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The Great Escape Oz September 2021 Newsletter

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

THIS IS A RALLY HEALTH CHECK ON ENTRANTS AND CARS.

You know if everything were normal, we would have been either home or heading home after finishing the "2020" The Great Escape Oz for CURE4 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, yes so it is now just over 2 years since many of us have seen each other, this is all due to COVID - 19. It has been a cruel period in many ways and has affected so many people in diverse ways and this will have some effects on us for many years to come. Business who will never open again, jobs that have been lost and will never be needed again and it goes on, not forgetting the amount of school days that have been lost and that is a real worry for the future of our youth.

We have pulled together 3 mini rallies over that time, a sensational fun time in the Mudgee area in June of 2020 and special thanks to the Mudgee boys for some ideal tracks, lunch stops and overnight stops. Then in October 2020 the boys from around the Hunter area put together fabulous tracks, pubs and overnight stops together, both of these mini rallies we of course worked within the covid restrictions and according to everyone a great time was had by all and of course the catch up, that is the very important element within these events, catching up with people, we are a very social mob and you could see it within the faces and the humour at these gatherings, that is what people were missing. Earlier this year we tried desperately to hold a mini rally within the Riverina, but border closers and harder restrictions made this exceedingly difficult to hold, I thank those who did the preparatory work to get this happening, but it turned out to difficult for entrants.

I have spoken to many people who hope to be coming back and others that are certainly interested in jumping on board, so we'll counting the sleeps till Saturday 30th April 2022 when we will be enjoying dinner in The Pavilion Room in the iconic and The infamous Palace Hotel, Broken Hill for the Welcome Dinner. Remembering this is our first 7-day rally, so we are all learning on this rally, but we have had time on our hands to get everything right. We are right in the area of "Dustywood", the bush area of Hollywood, without the glitter.

The Palace Hotel was used in a number of very successful movies including '**Priscilla Queen of the Desert**' and outside of its movie status, the hotel has some wonderful paintings with over 500sqm of mural paintings by indigenous artist Gordan Waye and Italian Mario Celotto. Read about the unique history of this heritage iron build pub built in 1889. Broken Hill has been left with some wonderful old and respected buildings that have those grand Victorian and Federation era hotels, it's like stepping back in time and wonderful that it has been preserved. Continuing on our movie course and following our start near the Broken Hill railway station on the Sunday morning we head to Silverton only 25klm for brekkie, Silverton is well known for its **Mad Max era**, so more "Dustywood". A bit of history now, Silverton was for a brief time the thriving hub of the region. It was where BHP was founded, As Broken Hill was not on the map back then Silverton's role was pivotal when Australia first began transitioning from an agriculture- based economy to an industrial powerhouse. A very busy place in the late 1800's, lots to see and hear as you have brekkie in Silverton, don't forget to go into the pub have a beer and look at the memorabilia on the walls. Hope all of that has whet your appetite and you are flicking through the pages on the various websites for a car. Now you got history and culture, you are always learning on The Great Escape Oz, and you know I love passing on knowledge and facts about what you are going to see, and the areas we travel through.

With new people showing interest in joining The Great Escape Oz, there are a couple of websites worth visiting if you are looking at buying a car, rally equipped or something that you feel you could do up as a rally car, these websites include carsales.com and gumtree.com.au I am sure there are other areas depending on where you live. You can start this process in parallel with fundraising and forming a team, one person cannot do it all. Don't forget the raffle tickets for helping with your fundraising, there is more on that further in this newsletter, great prizes and good value at \$2 per ticket and that \$2 dollars go towards your car, every penny of raffle ticket sold goes to your car likewise your friends and family can sell tickets, again every penny goes to your car. The goal is to have 30 to 35 cars and we are well on the way to achieve that, hopefully without any further covid restrictions. Car and entrants' thyme outfits, you are out of your comfort zone so get yourselves a thyme for the car and have matching design outfits to wear each/night as you will stand out, you'll love the attention from the other entrants and the general public, there is a prize for "Zaniest vehicle"

GEOZ WEBSITE

The Great Escape Oz website is being updated as it's a work in progress, so if you have any thoughts on improving or further information or more photos or maybe you would like to send me your stories and highlights while on the rally which I will put on the site for others who have never experienced the GEOZ and to see from an entrants point of view the challenges, fundraising idea's, idea's for the car what's needed etc and the fun that they enjoyed and the friends they have gained, as we are all called "rallyitives".

ENTRY FORMS

As we move along, can I get you to send in your entry forms for those who have not done so, then go to www.thegreatescapeoz.com.au you will find everything you need to know including an entry form, all the rules, all the tricks, loads of photos and lots more.

