

**Summary of our Trade Travel Silo Murals, Salt Lakes, Sunsets & Homesteads Combined Probus Club of Wheelers Hill coach trip.**  
**May 14-18 2022**

**Commentary and photos courtesy Lynn carter**

**May 14, Day 1**, Melbourne, Ballarat, Avoca St Arnaud, Rupanyup, Murtoa, Horsham  
7.30am, we boarded the coach at Brandon Park, a Trotters 50 seat Coach out of Ballarat, the driver's name was Rodney.

At the same time we met our TT tour guide Colin. Rodney and Colin also first met on this day. There were now thirty five Probus members on the coach as some were picked up in Wheelers Hill earlier at 7.00am. Unfortunately due to Covid-19 seven members had to cancel.

We left Brandon Park, headed through Melbourne and up the Western Highway, our first stop being morning tea in the Botanical Gardens in Wendouree on the fringe of Ballarat. By this time it was spitting rain, so jackets were needed. Tables were set up and tea, coffee and biscuits provided.



*The morning tea stop at the Wendouree Gardens*

We continued west to our next stop which was a Silo painting in the town of Avoca. A Barking Owl painted by Jimmi Buscombe from Warrnambool.

The coach was parked just in front of a local house with some interesting historical items in the very tidy front yard, including an unusual letter box.

After having a good look at the Barking Owl we continued to the old gold mining town of St Arnaud for a lunch provided in the Royal Hotel. On arrival we were ushered into the back rooms, past the bar and a couple of Deer heads mounted on the walls. We soon worked out that lots of food could be part of this trip.



*The Barking Owl*



*The Royal Hotel-St Arnaud*



*One of the Lunch choices*

After lunch we picked up local artist Kyle Torney and did a tour of the local street murals mostly of people, on building walls, a container side and on the local twin tank Silo were some local pioneer residents.

Colin our guide liaised with the driver and locals wherever we went.

We dropped Kyle off and headed west to the town of Rupanyup to view another mural on a twin tank Silo, this one of two sporting locals, these being painted by a Russian artist Julia Vochkova.

From there we headed further west passing by many open grain storage bins and unpainted high concrete Silos, before arriving in the town of Murtoa to visit "The Stick Shed". This was a real eye opener as in September 1941 (the month I was born) wheat needed to be stored as it could not be exported. A large storage shed was built with 560 Mountain Ash poles from the Dandenong Ranges, these holding up the corrugated tin roof. Square concrete blocks made up the floor, the shed was constructed to store 92,500 tonnes of grain and to last 10 years. More sheds were constructed but this is the only one left, it is now 80 years old.



Rupanyup Silo



The Murtoa Stick Shed



We were given a talk and tour by one of the local ladies and watched a video.

We left there heading further west, but came to a train line with flashing lights but no trains in sight, a phone call by Rodney to the Railways confirmed there was a problem. A coach is not permitted to cross, so we had to backtrack and find another way to our accommodation at the Westlander Motor Inn in Horsham. We made it, had dinner which we ordered earlier in the day and retired for the night after a good day.

**May 15, Day 2, Horsham, Goroke, Kaniva, Nhill, Rainbow, Albacutya, Rosebery, Sea Lake**  
8.00am, we departed the Westlander Motor Inn to visit a new and in progress mural on the local Silos. This was an Aboriginal Man on one and a Cocky in progress on another. These were painted by Sam Bates celebrating the significant story of Yanggendyinyuk of the Wotjobaluk peoples for their tracking ability.



Horsham Silo



Mt Arapiles



Goroke Silos

From there we headed west through Natimuk, past Mt Arapiles where Colin gave us some information on rock climbing, one of his passions some years ago and on to the town of Goroke to look at the Murals on the Grain Corp Silos. There were three, one with a large Kookaburra on a post, one with a large Magpie on a barbed wire fence post and a small Galah in flight. These were painted by a New Zealand born artist Geoffrey Carran, his work depicting the local native wildlife in the area.

