



Spring Run Monday 21 October 2019

When asked if we would like to organise the Spring Run for our Club it was not hard to come up with a place both Judy Finch and I absolutely love and are keen to share with others who just might feel the same way.

Monday, the day of our run turned out to be a beauty. Brilliant sunshine and a warm day. Perfect!

Judy had been warming up her Humber for days, keen to take it but only if it was not raining! Only two Humber (both same model- Judy's and Rod and Majella Burchill's) drove to the venue on the day due to various reasons, Hans Paas had to resort to a Rover as brother Michael's Humber would not start when required. Kelvin and Heather Hughes' Humber was at the mechanics.

However, 12 of us met at the cafe for a wonderful lunch during which time Prue, the owner of the gardens, gave us a very interesting talk about the development of Alowyn. From a neglected Trotting Stud two decades ago, the 21ha Yarra Valley property which was infested with weeds and blackberries grew in time with a good soil management plan and revitalisation of the land to what it is today. We heard about



the difficulties they have encountered with climate change and the very interesting ways of overcoming the obstacles that they faced.

The result is a beautiful garden with many vistas that with every season are different. So it's a garden you would want to keep going back to see the seasonal changes and continued development of the garden. The wisteria arch was in full bloom, we were lucky as this is a huge drawcard and we had a perfect day. Tuesday was to be hotter so the wisteria would quickly fade and flowers die off.



We all had a wonderful day, I saw Kelvin and Rod walking out with a beautiful pot of lavender each, heard later that Greg Rose could not resist buying some great pots too and I, who was not going to buy



anything, did find in the nursery just what I had to have too.

Best of all was the fantastic company, it's great to be able to share these lovely outings with members of the Club who all are so very welcoming and friendly.



For those who haven't been to Alowyn, the roses will be in full bloom on Cup Day. It's a great relaxed environment, the cafe is surrounded by interesting buildings, things to buy, places to sit quietly, sip coffee, eat a scone, walk around the garden and end up in a beautiful nursery where you can purchase any of the plants you might have desired and seen in the gardens.



Oh and the chocolate factory is just next door, not to even mention the Wineries!

Jan Beattie