



**W:** [www.thegreatescapeoz.com.au](http://www.thegreatescapeoz.com.au) **M:** 0413 704 104 **E:** trackboss508@gmail.com

## The Great Escape Oz September 2020 Newsletter

G'day to all Rallyitives and those that are interested in joining our trusty group.

Firstly I would like to wish all the Dads a great **Father's Day** and hope you are spoiled, it maybe a little late but I hope you had an enjoyable day.

I trust everyone and their families are well, and I hope to catch up with some of you later in October at the MINI RALLY 24-25 October Hunter Region. See entry form attached

Our lives are still upside down as we continually deal with a new way of living, some worse than others. I feel for the people in Victoria as they are not only battling the corona virus, but the extremely strict restrictions as they are forced to stay at home and self-isolate till the virus is totally under control. We know this needs to be done but there are some heavy-handed methods being used. We must also remember that we are all Australians and we are all in this together and we will fight it together for the country's sake. We feel for the older generation who have passed and the families who have not had the opportunity of saying their goodbyes, that is a terrible and tragic thing to think of in a modern-day world.

Next week if things were normal we would have been lining up in Nuriootpa Barossa to set off on The Great Escape Oz to Augathella Qld via Birdsville but the virus stopped that happening, but it will happen, God willing from 10 to 17 April 2021 so put that in your diary and start preparing the car for the rally. I have had a number of calls from people who have not done the GEO for a while and want to return. Everyone who become Rallyitives do it for all different reasons, but it's that collection of people with vast talents and backgrounds that build the massive spirit within the rally, this is our bubble.

### **MINI RALLY 25-26 JULY 2020 MUDGEES REGION.**

This Mini Rally was a wonderful success with 18 assorted vehicles from rally cars, to family cars and vintage cars. We had a lovely elegant white Rolls Royce coming but on the way to the start at Rylstone it developed some electrical problems, so we did not get the great image or photo of a white Roller coming out of the Aussie bush, maybe next time. The Mini

Rally went the way I wanted it to go, it was open to everyone and it was your choice of vehicle. The tracks were a variety of good dusty roads, some rough and then we had rain during that very cold weekend. Of course we had a certain amount of bitumen so if you wanted to stay on the tar you could. The Campbells from Griffith and the Willis' from Leeton drove 7 hours to be part of the rally, so their efforts were greatly appreciated., they were among many who had driven hours to get Rylstone for the start and remembering they had to get home also. I guess the highlight was Hill End, where we were all together under isolation regulations which had its problems at the pub, but we had fun and Caz Heim, who came up with the Willis' in normal Great Escape spirit ended up in the pub's kitchen helping the cook who was under the pump to get the meals out as the manager had not advised him we were coming. In appreciation, the cook gave Caz a bottle of Scotch, which she passed onto me. On the Sunday before we took off to lunch and finish at Mudgee we all re-discovered Hill End, many having never been there, others had not been there for many years and others who had been there on a school excursion, many moons ago. At the presentation and lunch the bottle of Scotch was auctioned and the Awards were presented, there were 5 teams that came in first as there were seconds between then, so we decided that they all went over the line together, everyone was a winner as some had never done a rally and wanted to become involved. But the **GOLD MEDALS** went to Russ (Doc) Maxwell, Jon (Chappy) Chapman and Troy (Tog) Leathern who set out the tracks, got the pubs involved and rallied people from around the Mudgee area. Not forgetting Malcolm Boardman and his son Nathen who did the start, he was sweep and workshop, although they did not have a busy day, workshop wise, it was still comforting to know they were there if needed.

I have had great reports back from the new entrants and from that I am sure we are going to gain at least 3 new cars for next year. It was not a fundraising event, no entry fees no fundraising, you pay all your own meals and accommodation. My aim was to get the regular GEO entrants together, introduce new people to fun car rallying and get money back into the bush, every new dollar spent in the country town – moves around 3 times, so it's important to give back to the bush, I called the rally "**To the Bush for the Bush**" and from that success the next MINI RALLY will be **24-25 October 2020** in the Hunter Region.

### **The Great Escape Oz Mini Rally 24-25 October 2020 Hunter Region.**

Life is seeming a bit monotonous at the moment and now more than ever, we're craving freedom, excitement and adventure. Well get on The Great Escape Oz Mini Rally, normally a fundraiser for CURE 4 Cystic Fibrosis but due to covid-19 we cannot do our normal thing but our main 7 day rally will be back in 2021 on 10 to 17 April 2021 Barossa to Augathella Qld via Birdsville. The MINI RALLY, no fees, no fundraising just helping the bush, getting people together and showing them what fun car rallying is all about and welcome the new Spring bush/wildflowers.