We left Goroke, turning north up through Little Desert National Park to the town of Kaniva to look at the Kaniva Silos. These featured flora and fauna endemic to the area, an Australian Hobby bird, a small member of the Falcon family and some orchids, these were painted by Artist David Lee Periera who is Melbourne based.

We went for a short walk, past the war memorial and some coloured sheep that were part of the Kaniva Sheep Trail. There were a few other murals near the Café on the main highway.



Kaniva Silo Mural



Kaniva sheep trail



Kaniva wall mural

We left there heading east on the highway to the town of Nhill and headed a little further north to the Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre located on a former RAAF training base. We were met by local guides including "Helen of Nhill" and a couple of pilots provided a talk and our morning tea. This was a great visit giving some insight into the aviation industry during WWII. There were several restored aircraft, Avro Anson, Tiger Moth and Wirraway and lots of memorabilia and aircraft engines and parts around the hangar, as well as a small locally built simulator that some members tried their skills at. A few of us purchased souvenir caps and pens here. Helen and others waved us good bye as we left.



The Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre

Rodney negotiated a few gravel roads and found a short cut east and north to the town of Rainbow where we visited "Yurunga Homestead" built in 1909, a stately home with rooms decorated in furniture of that time. There was an underground room to escape the heat and the main bedroom had a gold leaf ceiling. Restoration work was being done in several spots.

Local people, mostly volunteers looked after us, providing tables and chairs for us to have our lunch out in the gardens. (Lunch was made by the Horsham Motel and carried on the coach)

The main man could not be present but sent a comprehensive message played over a portable speaker whilst we were lunching.



Yurunga Homestead-Rainbow

Our next stop was 10 kilometres north of Rainbow at the Albacutya Silos where Melbourne artist Kitt Bennett created a mural depicting "growing up in the country as a youth", using bright colours of the rainbow.

From there we headed east to the Rosebery Silos where Melbourne artist Kaff-eine created murals of a female farmer and a male farmer with horse, both were dressed in farming attire of earlier days. Kitt spent time around the towns in the Mallee doing research before commencing the project.

From there we went north through Hopetoun and turned northeast through Woomelang to the town of Sea Lake on the Calder Highway. On the outskirts of Sea Lake were the Silos, six of them, some high concrete ones and some shorter, fatter, round, like a tank.



Albacutya Silo



Rosebery Silos



Sea Lake Silos

These were painted by Joel Fergie, nicknamed the "Zookeeper", depicting a young girl on a swing looking out over the Mallee area and over Lake Tyrrell, an eagle overhead, emu's fleeing and scenes in recognition of the indigenous people that roamed these lands.

The girl is swinging from a Mallee tree, there are memory stick sculptures, a view over Lake Tyrrell and the Emu's that always run away.

The sun was setting behind the Silos so we decided to check into our accommodation and to come back in the morning when the sun would be fresh on the Silos.

We booked into our Sea Lake accommodation, Lake Tyrrell Accommodation Motel where we were soon shown to our unique rooms. These were what I would call transportable, set up side by side to form a motel, they were small, but big enough for a queen bed with a wardrobe and case storage alongside and on the opposite side was a self-contained area with shower, hand basin and toilet, all good. We were there for two nights.

About 6.30pm we were taken by Rodney and guide Colin to the nearby St Mary's School Hall for a BBQ dinner prepared by the locals. We were all seated around tables with plenty of good country food and hospitality from these country folk. It was Lynda Andrews birthday around this time and a cake was presented and the regulation "Happy Birthday Lynda" sung. This birthday lasted a few days.

**May 16, Day 3, Sea Lake, Woomelang, Lascelles, Patchewollock, Nandaly, Sea Lake**  
8.00am, we were again on the coach, first stop was back at the Sea Lake Silos, they were a different colour in full sun, so we took some more photo's. We then went to the local Sea Lake RSL clubroom for breakfast, again prepared by the local people. Most RSL's are becoming Social Clubs as well and this one was no different except for the many reminders of those that served or lost their lives in the wars.

