

Fred and Sylvia would like to express their good thanks to the Rally committee, Ann and Colin, Merv and Maree, John and Judy and Roy Strange for their hard work in making the weekend such a success, knowing it takes a great deal of their own time in arranging, venues, dealing with Councils and hotels for functions etc.

We started out on the Thursday morning to meet up with good friends, Ron and Bev Heron and new acquaintances, Lionel and Rita. Ron was in his Series 4 and Lionel in his Series 5. They had already driven three and a half hours plus from Bairnsdale so were more than ready for a break. We then drove in convoy to Ballarat where we were booked into a good motel near the Eureka Stockade, found by Ron and Bev last year. It was the Miners Retreat and highly recommended if anyone is interested.

Friday we had the Grand tour and also visited the Botanical Gardens which we found impressive with their display of begonias etc. The girls particularly enjoyed this, being women's business!

Now for my hard luck story, (which had a more than happy ending.) On returning from tour the estate was found to have a slow puncture, the usual forthcoming remarks, i.e. "it looks OK. on the top" and "turn it upside down". As the car was fully loaded and I mean fully, the spare wheel being under the rear compartment, Ron came to the rescue and loaned me his spare and also with his help arranged to have it repaired early Saturday morning at Bob Janes. Now comes the rub ; during the Pride of Ownership event (car now unloaded) a well presented quiz paper was produced by Roy Strange. One question was, What is your spare wheel tyre pressure and name of tyre pressure gauge?. Now in position to check I said to Roy, 30 lbs. pressure with my Dunlop gauge. NOW wait for it.....it was 9 lb. !!!!! So what would have happened if this had occurred during the journey up to Ballarat?. So a big thanks you to Ron again.

The Rally was sponsored by Shannons and now with the sun shining and bright-work gleaming on all 44 Humbers the event was set at excellent.

Great fun was had incidentally by various members trying their luck on our old Humber bike which was precarious to say the least as it has a wonky saddle, all good fun,

Now I'll come to the point "gold in them there hills" The meal at Sovereign Hill and the presentation dinner on the Sunday were very well received. This incidentally included a DVD presentation of photo's taken over the weekend again with thanks to Judy and John. How they did it so quickly is amazing. I believe this DVD will be available to Club members at a very reasonable price.

Prizes handed to winning vehicles from Victoria, SA and NSW and Queensland and Sylvia's Super Snipe won the Shannons Gold Award which was a small gold nugget. We were both very pleased.

Once again, thanks to the organizing Committee for a great job, well done.

For those who did not come, You do not know what you missed!!!! Also it was good to catch up with old friends.

Fred and Sylvia Pieteron. HHCV