

## CCCCWA Spring Retreat Ferguson Valley 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017

In a word – Sensational

### **Friday 8<sup>th</sup>**

Allan/Anna led Ron/Yvonne, Gavin/Lorraine, Stuart/Natalie, Alex/Hilde and Keith/Janet from BP Balddivis picking up Dave/Regina in Pinjarra. Ron/Nola took an early start from Balddivis and met the 'pack' in Collie after unpacking at the Cottages, Wade /Janice joined us at the Cottages and Gordon/Kerry arrived in their 65 Galaxie on Saturday morning.

The cars were unpacked, fires lit, bed made, drinks in hand and dinner being cooked in no time at all... thank you everyone for the wonderful nibbles, dinner and desserts (we self-catered).



The pit fire and slow combustion fires in one of the three cottages proved the popular gathering area's with everyone in good spirits for the weekend.

### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>**



Once the BYO breakfasts, ablutions, morning chatter was done the covers came off the cars, windscreens clean, Gordon & Kerry arrived and we were on our way to Manjimup through thick fog at times, via the Ferguson Valley past Gnomesville, Donnybrook, Boyup

Brook and Charlie Creek Road to Kirup then Balingup for a quick pit-stop – then Donnelly River via Greenbushes.



Coffees warmed the body at Donnelly River, a self-guided tour of the derelict timber mill and watching mother emu leading her chicks around the yard being keenly chased by the ladies with their cameras. Then off to Manjimup via a bumpy road to fuel up and feed at Tall Timbers in

the main street... Ed and his staff were fantastic – as was the food.

The cars attracted lots and lots of people from around town and it wasn't long before some collectables started driving by to check us out.



Wade and Janice headed back to Perth and Beedelup Falls was the next stop via Pemberton and the Vasse Highway – a pleasant walk through the bush to several lookouts over and around the falls and back via a suspension bridge over the river – some naughty people bounced on the bridge making it more like a swing than a bridge.



Back into the cars and back to the Ferguson Valley via Nannup – one small issue with a fan belt on the way back fixed with some help from locals – disabling his wife's car so we could continue on our way.



Everyone made it back to the Cottages that night – more fires, more nibbles, more drinks, Ron and Yvonne announced the arrival of their first grandson, and a roast beef and vegies meal from Wendy at the Restaurant; back to the cottages for more stories and lubrication – then sleep - it was a great day.

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>**

This is the day we feared that we would see some rain but it had cleared so after the morning rituals, the cars were packed, we said thanks and good bye to Wendy.

We headed off to Collie via the Wellington Dam,

- Allan/Anna headed off to Bunbury to see a friend.
- Gordon and Kerry followed Allan / Anna down the hill and headed home.
- Dave/Regina headed off to Waroona to see a friend Via the Mornington Road , and
- Ron/Yvonne headed home via the Mornington Road to introduce themselves to their brand new Grandson – Ocean Duyvestein
- Ron/Nola, Gavin/Lorraine, Alex/Hilde, Stuart/Natalie and Keith/Janet fuelled up in Collie then headed off to Dwelling up via Quindanning ... beautiful flowering canola fields along the way, Complimentary tea/coffee at Quindanning, some cyclists clogging the road into Dwellingup and finally a light lunch at the Millhouse, after which we headed off home.

Thank you everyone for a very enjoyable weekend.

Ron/Nola, Allan/Anna, Ron/Yvonne, Gavin/Lorraine, Stuart/Natalie, Alex/Hilde,  
Dave/Regina, Keith, Janet, Gordon/Kerry, Wade /Janice