From there we headed west to Woomelang to have a look at the town and their Silo Art. We were joined by an energetic local lady called Dianne representing the town Heritage Centre, she guided Rodney around the town for us to view the many Mobile Field Bins spread around Woomelang as well as other notable buildings and sites. In 2020 Woomelang invited artists to provide the town with an attraction that would bring people on the Silo Trail to the town. Artists like Jimmy DVate, Andrew J Bourke and Kaff-eine were amongst them. Their job was to paint a series of endangered Mallee species on the farmer donated Field Bins normally used for storing grain out in the paddocks.



Woomelang Field Bins

During the tour we were told about the murals and that they had to close the local school as there were only six (6) pupils, the kids were attending schools in various towns in the area. We passed by a very rusty shearing shed lined with old flattened out kerosene tins, built in a time when times were tough and we also spotted the free Cronomby Tanks Caravan Park.

When the tour finished we stopped at the local store for a morning tea or coffee and a brownie, I think the lady on the cappuccino machine earned her money on this day.



Shearing Shed-Woomelang



Field Bin-Woomelang



Metal art-Woomelang

We left there, late, and headed west past the many fields in different stages of air-seeding planting or already green and growing, making our way to the Lascelles Silos

*painted by Melbourne street artist, Geelong born "Rone". These were of a local older couple Geoff and Merrilyn Homan.*

*From Lascelles we headed further north before turning to the west to the small town of Patchewollock to view the Silo art and the local park items.*

*These were painted by Brisbane artist Finton Magee and after spending some days in the town to gain inspiration he decided to paint a local named Nick "Noodle" Hullan, a hard working farmer typical of the area. This is a very colourful Silo painting.*



*Lascelles Silos*



*Patchewollock Silos*



*Patchewollock Mallee Fowl*

*Walking distance from the Silos were some rusty farm implements but more interesting were the Mallee Fowl sculptures made of corrugated roofing iron.*

*After that visit we headed east back across the main road to Nyarrin where we turned north to our lunch spot, Granny Jo's farm in Nandaly.*

*A long driveway from the road took us to the farmhouse and sheds area of the property where we could roam around looking at the machinery, sheds and animals.*

*This was our lunch spot today, in a standalone building away from the main farm house, all seated and the food just kept coming including of course dessert, tea and coffee.*

*The farmer and his wife came into the room and spent quite some time talking about life on the land and the challenges they face. Amongst their grown family were two boys now working on the farm. The most recent challenges include the steep increases in the cost of machinery and the very long delivery times.*

*The main income on this farm was wheat, providing the season stays good, some sheep and just a few cattle.*

*The cost of the John Deere header machine and what is required to attach to it to operate, runs just over \$1.000.000. There was a 1500 litre diesel tank out by the shed that costs over \$3000 to fill these days, so planting at the right time and praying for rain is important.*

*There were many questions and answers about farm life before we went outside and walked around the farmhouse and sheds. It quickly became obvious that nothing was ever thrown away, just thrown in a heap for another day. There was a heap of rusty fencing wire of various types many metres long. There was a shed with everything in its place, if you knew where to find it. There were yards in different places, some different black fronted "Dorper" sheep in one and maybe "Corriadale" normal wooly*

sheep in another. There was a pen with a lamb in it waiting to be fed, Maaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa as you neared the pen, disgusted when you walked away without feeding. There were Cockatiels, Galahs, dogs, horses and some others I probably missed. There was a line of old implements no longer used and a quite a few new ones. There was an old rusty horse drawn hay cutter near the house which we did not go in. There was a row of galvanised grain storage tanks, around ten or so and there was an old one room hut that he said his grandfather lived in when they first started farming in the early days. It was alongside a concrete water tank.



The farm lunch room



Dorper lambs



The original farm house

We left the farm after a couple of hours with the family waving goodbye as we returned to the main road and headed back east, past some saltbush flats to Sea Lake, where we stopped at the Skymirror Gallery in the main street, we had time then to look in the gallery or go for a walk. There were some other murals on the buildings around town and the sun was shining on the Royal Hotel where we were going to eat tonight in the Juke Restaurant, we had previously chosen our meals so they could prepare.

