

North West Rally – Narrabri – 8-10 June 2019

(report by Eve McCormack)

The Rover Club of Qld was invited to attend the NW Rally this year to be held in Narrabri on June 'Queen's Birthday' long weekend (although Qld do not get the Monday holiday!). So on Friday we left grey Brisbane and drove to Warwick. It was noticeably cooler when we arrived. We met up with fellow members of the Rover Club of Qld - Craig and Jenni Barraud and Geoff and Jan Victor and enjoyed a very pleasant evening meal.

The weather on Saturday morning was even fresher as we left Warwick at 8am. We drove to Goondiwindi for morning tea stop and refuel. From there we drove through light rain and many roadworks to Moree then Narrabri.



We arrived at Narrabri about 1pm and after registration, catch up with some members of Namoi Valley Antique Vehicle Club and Rover Club members, Chris and Jenny Seccombe and Wayne and Meryl Tupicoff, we headed to our motel then walked to the Narrabri museum. Chris and Jenny Seccombe are volunteer members of this museum and were very generous with their time to show us the museum's extensive collection of old wares and memorabilia, along with the stories and history of the Narrabri area.

In the evening we walked across to the RSL for our evening meal and pleasant chat

Despite very light showers, there was no real rain overnight but we awoke to a grey sky and it stayed like that for most of our Sunday. Firstly we drove to Wee Waa and their museum where we had a look around and enjoyed a very delicious morning tea.



Restored Merry-go-round
Outside the Wee Waa
Museum

Rovers at Narrabri



From Wee Waa we drove about 60km to the artesian springs pool in the Pilliga Scrub. On arrival, (some 90km west of Narrabri, 56km off the main highway) we were surprised to find a very large number of caravans – obviously all here to experience the artesian springs. No one in our group ventured in (too cold, too crowded, etc). After a sausage sizzle lunch, Ross and I went for a short walk in ‘the Pilliga wetlands’. The scenery was greener than I had imagined it to be, with some water around. Despite that, the area from Goodiwindi to past Narrabri is extremely dry – in drought and the farmers and townsfolk are desperate for some decent rain.

Pilliga Wetlands



Artesian Spring Pool—Pilliga Scrub



After a pleasant evening meal where we managed to win a raffle prize – bottle of Wolf Blass sparkling wine and Craig and Jenni Barraud received the 'most enthusiastic participants' trophy, and Rover Club of Qld won a trophy (anodised coffee mugs) for travelling the furthest, we awoke Monday morning to about 4degrees and thick fog.



Ross McCormack, Wayne and Meryl Tupicoff, Craig Barraud—happy to receive their trophy.

Eve McCormack, Craig Barraud, Jenni Barraud, Ross McCormack—outside the Clubrooms, Sunday morning



We set off on the road home at 7.45am with a long but uneventful trip with 2 stops and arrived home about 3.45pm, so 8 hours. It was a great weekend and it is always lovely to renew acquaintances with folk from other Clubs and we enjoy seeing their lovely cars. The next North West Rally will be in Moree in 2020 – we are hoping to attend, all being well, and encourage other club members to come and join us.