NEW DATES FOR THE 2020 (NOW '22) GREAT ESCAPE OZ CAR RALLY FOR CURE4 CF.

After 4 previous attempts to hold the 2020 rally this is the new confirmed dates in **2022**.

WELCOME DINNER SATURDAY 30TH APRIL 2022 BROKEN HILL NSW

THE START DAY WILL BE SUNDAY 1ST MAY 2022 BROKEN HILL NSW

FINISH DAY WILL BE SATURDAY 7TH MAY 2022 AUGATHELLA QLD

Knowing many of you have to apply for your holidays, I am sure with 7 months' notice this will help with your planning. I have considered, Easter, School holidays and Anzac Day.

This time (#5) it will happen, most normal people will be fully vaccinated, borders should be fully open, business getting back to normal and people moving around within Australia, I hope all who were coming on the earlier dates will join us in **April 2022**. My plan is to do promotional drives in a couple of locations to boost the numbers, between now and March.

OUR RUNNING SCHEDULE SATURDAY 30TH APRIL TO SATURDAY 1ST MAY 2022.

- **WELCOME DINNER SATURDAY 30TH APRIL '22 BROKEN HILL.**
- **START OF THE RALLY SUNDAY 1ST MAY '22 BROKEN HILL**
- **OVERNIGHT TIBOOBURRA SUNDAY 1ST MAY '22.**
- **OVERNIGHT INNAMINCKA MONDAY 2ND MAY '22.**
- **OVERNIGHT BIRDSVILLE TUESDAY 3RD MAY '21.**
- **OVERNIGHT WINDORAH WEDNESDAY 4TH MAY '22.**
- **OVERNIGHT QUILPIE THURSDAY 5TH MAY '22.**
- **OVERNIGHT TAMBO FRIDAY 6TH MAY '22.**
- **OVERNIGHT AND AWARDS DINNER AUGATHELLA SATURDAY 7TH MAY'22.**

Please book your accommodation, get in early. I have put together an accommodation options sheet with contact details for you to use in each of the overnight stops. There are lots of cancelled events and other new events going on in the areas we are travelling through, so you need to be quick and get accommodation sorted out or bring a swag.

RAFFLE TICKETS/FUNDRAISING

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE RAFFLE TICKETS.

I DO REALISE THE DATE FOR THE DRAW OF THE RAFFLE TICKET CLEARLY SAYS THE 10TH APRIL'21. IF YOU NEED A LETTER FROM ME CLARIFYING THE DRAW WILL BE SATURDAY 30TH APRIL 2022,PLEASE ADVISE AND I'LL FORWARD YOU A LETTER EXPLAINING THE SITUATION.

As you are all aware we have raffle tickets designed to assist with your fundraising for the April/ May 2022 rally. Books of 50 tickets at \$2 per ticket, sell a book and \$100 goes to your fundraising total. Some car/teams are selling 2, 3, 5 & 6 books! This is giving the teams the opportunity to increase their fundraising dollars via the raffle tickets. What I would like to see is at least 1 book being taken up by each car, it would add to your total and add to the overall total for CURE 4 CF.

Everything is provided you do not pay for a thing, I have had all the prizes donated I'll providing all the raffle books, so all you need to do is sell the tickets and each ticket sold that \$2 goes into your fundraising Car #... It would be lovely for one of your family or friends winning one or more of these lovely and very practical prizes.

Great Prizes. The raffle will be drawn at the **Welcome Dinner on Saturday 30th April 2022 at Broken Hill.** Winners will be notified by email, and results will go up on our website.

If you have family and friends who will sell tickets for you, then get them involved and the funds raised from tickets sold, go to your car.

Raffle Prizes.

- **1st Prize. Jura E8 Black Fully Automatic Coffee Maker from the Famous Swiss Manufacture. The Jura E8 Black Auto Coffee is a practical choice for brewing coffee inside a modern kitchen—with 12 different speciality options to suit varying tastes. VALUE \$2000.
Donated by Harvey Norman, Echuca.**
- **2nd Prize. Hisense, an impressive 65-inch 4 K Ultra H D Smart TV Features innovative key picture technology, enjoy all the clarity and detail on the large screen. VALUE \$1400.
Donated by Peter Roulstone Harvey Norman. Mount Gambier**
- **3rd Prize. Fuel Voucher to use throughout Australia. You tell us your preferred Fuel and we mail you the card. VALUE \$250**

See Ya down the track

Terry Stewart
Track Boss

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