The big water tank in the main street had "Sea Lake Home of the Mallee Rally" written on it high up and a rally car painted below.

We returned by coach to the Motel for a bit and then left to go to Lake Tyrrell to view the sunset, there was cloud around and it seemed there might not be a sunset, but the closer we got to the lake the probability dramatically improved.



Wall mural-Sea Lake



Royal Hotel-Sea Lake



Water tank-Sea Lake

By the time we reached lakeside it was looking pretty good, there were some large heaps of salt there and a few people with cameras and telescopes, one was super big. It was around 5.18pm when we walked toward the water edge, there was large rusty steel "TYRRELL" lettering about two metres high and looking back there was a rainbow in the sky. We passed the Sky Lounge, some seats/lounges in a circle that you could lay on to look at the sky, it was cold and the breeze was blowing, jackets were needed but thankfully no umbrellas.

The sun was getting lower, reflecting on the water and the clouds were colouring up, there was a boardwalk out into the water, it went around in a small circle. From here we got some great sunset shots and our local guide took some personal ones as well. We were told the lake was 45 metres above sea level, covered 208 square kilometres in area and was shallow, so you could walk across it. It would be a long walk I think. The sun had gone down by 5.30pm but the colour continued especially up in the clouds.



Sunset at Lake Tyrrell-Sea Lake

We left there and were back in the Skymirror Gallery in Sea Lake for free drinks just after 6.00pm. where Anne (I think) our local guide welcomed us to Sea Lake and to the Gallery. There were a number of paintings on show, many were colourful aboriginal dot painted ones.

Next was dinner at the Royal Hotel in the Juke Restaurant at 6.30pm. we were welcomed there and sat down to a top class main course meal, beautifully presented and served, followed up with dessert, tea and coffee. Colin invited the head chef into the dining room and thanked him and the staff for an excellent meal and service.

We left there and returned on the coach to the Lake Tyrrell Accommodation for the second night.

**May 17, Day 4, Sea Lake, Nullawil, Brim, Warracknabeal, Sheep Hills, Rupanyup, Stawell**  
8.00am after loading the cases earlier we headed back to the Sea Lake RSL for breakfast, once again organised by the local ladies.

After breakfast we made a quick stop back at the motel and then left Sea Lake heading southeast toward Nullawil.

Part way along we stopped for a moment where Rodney pointed out a couple of posts where the "netting dog fence" once was. It was a fence put there to stop the wild dogs and rabbits from getting to the grazing country. The fence ran for 325 kilometres from Tyntynder up near Swan Hill to the South Australian border.

Further down the Calder Highway we arrived at the Nullawil Silos not long after 9.15am. These were painted by Sam Bates (Smug) and show Jimmy the Kelpie dog with his companion in a check shirt, maybe his owner. Jimmy has a tag on his collar with a Galah on a perch on it. This is a very lifelike mural and very detailed.



Jimmy the Kelpie-Nullawil Silo

Down at ground level there is a small green dog with its leg cocked, no one has owned up to painting it.

We left there and drove through Nullawil township turning onto the Quambatook Road for a kilometre or so before turning into an area on the right where the Nullawil Historical Society have preserved a lot of town history into a small town of Auchmore with many buildings and items of interest. Along the drive in were many rusty old farm implements, further along were sheds, an scattered around and old schoolhouse, a homestead, a church, a post office and many, many displays of collections given by locals over time to the Historical Society.

We were welcomed, divided into two groups and given a guided tour of the property. There was a shed full of old tractors, trucks and farm machinery, an old blue Fordson Major tractor of the era I sold parts for around 1956, there was a McKay Harvester there that in 1908 cost 65 pounds and needed 3 or 5 horses to pull it, plus many other items of machinery.

