

## **Tasmania FLY AWAY 26th Feb- 6th March 2022 [ WAGGA AERO CLUB ]**

### **Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Feb**

Our Captain of Flying John was accompanied by his First Lady Judi & trusty Navigator Col in the Mooney, Rod Kendall in his Jabiru , Jim & his Friend Keith Edgerton in his Cessna & Roger & Lyn in his Cessna headed for Ballarat to refuel before crossing Bass Strait for Wynyard for the night . Geoff Breust & Ros had 2 nights at King Island before joining us for dinner in Wynyard . We put on our life jackets, had to fly above the clouds for a while .Blue Skies appeared and Tassie came into view, we followed the coast line and landed at Wynyard 2pm-2.30pm. We stayed at the Wynyard Water Front Motel.

We were shown great hospitality by Keith for inviting us to his nephew [Steve ]Father in law's place for a BBQ tea .Fred & his wife were great hosts . Steve & his wife Di were there also. Fred brewed his own beer, had his own bar which he was very proud of . The men enjoyed his NZ PILISNER BEER, BELGIAN ABBEY ALE [DARK]. He had GINGER BEER on Tap & CIDER.

### **Sun 27<sup>th</sup> FEB**

We had a good breakfast at the Vault café /bar which used to be a Bank [ heritage listed]. The men were working out the weather with flying into Strahan then on to Hobart. The weather at Hobart wasn't looking too good to fly in or some concern flying into Strahan, John & Geoff decided to fly to Strahan via the coast with no drama .

Rod, Roger and Jim decided that they wouldn't be able to get into Hobart so travel by car was the next best option .A big thank you to Craig from the Wynyard Aero Club that we could have their car to travel to Strahan & Hobart. Keith & Lyn got to ride with them also . We travelled past Mount Black [is a mountain on the West Coast Range located in the West Coast region of Tasmania, with an elevation of 950 metres above sea level, the mountain is located adjacent to the town of Rosebery. The Murchison Highway passes around its lower slopes.] Travelled through Rosebery which is at the northern end of the West Coast Range, in the shadow of Mount Black and adjacent to the Pieman River now Lake Pieman. It lies on the Murchison Highway, 25 kilometres north-east of Zeehan and is part of the Municipality of West Coast Council.

Rosebery Mine is 100% owned by MMG Limited and has been operating continually for over 80 years, with operations starting in 1936. Zinc, copper and lead concentrates, as well as gold ore, are produced at Rosebery using mechanised underground mining method followed by crushing, grinding and floatation processes. The mine is currently operated by Minerals and Metals Group (MMG), producing zinc, lead, copper, silver and gold.

Zeehan is a town on the west coast of Tasmania, Australia 139 kilometres south-west of Burnie. It is located north of Strahan. In the early 1900s it had its own council. It is currently part of the Municipality of West Coast. Keith said he was born in Zeehan.

We arrived in Strahan around 3pm. Met up with John, Judi, Col, Geoff & Ross.

**Strahan** is a harbour-side village with a dark and fascinating convict past set on the edge of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. Nestled on the shores of massive Macquarie Harbour, Strahan is the gateway to the World Heritage listed Franklin–Gordon Wild Rivers National Park. Boat cruises provide an unforgettable journey through World Heritage Wilderness into the pristine temperate rainforests of the Gordon River.

Strahan is also the departure point for the West Coast Wilderness Railway. From Strahan you can take a return half-day journey into the wilderness or a full-day journey to Queenstown and back.

We had Pizza down at the waterfront, a few ales and a red or two. And a Beautiful sunset which the girls enjoyed.

### **Mon 28<sup>th</sup> FEB**

The next morning the roadies set off for Hobart. John Judi & Col flew to Hobart. Geoff & Ros had an extra day to cruise down the Gordon River & hoping to fly into Launceston. The Roadies travelled to Queenstown. Stopped at the Queenstown airstrip with the mountains behind the Airstrip. A very scenic drive into town. We had morning tea at the west coast wilderness railway café, a great sunny day for travelling. Great buildings with the Empire Hotel, Post Office, a grand building with a clock tower.

