

## Christmas 2017 – Sandalford Winery

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December



*Words & photos by Captain Paul*

Well, after a little mix up with the dates, the 2017 CCCWA Christmas Lunch was finally locked in for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December. A week prior to the lunch I thought I'd check the long term weather forecast with the "BOM" and was pleasantly surprised to see a forecast of 28 degrees. I thought beauty, what a beautiful day it was going to be. Well, it couldn't be further from the truth. As in past Christmas Lunches, the day was a real stinker, reaching 38 degrees, so not ideal driving conditions for a cobra.

Anyway, the decision was made not to have a combined run to the venue and the meeting point was to be at the end of the driveway leading into the winery. On arrival we were fortunate that there were plenty of shady trees to park under while waiting for everyone to arrive. The theme for the day was "The Wild West" and some went to a lot of effort to dress up for the day. The first thing that caught my eye, as we headed down the driveway was Al and Anna dressed as American Indians. They really looked the part, but then again, would have looked somewhat strange

driving there in a cobra, feathers flying in the wind??? Al looked more like a “red Indian” at the end of the day thanks to some sunburn. Well done to everyone who made the effort. At around 11.30am we all made our way through a gate and into the venue parking our cobras on the lawn, adjacent to our seating. We had 15 cobras all parked together which certainly caught the admiration of other visitors.



The service from Sandalford’s staff was excellent. Once we had all parked our cars they served us plenty of iced water to help hydrate us all, while they were preparing for lunch. Lunch was a BBQ buffet, beef rib fillet, grilled chicken, English style pork sausages, potato salad and a “home style” salad which was all delicious. It was washed down with salted caramel ice cream in a waffle cone, fruit skewers with marshmallows and a chocolate dipping sauce.

The function concluded at approximately 3pm for a very warm drive home. All in all, it was an enjoyable day despite the heat.