We then went into the school, sitting at the small wooden desks facing the blackboard, like in earlier days, our guide talked, but the attention was like when we were five years old, too busy looking around.



Nullawil "Auchmore" Historical Society visit

In another spot was a very old wooden wagon under a thatched roof building as old as the wagon I think, then the Norm Mathiske Collection in another old shed. Norm must have had several of everything, hammers, saws, meat grinders, brace and bits, spanners of all shapes and sizes, horse harnesses, sheep shearing scissors, scales, and too many more things to list.

We visited the church, complete with pews and an organ, all transported from its original site and with a stained glass window.

There were a couple of horse drawn items, a 4 wheel buggy, a 2 wheel cart and a horse drawn wooden wagon like the old milkman or grocer might have used. Alongside was the old Nullawil Post Office complete with the items inside you would use in the early days, Nullawil 3529, including a collection of telephones. There was a blacksmiths shop full of equipment, an anvil and bellows blowing a coke fire to heat the steel for making horse shoes etc.

We were summoned to morning tea around 10.45am, tea, coffee and homemade scones, jam and cream, all good, provided by the Historical Society people.

After morning tea a quick look through the homestead complete with old items in each room of the period and then a group photograph on the front veranda taken by the local editor of the Nullawil News.

They waved us goodbye and we headed west southwest through Birchip to the Brim Silo Art painted on four high concrete Silos. These were painted by Australian artist Guido

Van Helten and portray different generations, both male and female of those that work the farms in the Wimmera-Mallee

From there we turned south on the Henty Highway to the town of Warracknabeal where our previously ordered lunch was being prepared in the Creekside Hotel. We were ushered into a large outside covered area with clear blinds and welcomed to the Hotel, thanking us for being there.

This Hotel won an award for the best Regional Dining from the Australian Hospitality Association, so we were in the right place. Our meals arrived and were well prepared, the service was good and we were provided with cappuccinos and tea as well.

The Hotel was located very close to the Yarriambiack Creek that runs through Warracknabeal.



Brim Silos



Creekside Hotel-Warracknabeal



Yarriambiack Creek

Back on the road we headed further south to the Sheep Hills Silos where we parked in a very large open area facing the Silos.

These were painted by artist Adnate who struck up a friendship with the Barengi Gadjin Land Council which inspired him to paint the aboriginal persons in this mural. They are a Wergaia Elder, Uncle Ron Marks, and Wotjobaluk Elder, Aunty Regina Hood, alongside two young children, Savannah Marks and Curtly McDonald, celebrating the richness of the area's Indigenous culture.

These are a set of richly coloured paintings joined together and also on two freestanding tanks, one each side, to make one large mural. Colin pointed out a reflection or window in one of the eyes and after looking closely there was a scene with a tree in it within the eye.

While we were admiring the mural there was a local lady in the carpark handing out information and after some discussion Rodney invited her onto the coach to tell her story.

She spoke very well and her message was that whilst most Silo Art is about people within the local town, this one is not and is about the local aboriginals including the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk peoples of the Wimmera, between Sheep Hills and the South Australian border.

She also pointed out an area of Black Butt Eucalypt trees at one end of the carpark saying how she just loved these trees.



Sheep Hills Silos



Black Butt trees

*We left there and headed southeast through Minyip where some of the old Flying Doctors series was filmed and on to the town of Rupanyup where we turned right on the outskirts, into Woods' Farming and Heritage Museum located in a big green shed with Australian and Aboriginal flags flying outside.*

*We entered the front office area and were welcomed by their representative, given a summary of what could be seen and told to wander through the many rooms and open areas within a big shed and when finished there to go outside and into more big sheds, or you could sit back and have a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit.*

*Well, there were collections and collections, you name it and it was there, to name a few, a room of colourful biscuit tins, some alarm clocks, an assortment of Matchbox toy cars, assorted photographic items, sewing machines by the dozen, radios, car type biscuit tins, refrigerators, steam engines, an old Malvern Star motor bike, garage signs, tractors, spanners, car jacks, a corner of leather making equipment, meat mincers, a Grocery store, to list a few I saw.*



