



Christmas Show Wallaroo Caravan Park - 30th Nov 2013

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Another great Christmas breakup!

Most people made the journey to Wallaroo on Friday and set up camp, the remainder travelled up on Saturday, arriving around lunch time/mid-afternoon.

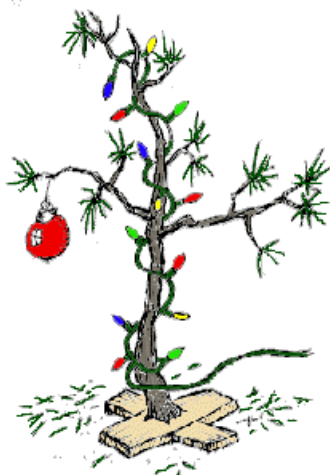
The weather was perfect, sunny and warm, and John and Jane had been into Kadina late Saturday morning to collect the meat and other supplies for the barbeque. Rather than cart stuff with us from Gawler, we made the decision to purchase the goods locally alleviating the need to freeze the chicken and sausages as well as bread - we decided it was a much better option to buy fresh and that worked out very well indeed, especially as far as keeping the ice cream frozen was concerned!!!! Thanks to the helpful Mays Meat in Kadina for supplying the meat at a discounted price to the Club.



Once lunch was done and we were relaxed out, it was decided to decorate the camp kitchen for the evening's activities so a few of us set to and blew up balloons, trimmed a small Christmas tree and hung some other Christmas trimmings. The kitchen was adequately supplied with fridge, small freezer, tables & benches as well as electric barbecues but the Club's barbecue was set up to be used anyway. Whilst we were in the process of doing this, the manager of the caravan park came around to clean the camp kitchen floor but, as we had already decorated the place, it was decided not to go ahead. We were discussing with him the evening program and when the conversation turned to Father Christmas's sleigh, we asked if we could borrow his golf buggy to transport Father Christmas to the barbecue area. This request was answered with a resounding "yes!" He told us where the buggy could be located and said that we could pick it up when we were ready. There were plenty of offers to be the elf to drive FC to the barbecue area and John J won out!!!

We enjoyed a light "happy hour" - after which the salads started to arrive for the evening barbecue. We didn't want to leave the cooking too late as Father Christmas was due to arrive at 8.00 pm.

The chefs did a wonderful job in cooking the meats to perfection, the assortments of salads were uncovered and we started "tucking in." This was followed by fruit salad and soft ice cream which everyone seemed to like.



Then it was time for the man in red to appear. Unbeknown to us, Father Christmas and his helpful elf had been asked by the manager to do a couple of rounds of the caravan park. They were a bit like the "pied piper of Christmas" as the "sleigh" was following by other campers' children. They finally escaped from that entourage and headed over to the camp kitchen where Father Christmas was welcomed by the big kids and little kids. (Father Christmas's diet was very successful as he was tall and slim rather than short and fat but sprouted a good head of white hair and a long white beard.)



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This time Father Christmas was accompanied by another helpful elf by the name of Deb who helped him give out the gifts he'd brought for the children. Once Father Christmas took his leave of us, it was time to announce the winners of the photo competitions and trip reports.

The winners were:

Trip Report (drawn names out of a hat)

Martin K

Funny Photo (chosen by La Dolce Vita Restaurant)

Jane J

Best Photo (chosen by Gawler Fishing & Outdoor)

Norma R

Peoples' choice (by the people ☺)

Norma R

We would like to acknowledge and thank La Dolce Vita & Gawler Fishing & Outdoor for providing the prizes for the photo competition.

Max & Lyn had prepared a quiz based on rules governing the towing of caravans and camper trailers. Over the hullabaloo we tried to hear the questions and answered them as best we could. Michele ended up winning the most points. Good on you, Michele.

As the evening progressed, people started to take their leave and head back to their campsites. After clearing up, the last few stragglers did likewise. Some people decided to call it a night altogether and tried to sleep whilst a few others partied on. Then the wind hit us!! Wow, it was very strong and the tents were flapping and carrying on. We were lucky, but unfortunately some folk sustained some damage whilst everyone brought in their awnings and secured their tents to save them from the winds. What a night!!

We awoke to a very stormy looking sky but still warm with lightning evident and thunder rumbling around in the background. It looked very much like the heavens were going to open so those of us under canvas - and not only Club members - decided first things first, take down the canvas before it started raining.

It didn't take very long to stow the canvas at all and then we headed to the camp kitchen to enjoy breakfast of one thing or another. Some people were able to enjoy fruit salad and ice cream with their pancakes. Yum!! Others had the standard bacon and eggs cooked to perfection on the electric bbq's. After much socializing again, the kitchen was cleared of all goodies and "goodbyes" said as people headed off home.

What a wonderful relaxing weekend which was enjoyed by everyone. Thanks must go to Jane and John for their organisation skills especially in light of Jane not being well. She did a marvellous job and it needs to be recognised. Thank you to all the helpers and especially to Max and Lyn for bringing the Club barbecue on their ute and, of course, thanks to our "slimmer of the year," Father Christmas and his helpful elves.

Here's looking forward to next year!!

[Sandra & Pete Harper]