So just outlining the requirements for the Mini Rally.

- Any type of vehicle, family car, rally car or whatever can enter, must be registered.
- No entry fees
- You pay for your food and accommodation.
- I'll list the accommodation, but you must book early.

- Please get your entry sheet back to me as I need to know how many Track Books, I need printed, along with name tags.
- You must give me all names of the team in the car and their phone numbers and email addresses.

Accommodation.

- **Gresford** Friday 23 Oct. The Beatty Hotel, Park St East Gresford. Limited rooms available 02 4938 9451. You can swag out the back of the pub.
- **Gloucester.** Saturday 24 Oct. Roundabout Inn 02 6558 1816 limited rooms. Also Buckets Way Motel 02 6558 2588. Also Kings St Motel 0427 982 080. There is also a Caravan Park in town
- **Pokolbin.** Sunday 26 Oct Potters Tavern/Brewery Resort again book early. 024991 7922. Other motels around.

### **Catering**

All meals will be at your expense, there is a small café next to the pub at Gresford East for brekkie if needed.

Lunch Sat will be at the Bank Hotel in Dungog

Dinner on Saturday night will be at Roundabout Inn Gloucester and brekkie next morning or 2 cafes in main street.

Lunch Sunday Potters Brewery Resort Pokolbin. We will have a Presentation and Q & A.

### **Mud Map.**

Setting off from Gresford East we will head out on a variety of tracks including some bitumen as we head towards Dungog for Lunch, 3 fuel stations in town.

After lunch, from Dungog we go into some very pretty country, with sheep cattle and mining as we get closer to Gloucester. Some great views from around the Barrington Tops then into Gloucester for dinner and fun at the bar telling of your experiences of the day.

After a hearty brekkie at Gloucester we start to go down through some lovely farming land and very small villages which I 'll give history of in the Track Book, then we get into the heart of the Hunter Wine Country and onto our lunch and presentation at Potters Hotel, Brewery and Resort, Pokolbin. Obviously, you will get far more detail within the Track Book

### **Froggy recovering but in for further surgery.**

As you read in the July Newsletter I advised about Froggy, well now he is backing up again for surgery this time on his Right Leg and after speaking with him yesterday he indicated that he may need a further 2 operations, this should be done from the 4 to 11 September at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. From July Newsletter below.

John 'Froggy' Selth had a left leg operation on June 30, this was to improve the blood flow as it has restricted his movement and making it difficult to walk any distance. So he took his first new steps on Friday 3 July and expecting to be home the 6 July so he can terrorise Kaye.

Good luck Froggy along with an easy and quick recovery.

## **Vale Paul Ellinsworth**

Paul Ellinsworth, beloved husband of Sharon Ellinsworth passed away 12th August 2020 in hospital following a number of health issues over the past 10 months. Paul and Sharon have 2 wonderful children in Michael and Candice and 5 young and active grandchildren. My Sharon and Sharon E met at work when Candice and my Sharon's daughter, Michelle were around 3 years old, so the family friendship goes back many years.

Paul, Sharon and baby Michael arrived from the UK in 1981. He loved and followed his beloved Manchester City football team to the end. Paul was a panel beater and spray painter and he was extremely successful within the industry. Over the last 15 years or so he became involved within the air-conditioning installation industry, until his health took control in October 2019.

I employed Sharon E in 2007 as a support fundraising person. I was the CEO of Cystic Fibrosis Australia at the time. Progressively she moved into and became more involved with the Great Escape and took charge of the event in 2010. From time to time Paul would attend the start or finish of the GE. He also moved Rosie around when needed, although Paul was not on the payroll he would always jump in when needed.

Paul had a wonderful send off on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August, where over 100 family and friends attended.

. See'y down the track, take care, stay safe.

**Please find attached entry forms.**

**The Great Escape Oz Mini Rally 24—25 October'20 Entry Form Hunter Region**

**The Great Escape Oz Full Rally (7 days) 10 – 17 April 2021**

See ya' down the track.

Terry Stewart Track Boss

Ph 0413 704 104

E. [trackboss508@gmail.com](mailto:trackboss508@gmail.com)

See following page for some highlights from the Mudgee Mini Rally:





