

Editor's Note

2021 Scout Nationals – Walleroo and Marion Bay

Wooroonook Lakes Camping Ground was the staging point for our departure to South Australia and also the location for our meeting on Sunday, 9th May, 2021. As it was Mother's Day, Vicki and Dennis Potts had organized and cooked up a storm to provide a Mothers' Day camp oven meal for all.

It was epic to say the least and the main meal of roast meats and vegetables was followed up with yummy sweets too!

I don't know of anyone who went to bed hungry that night.



Hungry Campers ensure minimal leftovers

Next day our adventure started in earnest with our convoy snaking its way to the South Australian border and onto our destinations.

Our intrepid travellers included, David & Tracey Payne and Sabrina, Janet & Ivan Staben, Jim Keast, Lyn & Wayne McGrath, Hans & Lorraine Kamphuis, Fred & Elaine Wright, Peter Prewett, Dennis & Vicki Potts, Gladys & David Elsom.

Over the following days, some wonderful sights were seen, great overnight camps were enjoyed, and a few very rough Victorian roads encountered along the way. A feature of every day was the epic effort by Vicki and Dennis put into the daily travel trivia complete with prizes. Many weird and wonderful answers come forward.

It's amazing what some will do for a prize 😊

With border crossing permits in hand and contra banned fruits and veg disposed of, we bravely passed all the border checks and made it into SA proper, stopping at Karoonda for 2 nights where we were welcomed whole heartily by its people. The group took up the majority of the caravan park, ate heartily at the football club meals night and the pub, officially greeted by the Mayor and the shire CFO, saw great silo art and light show, entertained by the landing of a Heli-Med helicopter on the oval in front of us, visited Pioneer Park and even given access to a private collection of tractors.



Tourist hound can't read



Our host & some well-preserved members

Our overnight camp en route at Swan Reach on the banks of the Murray River.
I have been reliably informed some enjoyed the ferry ride across more than others!!!



How high is the water Mamma?



Our pilgrimage continued via Saddleworth until arrival at base station Walleroo, and the surrounding towns of Moonta and Kadina, the Kernewek Lowender Festival, the Yorke Peninsula and beyond where we all joined up with other state groups. We had a wow of a time in the company of old and new friends alike. Our Victorian group was joined there by Roy and Janelle, Ed and Joyce, NSW members, along with Brett, Rob and Glen ILMO members. It was also great to see and welcome Gavin and Crystal, QLD, to the event and have them join in the events and the Victorian club too.

Q. How many Presidents does it take to erect a club banner?



Three, one current and two past.

The Walleroo caravan park had a great camp kitchen which we and other campers put to good use as a venue for happy hours and a wonderful dinner of spit roast meats with vegetables and for the general meeting of clubs to decide where to go in two years' time.



Lots of chatter in the camp kitchen

There were activities galore with museums, exploring the surrounding townships, street parades, festivals, pasties, swanky beer, dining out, distillery visits, dressing of the graves, walks along the piers culminating in the Copper Coast Cavalcade of Classic Cars and Bike.

A huge event of over 700plus vehicles parading through 3 local towns covering over 45km, which I'm very pleased to report, all 7 Scouts participated in.

The route taken was lined with thousands of cheering, waving spectators who looked to be enjoying themselves as much as the drivers and passengers taking part were. Nature strips were lined with residents, adults and kids, neighbours having champagne breakfasts, seniors from retirement homes, just about everyone was out and in such good spirits that driving by and giving a toot on the air horn or in the President's case a truck horn, was very uplifting. Smiles all round.



Seven scouts in that lot

For any of you that may be interested - here is a video of the Cavalcade of Classic Cars event held on the final day of the Cornish Festival. Some great cars are involved but, in particular, Scouts at 5.48 - 6.36; 7.50 - 8.00 and again at 12.20 - 12.40. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRsgMqz088c>

After a week in Walleroo and taking in a variety of events, ILMO members, Rob and Brett, turned their hands to wrangling and herded our group of cats down to Marion Bay for a week of local activities including fishing, local touring, visits to the National Park etc.

I think everyone enjoyed the wind down and relaxation afforded.

They even organized a Lunar Eclipse (Red Moon) for us and the overhead cloudy conditions parted just at the right time for our viewing pleasure.

After Marion Bay our touring group dispersed onto adventures of their own with some continuing exploring South Australia for several more weeks before turning homeward or going onto other commitments.

I'm sure if you ask anyone who went to South Australia, they will only be too pleased to give you a complete run down of what they got up to. Be prepared though, it will be a lot to take in.

Roll on Queensland 2023!