

# Inaugural Trip of the Caravan and Cabin group

Wangaratta February 2023

*Commentary Gavan Murphy*

*Photos & captions courtesy Ray and Judith Binks, drone shot courtesy Alan Taylor*

*PS: Remember to use the browser zoom to get a better view of the photographs.*



Our first Cabin & Caravan Outing was to Painters Island Caravan Park in Wangaratta. Alan Taylor, Paul Henshall, Ray & Judith Binks and Gavan & Rhonda Murphy stayed in their caravans on spacious shaded sites. John & Rita Hall, Jill Croom & Janet Jackson and John & Margaret Vickers had cabins.

Ray & Judith offered to have happy hour each day under the trees outside their van and on Sunday night after everyone had settled in we went to the Pinsent Hotel for dinner.

Monday morning we set off on a shared self-drive Silo tour including Tungamah, Devenish, St James and Gooramab. Paul was desperate for a coffee but had to wait until we stopped for lunch at the Diggers Wife Café at Gooramab. The hotels along the way were closed on Monday mornings.

On Tuesday we travelled to Eldorado for a very informative talk and tour of the museum followed by a visit to the dredge. Lunch was at the Beechworth bakery. Paul, John H, Ray and Alan were dropped off about 25kms from Wangaratta and rode back to the caravan park on the rail trail. That evening we had a bbq in the well-appointed camp kitchen.

It was an early start on Wednesday for a 10am tour of the Military Museum at Bandiana followed by lunch at The Goods Shed Craft Beer Café 4kms from the museum in Wodonga. After a busy three days we all decided to walk over to the RSL for dinner that night rather than think about cooking.

On Thursday morning everyone set off for home after what all agreed was a very successful and enjoyable inaugural cabin & caravan adventure. A big thank you to John Hall for his support and advice organising the new activity group and to Ray Binks for taking all the photos and preparing the report and photo story for the website.



Our Caravan Park.



View of our caravan park from the walking bridge into town.



River view from walking bridge



Walking bridge into town.



Anglican Holy Trinity Cathedral



Wangaratta Performing Arts & Convention Centre.



Wangaratta station.



Old water tower near the train station.



Aboriginal artwork on the Goulburn River trail.



Wangaratta Gallery "Portrait of Australia" display.



Wangaratta Historical Society



Walking bridge into town from the caravan park.



Entrance to Apex Park Wangaratta



The various aspects of Wangaratta



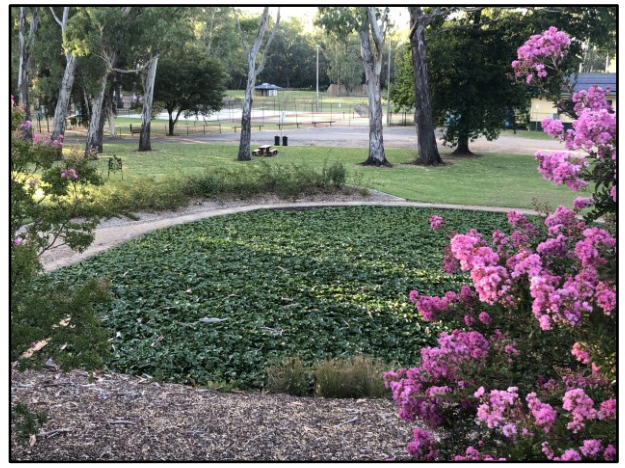
Sculpture at Wangaratta Library building.



Band sculpture commemorates Wangaratta Jazz Festival.



Merriwa Park gardens. Crepe Myrtles



Merriwa Park gardens. Lily Pond.



Early morning walk to the Northern Beaches on the Goulburn River.



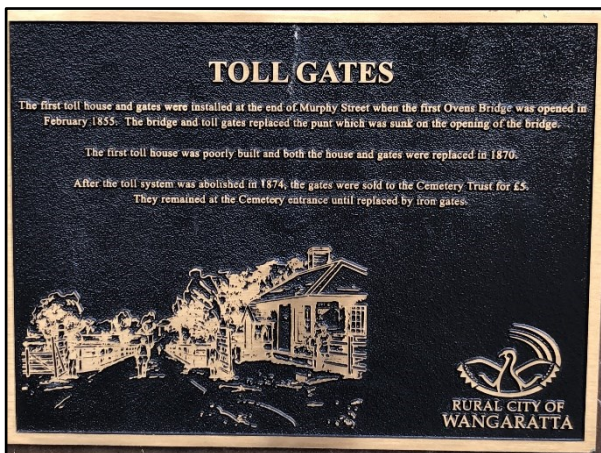
What a sight in the morning sunlight.



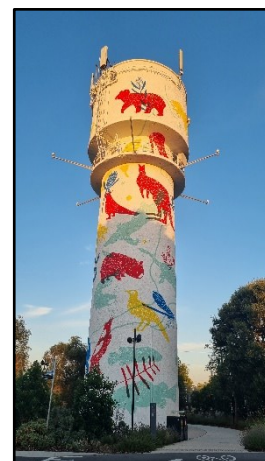
Ovens river view.



Ovens river view.



Wangaratta had TOLL GATES.



Prominent water tower in Wangaratta.



Pinsent Hotel -the location for dinner on the first night.



Walking home to the van after dinner.



Tungamah Silos.



Tungamah Silos, Wow the detail was impressive.



Group photo at Tungamah Silos.



More artwork by "Sobrane Simcock"



Judith, Rhonda & Rita at the Devenish Silo information board.