*Collections at the Woods' Farming and Heritage Museum-Rupanyup*

*Out in the yard was a lot of rusted farm machinery and a sign pointing to the tractor shed which would surely be worth a look.*

*It was another large green shed with just dozens of trucks, tractors and some more farm machinery from years gone by.*

*Our time was up, I am sure there were lots I didn't see. Back on the coach the sun was getting lower as we made our way south, past green fields to the Western Highway and southeast to the town of Stawell.*

*This was our stop for tonight, at the Magdala Motor Lodge, quite a large motel with rooms around in a "U" shape, many looking out onto a lake.*

*We were welcomed as usual, keys were in the doors, our names called with room numbers, collect our bags and make ourselves at home until dinner time 6.00pm.*

*A walk around the lake provided lots of good reflections of the many trees.*

*Dinner time came and we gathered in the Lakeside Restaurant to have our meal (pre-ordered a couple of days ago), remembering what was ordered could be a challenge.*

*This was another nice comfortable and welcoming place to stay.*

**May 18, Day 5, Stawell, Grampians, Great Western, Ararat, Melbourne,**

*After a 7.00am breakfast in the restaurant and looking at the reflections on the lake the cases were loaded on to the coach and we departed around 8.00am. This was our last day of the tour. We left the Lodge which was on the west side of Stawell and headed for Halls Gap in the Grampians. It was a cool misty morning and spitting rain from time to time, but we were soon driving through the town located at the base of the Grampians, also known as Gariwerd National Park. We passed by the caravan park and an oval with over a dozen Kangaroos feeding on the nice green grass.*

From the road we could see the high sandstone cliff faces high up as we started the climb on the winding Mount Victory road passing by a sloping solid rock mountain side, we were heading to the Boroka Lookout.



The Grampians Halls Gap



Views from the lookouts



We turned onto the Mt Difficult road, still winding through the scrub, there were some burnt out areas from recent bushfires. Arriving at the lookout area which was at elevation 600 metres there was a short walk to a railed off lookout where it looked like we were walking out into a cloud. Fortunately the cloud was on the move and a couple of minutes later we could see down to Halls Gap township and to Lake Fyans a bit further on. The cloud, mist, sun and blue sky were all there together from time to time and we could see National Park scrub that went on forever.

We went back on the same Mt Difficult road to the Mt Victory road where we turned right to go to Reed Lookout not too far along with views out over the Victoria Valley and a lake far distant, maybe Lake Bellfield or Wartook. At the lookout area here, to get to the fence was rocky and looked slippery and there was lots of granite at the photo point.

Back down the winding road to the Mt Victory road we continued on to the turn into the MacKenzie and Broken Falls parking area where Rodney and Colin set up for morning tea in the park.

While they were setting up we walked down to a lookout over MacKenzie Falls, we could see the bottom area but not the actual fall. There was another lookout further on with lots of steps but we decided not to go down there.

Back a bit further was another lookout over Broken Falls, this provided a good view through the trees and out over the falls. We walked back up to the car park and had our morning tea and some of Lynda Andrews left over birthday cake.



Broken Falls



Base of MacKenzie Falls



Burnt trees



Kangaroo in the Grampians

There were Magpies and Currawong around the morning tea area and a local Kangaroo not too far away.

We packed up and left there continuing on down through Zumsteins through the valley passing Mt Zero and some rocky outcrops in the distance. We passed an Olive plantation on our way back to the Western Highway where we turned east and called

*into the Giant Koala at Dadswells Bridge for a brief look before continuing on through the outskirts of Stawell and on to Great Western which was our next stop and where lunch and a tour would be provided.*

*We turned into the Seppelt Great Western Winery car park and the bubbly young lady guide Di came to meet us, coming on board to give Rodney some guidance to the entry door.*

*This was quite tricky but Rodney wheeled that coach down the narrow path, past Seppelt Vine Lodge on our left and the golden orange vineyards to our right, then turned left and took us to the front door.*

