



WHITTLEY CLUB NSW

COMMODORE

Ray Mantle

0418 292 512

PRESIDENT

Phil Sparks

0414 267 664

SECRETARY

Maxine Mantle

0419 015 092

TREASURER

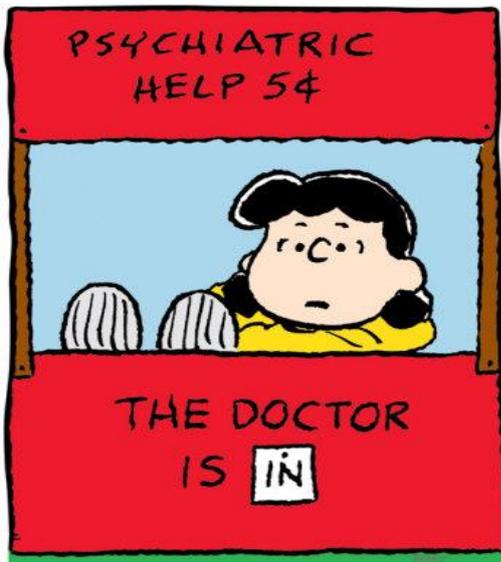
Narelle Baglin

0408 292 468

June 2016 Newsletter

Hi all,

As a lot of us are still coming down from the wondrous high of the Rally, I trust that everyone is well and navigating your way through winter. Please always remember



my door is always open.

Phil Sparks

President

(1) CRUISE REPORTS



MUDGEES VINEYARDS TOUR (JUNE 2016)

The June long weekend was the perfect time for one of NSW's most prominent cruising clubs to head to the beautiful Mudgee area for an extravaganza of culinary delights.

Before we had even headed out the door, our group was rocked with the devastating news that Michael and Diana would not be joining us due to a most unfortunate accident emanating from a heated argument over the brand of bidet for the new bathroom?



I don't know what hit me but it came from the starboard side!

Following on from the withdrawal of Alex and Angela with chronic jet-lag, was the whole expedition now in jeopardy? With the bit firmly clenched in our teeth, the intrepid group soldiered on over the mountains to the beautiful township of Mudgee.

After checking in at our Motel, it was down to the wonderful Oriental Hotel for dinner and a few drinks (to overcome the loss of our comrades!)



one of my favourite parts of town!

Our questionable luck continued the following morning when a power failure at the Motel ruined the First Lady's hair and Athena's toast!! If only a competent electrician could be found?

Undaunted we all happily piled into the Cudgegong Valley Tourist Bus and off to the wineries



Lea & Bob, Athena & Roger, Margaret & Max, Judy & Ian, Allison & Colin, Jenny & Phil

First stop was Lowe Estate where the presenter had to inform us what was the clear liquid in the bottle was? Enough of that stuff!! They had some nice wines and a few purchases were made.



A most attractive few in the pew!

“It wasn’t me it was Allison!”

Next stop was Pieter Van Gent winery where the early consumption was beginning to affect some of the members of your illustrious Club. Some of the ladies were dispatched to the naughty chairs – where they still wouldn’t button up (what a surprise)



Naturally a few bottles purchased at the cellar door released our team from Coventry at least till the next stop.

We met a few fun couples along the way who joined our bus for a good old sing-a-long. The longing in their eyes to own a Whittleby was obvious for all to see one day one day.



**It was cold, yes we are old,
some got told and the rest
rolled home**

(T.S. Eliot)

Lunch at Moothi Estate certainly put a smile on Bob's dial!!



Max may have just realised he didn't really want the pie!

The juggernaut wound its way through the beautiful countryside of Mudgee stopping at Blacklea (where yet another member of the party was chastised for his behaviour), Thistle Hill (by this stage Margaret and Judy's attempt at pronouncing the name of the place was, at the very least, comical) .

Back to our salubrious accomodation for the usual Whittleby afternoon snooze. Fortunately power had been restored as the air-con was in overdrive cause it was SO cold!

Refreshed and dressed in all our finery, our wonderful host corralled us back into the bus and it was downtown to the Courthouse Hotel (you are probably seeing a common theme here I imagine) for a hearty dinner and a bit of mingling with the locals.

Rugby test didn't go our way – bloody Eddie Jones!!, but this seemed of little consequence after such a top day! Our faithful chariot picked us up yet again and returned the revellers to the Motel.



it certainly is a progressive town!



We woke to a magnificent sunny Sunday and we headed to Eltons for breakfast. Following a delicious repaste, we wished Colin, Allison, Max & Margaret farewell as they headed off.

The rest of the group set their sights for Gulgong which is the famous goldrush town. On the way we realised that the Gulgong races were on that day and seemed a destination with Whittley written all over it! With great zealous intent, Bob loaded the Gulgong racecourse into his GPS and away we went. The scenic route was selected and we happily travelled via Gilgandra, Coonabarrabran and Werris Creek.



Arriving at the racetrack we were quickly into the swing of placing our bets. Big punters like the Whittley group are rarely seen in these parts and the bookies were clearly concerned that a number of them might loose their shirts before the day was out!

Unfortunately for poor Thommo, it was he that we decided to clean out!

Looking over the field we carefully picked our trifecta based on some obvious symbolism

- Dark Mojo - our Yamba mates
- Filomena – our current President
- Budgee Boy – Alex’s swimmers

See easy !!!!!

Naturally, it goes without saying that we won!! We caught Thommo before he could get out of the paddock and we agreed to let him keep his clothes we really are nice people!!

The girls filled their bags with winnings and it was a great afternoon with a lot of laughs



For the record, I believe Lea picked a winner or place in every race and had \$\$\$\$\$\$ stashed into every available nook and cranny. We can see why Knot so Li'I has all the good gear!!!

Dinner at the Mudgee Golf Club Sunday night was on Lea (many thanks from all us). This is Mudgee's premier 5 star dining venue.

As always, our faithful taxi was but a phone call away.



Naturally Bob and I had snapper

Monday we all bid each other farewell and headed off on our way. It was a terrific weekend and many thanks to all who contributed to making it so enjoyable. Hope we see much more of new friends Max & Margaret on upcoming outings

Special note to our friends at the Motel. Their service was excellent and being ferried around Mudgee in our intoxicated state was a special bonus and way above the call of duty. If you are

thinking of staying in that area at any time, please consider their hospitality. Mention the Club I am confident they will remember us!!

Our hosts were **Kristie and Ben Newman** at the highly regarded

Cudgegong Valley Motel

212 Market St, Mudgee 2850

Ph: 02 6372 4322

Fax: 02 6372 3186

www.cudgegongvalleymotel.com.au