Devenish Silo art.



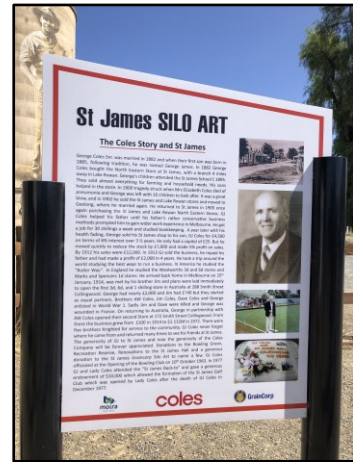
John V, Paul, Alan & John H at the Devenish machinery display.



St James Silo Art display.



The first G. J. Coles store was in St James.



St James Silo Art information display.



Goorambat silo art description.



Fantastic detail.



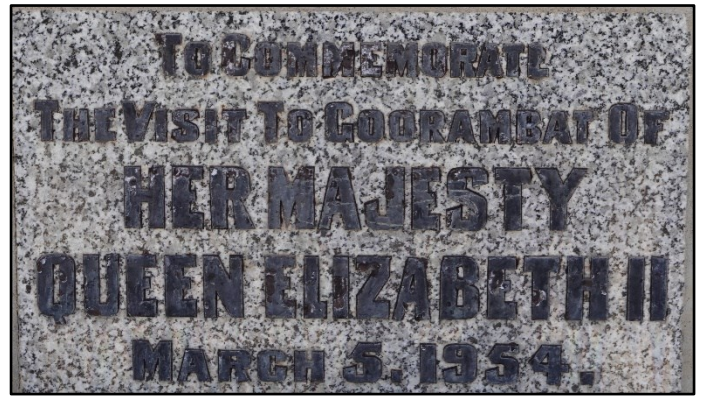
More Goorambat silo art. Just fantastic.



Lunch at the "Diggers Wife" cafe.



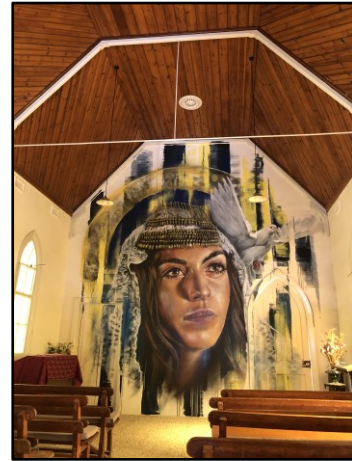
Even the "Loo" was painted!!!!



Queen Elizabeth visited Goorambat!!!!.



Gavin suggested there was something special in the church.



Wow what a painting, depicting Sophia' the female aspect of the Holy Spirit.



Eldorado Museum



Sue our guide at the museum.



Gavan inspects the fantastic display of sewing machines.



Alan tries out the old Magneto Telephone.



Old Eldorado school room.



Period clothing.



Tools and various other items on display.



Janet in discussion with another museum guide.



After getting us lost, is John getting directions to the Eldorado Dredge



Jill at the visitors register.



Judith trying out the latest period attire.



Rita has joined the Police force!





Gavan tries out the dunny.



Paul found a comfortable seat in a Dredge bucket.



Water cannon used on the dredge.  
I would not like to be in control of guiding it.



Front view of the old state school now a museum.



Our group in front of the old machinery shed.



John, Alan & Gavan checking out the machinery display.



Time for coffee at the Eldorado General store.



The Eldorado town information display was very informative.



Side view of the monster like dredge.



But it worked and recovered 2.2 tonnes of gold.



The buckets & booms were operated by 14 electric motors consuming massive 670Kw of power.



Large buckets were used to raise the ore into the dredge.



Dredge information board.



Street art in Beechworth.



Beechworth bakery for lunch.



Everyone enjoyed the coffee and food.



And the rest break was welcome.



The "Bee Sting" cakes were good as well!



Historic telegraph in Beechworth.



Inside the telegraph station had a display of historic telephone and telegraph equipment.



Historic Court House and Jail



Historic Beechworth Post Office.



Our bike ride route. Everton to Wangaratta.



Alan, Ray, John & Paul at the start of the ride.



Rest time, nearly back to Wangaratta.



John, Paul & Ray ready for the last leg.



St Valentine's Day Happy Hour.  
Thanks for the Hearts Jill.



Bandiana Military Museum.



Every type of gun imaginable here.



Part of the impressive display of uniforms.



The old Furphy tank was everywhere even in the military.



Janet looking to rest the feet.



Field Catering equipment.



Vietnam memories.



Vehicle and Artillery display.



It had everything.



Relatively modern radar guided rocket launchers.



Bomb and Mine disposal.



The "Trench Artwork" was amazing.



Very creative.



Very intricate...



... and complex.



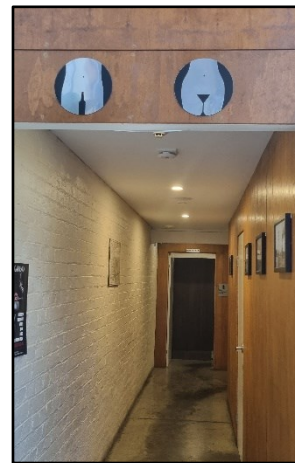
We had lunch at the historic "Railway Goods Shed"...



... In Wodonga.



Beers through the years display.



Hallway to where???



A nice setting for our lunch.



Our group at lunch.

What a fantastic start to our Probus Cabin  
and Caravan Activity Group.

Thanks Gavan and John.