*We entered the building, into the foyer and our guide provided lots of information, both historical and current day, she then led us to a barrel room where there were some really big barrels, probably over two metres high laying on a side. She pointed out the small entry hole at the bottom where the barrel cleaner had to squeeze in to clean the inside of the barrel, he must have been a midget as it looked to be about 250mm across. There was another stack of smaller barrels stacked three high, about 50-60 of them in that same room.*



*Visit to Seppelts Great Western Winery*

*We were then taken down into the 1892 Cellar room where tables and chairs were set up and we were soon having lunch, delicious sausage rolls, small quiches, some fruit and then scones, jam and cream, all very tasty.*

*Toward the end of lunch Rita thanked Rodney and Colin for being excellent hosts on the trip and presented a gift from us travellers in appreciation. Similarly John S thanked Rita for her efforts to get this tour under way during these tricky times and provided her with our gift of appreciation. Rita graciously acknowledged that John S contributed much to the early planning whilst on the Outings Team.*

*We were then asked to split into two groups for the detailed tour including the National Trust Classified underground cellar "drives" dug by gold miners around 1868. Our guide was Bruce, he took us down the stairs into the room under where we had lunch, pointing out the Oregon posts and beams milled from logs imported from North America in the early days. He provided much detail about the history, the early wine making equipment and the early methods of producing wines.*

*He took us down the ramp way under the rooms into what was called the "Great Western Drives" where bottles were stored to age in earlier times and some still today. There were different names for different drives and one area was Dame Nellie Melba Drive, a highlight for those members whose address is that. He told a story of her bathing in Champagne but you need to take the tour to hear it.*



*A walk in the underground "drives" at Seppelts*

*On completion of the almost an hour tour we were treated to tasting the various qualities, often driven by price, of the Sparkling Shiraz.*

*We were in the lead group so the second group had tasting when they returned after their tour and we were then taken back to the front door where Di, Colin and Rodney organised a photograph for all concerned. Di thanked us for coming and wished us a safe journey, by this time it was 3.36pm.*

*Rodney had turned the coach around somehow and we went back out past the golden/orange vineyards the way we had come in.*

*From there we continued east toward Melbourne, going through Ararat where Rodney told us to look for the "laying down pregnant woman" up ahead, it turned out to be the distant hills of Langi Ghiran and Mount Gorrin that from a distance provide the outline of a lady lying flat on her back with the bumps in the right places.*



