

Rally Report – YEA, Vic December 2020

14 vans travelled to Yea for the December, 2020 Rally with most coming from the previous rally at Mansfield but with a few Mansfield attendees heading home and a few new vans coming just for Yea.

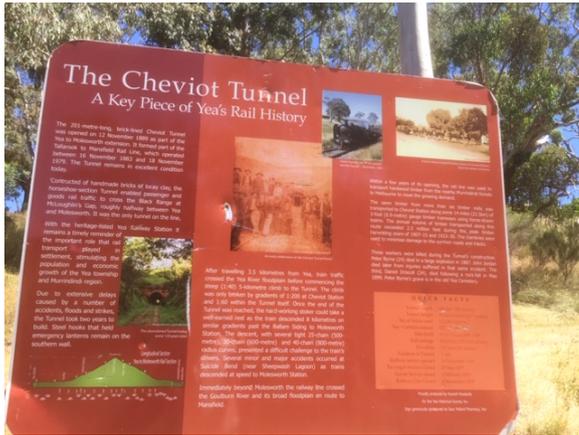
As this rally was the Christmas Rally and also the AGM, we were joined by a number of day visitors for both the AGM and the Christmas Party. Sig, Bianka, Tom and Anne travelled down from Shepparton; Sandy and Peter came up just for the Christmas Party and we were also joined for the evening by Anthea, Gary and Adam coming in from Alexandra.

Wednesday was set-up day with a few visiting the town area and the usual Happy Hour to round off the day and get up to date with what was happening with all. It was great to catch up after many months and for a few a year or more.

The weather was fine and warm and Thursday morning saw Ann & Colin with Debbie & Brian hopping on their bikes and heading for the Cheviot Tunnel on the Great Victorian Rail Trail.



Most of the rest of us took the easy way out and drove. Timing was perfect as the intrepid bikers arrived just after the tourists. Brian's was the only "real" bike and he felt the pain of the continuous climb to the tunnel. Compensation was it was downhill all the way back.



Thursday's Happy Hour had to be relocated as Janine arrived and took up the vacant site we had used the night before. However as it turned out we needed the space. A presentation of badges to Debbie & Terry and Madalyn and Bill took place. They had waited quite some time to get these.



Friday morning saw 19 of us head off to the Murrindindi Scenic Reserve which is the northern end of the Toolangi State Forest. None of us had been there before and it was a wonderful surprise with very good day use areas, plenty of camping space (caravans ok at some), and water. A stop at the Suspension Bridge camping area



was followed by a drive to the southern end of the area. We had lunch at the Murrindindi Cascades picnic area and then went to explore the Cascades which are a series of water falls.



Heading back we stopped to view the Wilhemina Falls which can be seen from the roadside but to which you can walk if fit enough. Sue & Fred and their grandson, Zac, attempted this later in the weekend but only Zac achieved the whole way to the falls and back. Another stop at the SEC campground and day use area and then back to Lilydale via Murrindindi. The day was rounded off with the usual happy hour.

Saturday was meeting day with various planned activities however not before a visit to the Yea Farmers Market where a number of us spent a bit of money.

A meeting was held at 10.30 to explain the program for the day followed by a communal lunch. The AGM was held in a function room at the Country Club Hotel with sign in at 3.00pm and the AGM starting at 3.30pm. The required formalities were conducted with the result that a new committee was elected. Secretary, Judy, will send around minutes which outline who is on the committee and the office bearers for the year. The new committee features a number of new faces and new office bearers.

Whilst some stayed on at the hotel others went back to the park to glamour up for the night ahead.

With pre-dinner drinks starting at 6.00pm (from our private bar), our pre-ordered meals were served at 7.00pm. The service at the Country Club Hotel was superb with all meals quickly on the table.



Bianka and Judy had done a great job on putting the raffle prizes together .



Rather than Christine winning a heap like last year, the prizes were well distributed around; even the hotel manager scored a couple.



After a break to reset the room Jeff conducted his trivia quiz which was truncated to 30 questions. The winning team scoring 24 correct answers. The only controversy was that Victorians pronounce Maldon "Mauldon" and Queenslanders pronounce it Mal(as in Malcolm)don. However, I accept no responsibility for the Victorian education system.

A great evening was had by all and the consensus was that it was one of the best Christmas Party's the club has had for many years.

Sunday saw a couple of members heading home but was a bit of a recovery day for the rest of us. At 2.30pm a group walked down to the Yea Cidery, Winery & Brewery to try some of

the local products. Needless to say a fair amount of money was spent and the goods had to be delivered to the caravan park by the owner. A couple of us also had to check out the beer at the Country Club Hotel on the way back.

The normal happy hour followed but was suddenly terminated by a (very) slight shower of rain. This was a warning of what was to come overnight with some big gusts of wind and rather heavy rain.

Monday morning was cold and damp but the rain stayed away whilst most of us packed up and headed for home.

2 vans stayed on for a longer break.

Overall a great rally and it was really pleasing to see some members who we had not caught up with for some time.

See you all at Wakiti Creek.

Jeff Worthington