

Jells Park 2017 Picnic

What a very enjoyable get-together! Never mind the mild but overcast weather (the rain fortunately held off until mid-afternoon), and the lack of Humbers (thank goodness one turned up thanks to Kathleen and Neil Hiho), 14 intrepid people attended from HCCV and Singer Car Club.

I wrote a quiz for the occasion, with obscure clues referencing the expected Humber, Hillman, Sunbeam and Singer vehicles attending. I was pleased that we had a clear winner - Andy Bull from the Singer Car Club took out the first prize, scoring an impressive 17/20.

To showcase the Rootes Group theme, every answer began with either 'Hum', 'Sun', 'Hil', or 'Sin'. The 3 that Andy missed were the ones almost everyone else also missed:

Kind and merciful? Humane

Ridge of ice in an ice field? Hummock

Deep fissure on a bodily organ? Hilus

The other one which stumped many was:

Town near Rockingham, WA? Hillman!

Because we had a long drive back to Castle-maine, Ray and I headed off mid-afternoon to

battle the Melbourne peak-hour traffic, just as the quoits game (and the rain) began.

Looking forward to next year and to bringing MM4! Lotte



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We were a bit anxious when we heard the weather forecast for Friday 13th as it seemed it either was going to be uncomfortably hot, windy or wet. We woke up to rain that might have put off many, but not us. You just never know, it might clear up we thought.

Anyway by the time we headed to Jells Park the sun was peeping through the clouds and the wind was light. So far so good. Arriving early at the park we set ourselves up in the usual spot only to de-camp to a nearby shelter on Trevor



Kathleen & Neil Hiho's Humber at the Jells Park (teddy bears'!) picnic.

Leech's (Singer Club) advice just in case. The dark clouds were gathering and the rain didn't seem far away.

One by one others arrived with their picnics, chairs and games. In all there were 14 of us – 7

members from the Singer Club and 7 members from the Humber Club. We did miss the Rootes Group and Sunbeam members, did the rain deter them??? Anyway there was much chatter and laughter and hearty greetings to members who had travelled quite a distance to be there (South Gippsland and Castlemaine) as they have in past years.

Lotte had again devised an interesting quiz that at first glance looked very easy but had at least two or three questions that had all of us stumped. Eventually we had a clear winner from the Singer Club in Andy Bull, so well done Andy. The first prize looked wonderful and Andy was kind enough to share some of its goodies with the rest of us. The encouragement prize went to Judith and Pauline also from the Singer Club.

After lunch and more chatter the rain descended but we were all snug under the spacious shelter so there was no alarm or rush to pack up. In fact, being now too wet to start the Petanque Challenge we turned to try our hand at quoits that required less space.

Unfortunately for the rest of us Ted O'Connor's height and reach gave him, I believe, a decided advantage enabling him to wipe the smiles off our faces with a perfect score. Despite our best efforts none of our scores came even close to his. So we will need to do some serious practice before next year's picnic if we are going to be successful challengers. Well done Ted on winning the Chug-a-lug trophy this year.

With an easing of the rain we decided to pack up and turn for home with the members present agreeing that this was again a great day and we all look forward to gathering together again at Jells Park in 2018, under the first picnic shelter on the left when entering the Park from the Waverley Road entrance.

Judy