*Leaving Seppelts*



*The lying down pregnant lady-Ararat*



*Nearly home*

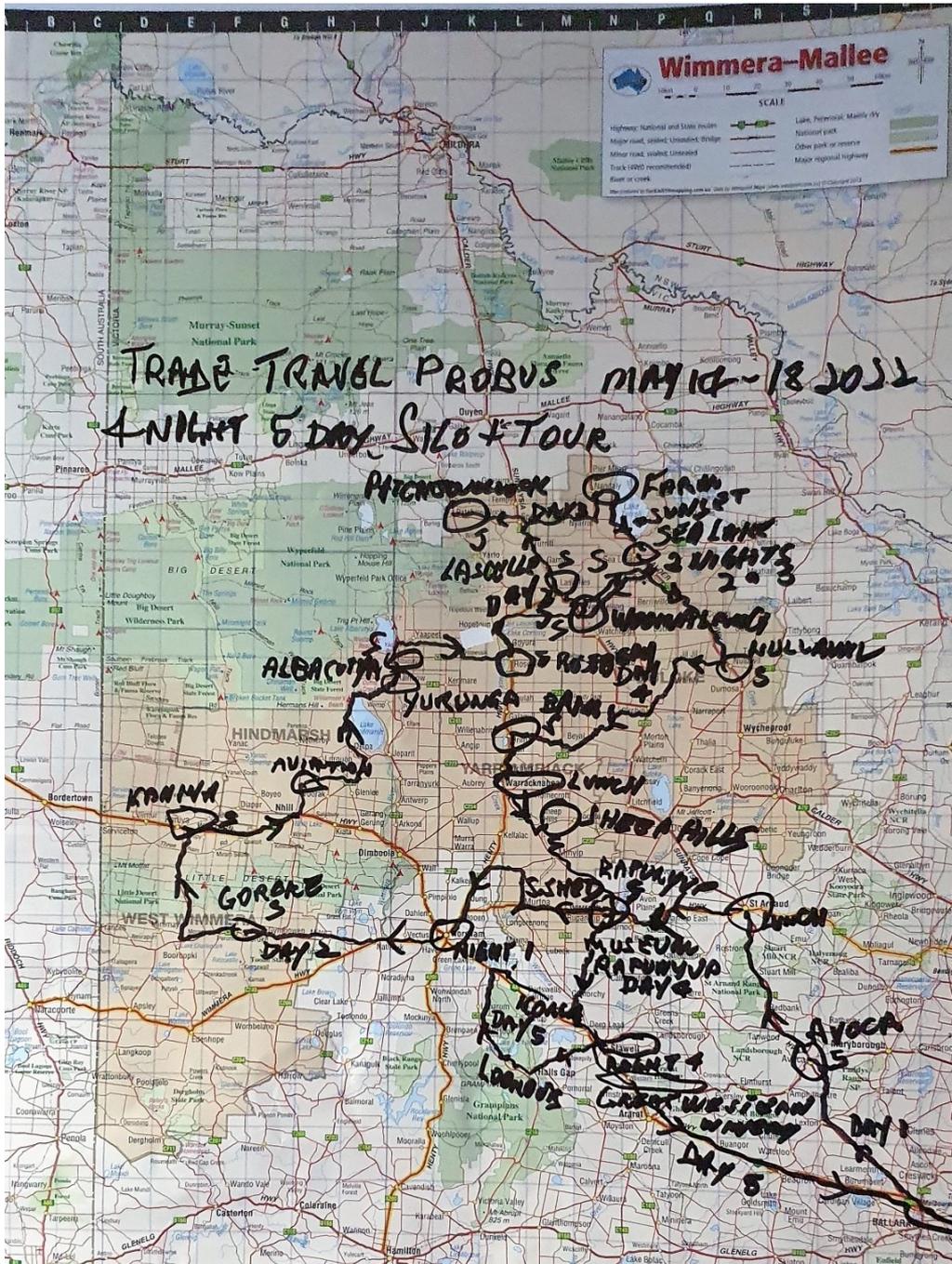
*We continued down the Western Highway, some rain came and later darkness, Rodney had said we should be back at Brandon Park by 6.30pm and we were running to time. We were delivered safely to Brandon Park, our bags unloaded, we thanked both Rodney and Colin for their safe guidance and the many stories and experiences along the journey, the coach then headed for Wheelers Hill to drop off the other passengers.*

*I have to say that value for money this was an excellent trip, the choice of trip by the Outings Team was great, the itinerary was varied, the food was plentiful, the guide and coach driver were excellent and for those that were unable to go or chose not to, unfortunately you missed a great Probus Outing.*

*Lynn*



*The Combined Probus Club of Wheelers Hill Inc. Silo Trip group  
with Coach driver Rodney and Trade Travel Guide Colin.*



Melbourne >

Difficult to read map of the trip.

- Day 1, Melbourne, Ballarat, Avoca St Arnaud, Rupanyup, Murtoa, Horsham
- Day 2, Horsham, Goroke, Kaniva, Nhill, Rainbow, Albacutya, Rosebery, Sea Lake
- Day 3, Sea Lake, Woomelang, Lascelles, Patchewollock, Nandaly, Sea Lake
- Day 4, Sea Lake, Nullawil, Brim, Warracknabeal, Sheep Hills, Rupanyup, Stawell
- Day 5, Stawell, Grampians, Great Western, Ararat, Melbourne,

- Direction of travel
- S Silo visit
- N Night

E&OE