



Hi Brat's,

It's hard to believe Christmas is almost upon us and that it's only a little over 5 months and we will be off on another adventure.

The survey has been done and most of the pieces are in place to give you what Cowboy and I think will be another great event.

As with all the previous Brat's Bashes we have tried hard to give the 2010 Back O'Bourke bash it's own unique flavour.

Once again there are a few longish days mainly on bitumen but with a number of activities to break up the travel.

This year however there is only one lay day, that being in Dubbo where there is so much to see and do.

The enclosed booklet details many of the local attractions.

As always it would be prudent to book your accommodation now.

### The Route:

#### Day 1 Thursday March 25th Melbourne to Cootamundra:

We anticipate an 8:30am start from the Variety Walk of Fame at Waterfront City, Docklands.

First stop will be at Avenel Primary School where we will make a presentation and have morning tea.

From Avenel it is a short hop to Corowa where we will have lunch at the Federation Museum. After that it is longish bitumen run through Wagga to Cootamundra for the first overnight stop.

### **Accommodation Suggestions**

- 1) Cootamundra Gardens Motel (Officials Motel)  
(02) 6942-1833 ask for Graeme or Jane
  
- 2) White Ibis - Boutique Hotel Accommodation (Dinner Venue)  
(02) 6942-1850 ask for Gemma or Tony
  
- 3) Cootamundra Visitors Information  
1800 350 203

### **Day 2 Friday March 26<sup>th</sup> Cootamundra to Parkes:**

Today is packed with glimpses of many significant Australian people and events.

Temora where we will visit the Temora Aviation Museum is the lunch stop.

Here you will see not one but two Spitfires and a multitude of other iconic aircraft most of which are in flying condition.

This afternoon on our way to Parkes we pass through Cowra the scene of the Cowra Breakout where Japanese prisoners of war staged a violent and bloody escape during World War Two.

### **Accommodation Suggestions:**

- 1) Country Comfort Motel (Officials Motel)  
(02) 6863-4333 ask for Alicia
  
- 2) Henry Parkes Motor Inn  
(02) 6862-4644
  
- 3) Settlers Motor Inn  
(02) 6862-2022

### Day 3 Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> Parkes to Dubbo

We start the day on a big note with breakfast at the famous "Dish" - the Parkes Radio Telescope where you will have ample time to view the exhibits and movies on offer. In stark contrast to the technology of the "Dish" we will be having lunch courtesy of the regional school at the tiny town of Tullamore.

You will have plenty of time to get to know and swap stories with the local kids before you head off to Dubbo where we will stay for two nights.

Dinner tonight should be something rather different.

Does any-one not like witchety grubs?

#### Accommodation Suggestions:

1) Tullarook Motor Inn (Officials Motel)  
(02) 6882-7066 ask for Sue or Liz

2) Dubbo Visitors Centre  
(02) 6801-4450

### Day 4 Sunday March 28<sup>th</sup> Lay Day

Plenty to see and do including the world renowned Western Plains Zoo.

### Day 5 Monday March 29<sup>th</sup> Dubbo to Bourke

Out of Dubbo and Back O'Bourke here we come! Red dirt, dust (or maybe mud), lumps, bumps and jumps.

What more needs to be said?

After all isn't this what you came for?

### Accommodation Suggestions:

- 1) Major Mitchell Motel (Officials Motel)  
(02) 6872-2311 ask for Brett or Gemma
  
- 2) Darling River Motel  
(02) 6872-2288
  
- 3) Riverside Motel  
(02) 6872-2539

### Day 6 Tuesday March 30<sup>th</sup> Bourke to Cobar

Breakfast this morning is at one of the areas newest and best attractions, the Back O'Bourke Exhibition Centre.

Here you will have the opportunity to see what the outback was really like before motor vehicles, planes etc when camels, horses and paddle steamers were the only means of transport. After lunch at Louth we head for the copper mining town of Cobar.

### Accommodation Suggestions:

- 1) Cobar Central Motor Inn (Officials Motel)  
(02) 6830-2000 ask for Robyn
  
- 2) Cobar Tourist Info Centre  
(02) 6836-1452

### Day 7 Wednesday March 31<sup>st</sup> Cobar to Hay

After breakfast its off to the Cobar Bureau of Meteorology for an insight into how information is gathered to help formulate weather forecasts,

While we are there we should be lucky enough to see the launch of a weather balloon .

Then its lunch packs and no towns until we reach Hillston on our way to Hay.

### Accommodation Suggestions:

- 1) Saltbush Motor Inn (Official Motel)  
(02) 6993-4555 ask for Gary
  
- 2) Outback Quarters  
(02) 6993-1804

### Day 8 Thursday April 1st Hay to Echuca

Well its almost all over again for another year, but not before we have breakfast and spend some time at Shear Outback - The Australian Shearers Hall of Fame, where you will see and hear the stories of the shearers of which Australian legend are made.

Lunch is at the famous Conargo Hotel before a quick visit to the Conargo Public School. Then it's down the road to Deniliquin and Echuca for the finish.

### Accommodation Suggestions:

Because we are finishing the night before the Easter break begins, when most motels require a minimum of 3 or even 4 nights bookings many motels in Echuca have declined to accept our single stay or have imposed substantially increased tariffs for doing so.

Two motels that will accept one night bookings are:

- 1) Comfort Inn Settlement (Officials Motel)  
(03) 5482-4777 ask for Debbie
  
- 2) Philadelphia Motor Inn  
(03) 5482-5700 ask for Janet

As Always:

**BOOK YOUR ACCOMMODATION NOW!!**

## Meal Money:

Meal Monies are yet to be finalized however we are trying hard to keep it at or around 2009 levels.

Only time will tell how successful we will be.

Exact cost will be advised in the next newsletter.

## Entry Form and the Brat's Bash Manual

Entry forms accompanying and as usual we are oversubscribed with far more expressions of interest than spots available so get your form back to Elyce quickly because it's first in best dressed.

Also enclosed is a copy of the Brat's Bash manual, Please take the time to read it because it is the basis of what is and what isn't acceptable behaviour for all future Brat's Bashes.

That's about it for now but as always don't hesitate to contact either Elyce or myself if you have any questions.

Cheers,

Dave.