



## GREAT ESCAPE NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY-MARCH 2019

### COWRA TO CANBERRA 8<sup>th</sup> TO 18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019

For those that I have not caught up following New Year, well a Big Happy New Year in the Luna Year of the Pig.

After a number of delays and school holidays I have finally finished the first survey for the 2019 Great Escape from Cowra to Canberra, the dates being 8<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019, so I hope you are right into the swing of things, like **ENTRY FORMS IN (one attached)**, fund raising successfully roaring along, getting the car in the right space and near ready to go.

Talking about being in the right space, I must say I have completely recovered from the brain surgery in October; I have fielded a lot of jokes from that procedure as you can appreciate, but all is well and with this trim, taut, terrific new body I am ready to go. Following the operation I took it on myself to get fit and improve my core body strength, so no matter what the weather or where I might be, I do exercise and 5klms of powerwalking/some running every morning. Over a lengthy period I have lost 29 kgs, 12 of those following the operation, I am winning more on the tennis court, so look out Wimbledon, vets that is!!! I had my final medical appointment last week with a great report from the surgeon and a total all clear.

#### **Back to preparing for the rally 8<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019.**

The time will come around quickly so please get your entry forms in and start your serious fundraising. Remember when we receive your entry form and fees this could help you on the rally in regard to being in a winning position. Outside of points, the earlier to get your entry form in this can help if you are in a tight position as far as placings. **So get those ENTRY FPRMS back to me ASAP.**

I have had to make a couple of changes from my original course due a number of reason and as you know from the success of last year I wanted small towns with great pubs that we can take over, also trying to maintain reasonable daily kilometres as we don't want long days. We need to do a couple of long days but in the main they will be reasonable days.

Well our starting point is Cowra, home to the mighty Gus and the Cowra Rugby Club and that is where we are having the Welcome Dinner. President, Ben Casey who was a GE entrant back in 2006 and 07 and a real fun guy, I am trying hard to get him back this year. So a new kitchen is being built while this email is going out, like any rugby club it will be a great night. You can swag within the club and the grounds.

There are a number of new entrants joining us this year, who liked what they heard about last year, so I am under the pump to give you the same enjoyment and adventure as 2018.

**The preferred hotels, motels listed below, most have given discount, but you need to advise them that you are part of the Great Escape and you would like the discounted rate, as I said it is not all hotels, Motels. As we go into very small towns it does limit the accommodation available.**

**Listed below is the towns and where possible the accommodation for our overnight stops.**

- **Cowra.** Country Gardens Motor Inn is the closest to the Cowra Rugby Club. 02 6341 1100. For those wanting to stay in town there many Motels and Hotels. There are many things to see in Cowra, including the Japanese Garden and the Military Prison of the Japanese during the WW2. The POW Camp site and Guard Tower along with the Garrison Gates.  
You can camp at the Cowra Rugby Club, there showers and toilets in the grounds. Remember if you are thinking of arriving Saturday and you want accommodation book early as it is in the wedding season and accommodation fills up quickly on a Saturday night.
- **Rankin Springs.** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Sept Rankin Springs Motel 02 6966 1183, limited accommodation, lots of camping within the sports ground or opposite the pub. Dinner at the Pub.
- **Booligal;** Booligal Hotel 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 02 69938123 limited rooms. Camping within the grounds of the hotel.
- **Carrathool;** Carrathool Hotel 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 02 6993 5117 Most of the entrant would know Shaun who been on many GE's over the years, he is the Publican at the Hotel,. There are limited rooms available camping around the pub.
- **Tooleybuc;** Tooleybuc Pub 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 03 50305335 limited rooms. Tooleybuc Motel some rooms available. 2other motels in town Club Motor Inn, Country Road Motel. Camping opposite pub or the other side of the river. A very pretty little town.
- **Finley;** Accommodation Finley Motel 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. Finley Motel 035883 1088. Country Club Hotel Motel 0358834997. Other motels in town. Dinner at the Bowling Club. This is John **(Mule)** Milne town, Mule has been on around a dozen GE over the years, he has retired now but very involved with his town and CF.
- **Adelong;** Royal Hotel 14<sup>th</sup> Sept Dinner and limited accommodation 02 69462009. Beaufort House 02 69462939. Golden Valley Caravan Park 02 69462163.

- **Cooma;** Snow Season Motor Inn 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 02 64526343 I have put a reserve on all rooms at \$80 per room most rooms have a double and a single. Dinner is at the Motel, so book early to get the deal. They will close off at the end of March.
- **Nelligen;** Steampacket Hotel 02 44781066 16<sup>th</sup> Sept Accommodation and dinner. Caravan Park opposite Big 4 02 44781076
- **Murrumbateman;** Country Inn 02 62275802 17<sup>th</sup> Sept Limited accommodation. Abode Hotel email manager (Toby) and get discounted rates, hotel only 12 mths please email your booking to ;[manager.murrumbateman@abodehotels.com.au](mailto:manager.murrumbateman@abodehotels.com.au) phone 02 6108 4763 Quote the Great Escape. Do bookings by email as it goes to Toby for discount.  
Queen \$126, King and 2 singles \$143, Premier room 2 queens \$177. Camping at the Show Ground.
- **Canberra; The Awards Dinner** will be held at the Hellenic Club in Woden and there are 2 hotels/motels within walking distance of the Club.  
One hotel is the Abode is about 300 metres from the Club but every limited parking, you would be parking in a public car park.  
The second hotel and the preferred property is the Woden Hotel, they have given discount to the Great Escape, the hotel is about 500 metres from the club This is a very busy area of Canberra with lots of Government Dept and also the week we are in Canberra, Parliament is sitting, so you need to book early. The closest caravan park is in Queanbeyan which is about 20 minutes away.  
Booking at The Woden this can be done over the phone 1300 122 633 and quote the code for your discount GREASTESCAPE you need to pay a deposit via cc.

**Please book early and remember to say you are part of the GREAT ESCAPE, obviously this only works on the properties that are giving discounts.**

**BOOK EARLY AND QUICK AS THERE ARE NOT MANY BEDS IN THESE SMALL COUNTRY PUBS.**

Another broader Newsletter will follow in the next week or so with lots more interesting bits that will help in your preparation for GE 2019.

See'y down the track,

Terry Stewart Track Boss

The Great Escape fun car rally for Cystic Fibrosis Australia

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