderbird Motel at Yass where



Bill sat out the front for quite a while, as a result of the faulty fuel

pumps supplied by Repco, which wasn't the Cussies fault at all. Tea was at the RSL Club, and one of the best meals anywhere. Everybody headed back to the Motel except Jim, Helen, Joe, Linda and Billy, who then took

place in a great debate on life and the human race.

Mick Again.

Thursday - Day 9 – 25th

A few members put there cars under the Motel sign which read, "THUNDERBIRD MOTEL", for



that exclusive picture. We were then off to Wodonga. Not far out of Yass we were getting some great pictures of the cars

traveling down the highway when Les told Mick on the two way that he had a flat. It only took a few minutes to change which was carried out by Les and Phil, but it took longer to empty the



boot. We were then off to the Dog on the Tucker Box for a rest stop and a cool drink.

Then it was of to the Ettamogah Pub for a look and where we met up with Alan McKenzie and his mate Dave Zimmer. Alan had his Vicky



there for us to see and a very nice vehicle it is.

We all booked into the Blazing Stump where a few beers were

consumed and Jim and Helen decided to go for a swim and Jim found his own little warm spot in the water. Tea was at the pub next door where Alan and Dave joined us. There was much discussion about a weekend run up to

Albury which will be included in one of our run sheet soon.

Mick Again.

Friday - Day 10 – 26th

Rise and shine to yet another beautiful sunny morning. Our final day and everyone is packing their Cussy for the last time this trip and Kevin doesn't have to lug that shoe bag anymore. Fond farewells are said to Jim and Helen, Ray and Sandra, Wayne and June, Les and Maureen and Graedon and Sandra, as they all have places to be and people to see. Mick, Debbie, Kevin, Jackie, Les, Sue, Phil, Cherie, Joe, Linda and Billy were off to the dining room for the last big brekky. Wodonga's Blazing Stump put on a fine spread, cereal, eggs, bacon, pastries and muffins. We lingered a little over breakfast chatting about the highlights of our Great Escape. Les and Sue are the first to pull the plug as work beckons.



Joe, Linda and Billy decide to finish their time by driving home via Yarrawonga, leaving the Breheny's, Mulroneys and Butts to head down the Hume Highway arranging to stop at the Rutherglen Maccas for coffee. We then traveled together with the Butts veering off at Seymour, with the Bumble Bee and Elvis continuing home to Wallan. We think it can be said "a good time was had by all".

Kevin & Jackie Mulroneys.

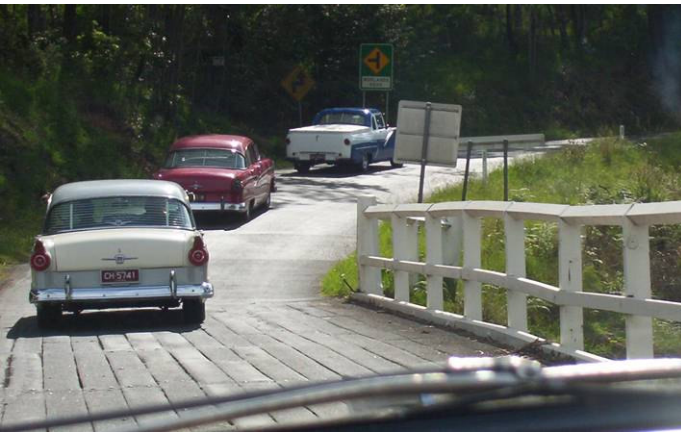
A Note from John Newman

Just a short note of appreciation from me to thank the club for selecting my area for The Great Escape 2010. It was wonderful to catch up with everyone again, and the comments are still in coming re the visit. I had hoped to pop down to Vic a few weeks ago, but a flood of work popped up and I needed to put off the trip. However I will be down in the not too distant future.

Next year I will be on the next Great Escape, and I certainly recommend the trip to any members who may be thinking of coming along. Best wishes to all. John Newman.



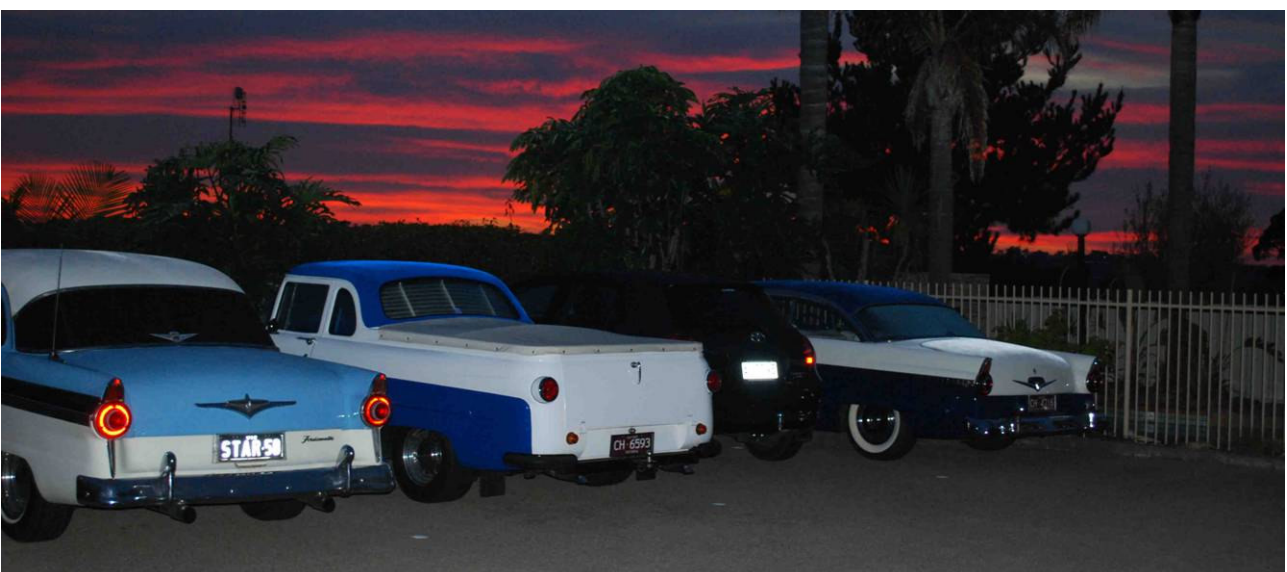
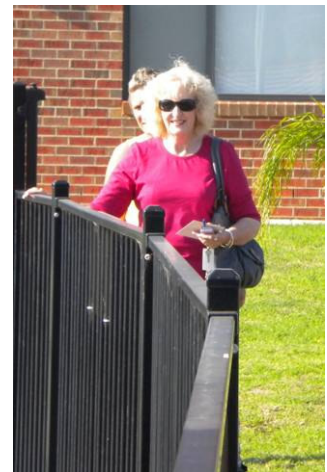
The Great Escape



Picture Highlights



WHAT DID YOU DO ON THE TRIP ?



SOME MORE OF WHAT WE DID ON THE TRIP



THE END – Until next year ?