### **From West Coast Wilderness Railway (Queenstown Station)**

"Built in 1896 to transport ore from Queenstown's mines to the port of Strahan, the West Coast Wilderness Railway today carries visitors through spectacular river gorges and rainforests in comfort. Passengers are invited to step back in history aboard carriages hauled by the line's original steam locomotives for a journey deep into the rainforests and into the heritage of Tasmania's rugged west coast,

We made our way to LAKE ST CLAIRE. They say is the deepest freshwater lake in Australia with a depth of 167 metres. Walked down to the waters edge for Photos.

**Lake St Clair or Leeawulenna** is a natural freshwater lake located in the Central Highlands area of Tasmania. The Lake is at the southern end of the world famous Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park and is part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.

We continued on and called into see the Tungatinah Power station.

The Tungatinah Power Station is a conventional hydroelectric power station located in the Central Highlands region of Tasmania. The power station is situated on the Upper River Derwent catchment and is owned and operated by Hydro Tasmania. The Tarraleah Power station is on the opposite side of the banks of the NIVE River

We wandered into Hobart with the rain on the windscreen. We settled into the QUEST SAVOY [CENTRAL HOBART] Went for pre dinner drinks at a hotel before we walked to Constitutional Dock for our first Seafood Dinner at Mures Lower Deck . The upper deck was booked out. Conversation flowed with the Roadies taking about sights seen & JOHN'S

Flight into Cambridge Airport near Hobart. Bill & Joyce flew into Hobart with JETSTAR to join us for a few days

**Tues 1<sup>st</sup> March.** The group had the morning wondering around Hobart to sight see, shopping or just chilling out . Some found the MAWSONS HUTS REPLICIA MUSEUM. Tall ship for people to go & learn how to sail with all the rigging[ not for some ] Salamanca Market area . ST DAVIDS PARK with all its beautiful trees scrubs, flowers and walk ways. Others caught an open top bus for a tour of Hobart city.

We met up at 1pm for the bus to take us up to MT Wellington. After our navigator took us on an unscheduled tour of the countryside, we arrived at the top with misty rain fog and a howling wind to greet us & visibility poor [ a white out..] We travelled back down and found a spot to take a photo of Hobart city, harbor & surrounds. On our way back into the city we called passed the Cascade Brewery 1824-1927. A beautiful stone building.

That evening we walked down to the Historic Salamanca Place to have dinner at the BALL & CHAIN GRILL[a convict built building ] to enjoy a good steak ,local sea food ,game dishes all cooked on an authentic charcoal grill.

Originally it was called Haigs Store after the original owner captain Andrew Haig. He used it as offices by shipping agents dealing with wool, whale oil, food and grain stock.

### **Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> March.**

We had an early start to travel to Port Arthur. On the way we stopped for breaky in Sorrell at Banjos Bakery /Café [ a scrumptious breaky, tea/ coffee] and arrived at the Port Arthur Historic Site around 11am . Booked in for a walking tour then a boat ride around the harbour and the Isle of The Dead. Port Arthur was named after George Arthur, the lieutenant governor of Van Diemen's Land. The settlement started as a timber station in 1830, but it is best known for being a penal colony. A lot of Historical Buildings and then we visited the Broad ARROW CAFÉ memorial garden [(a tranquil peaceful place) for those who tragically lost their lives on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 1996.

On our way back to Hobart we went a different way and called into Richmond to see the Historic Bridge & Town . The Bridge was built in 1823 (will be 200 years old in 2023)

The Richmond Bridge is a heritage listed arch bridge located on the B31 in Richmond, 25 kilometres north of Hobart in Tasmania, It is the oldest stone span bridge in Australia. In 2005, the bridge was recognised as an outstanding historic place and added to the Australian National Heritage List.

In the evening we had dinner in Hobart at the Drunken Admiral Seafarers Restaurant (built in 1869 as a former jam factory). It has been operating as a family run Restaurant since 1979. A great Menu with everything seafood (mouth watering )

### **Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

One Group went on a cruise to Mona Museum. The Museum is very different & you need to go to see the unusual exhibits to try to understand the artists interpretation.

Keith, Jim, Roger & Lyn went on a chartered flight from Par- Avion (CESSNA 206) to go to Melaleuca Airstrip [480 metres / Local gravel/lime] next to Bathurst Harbour in the far South West of Tasmania. The plane took off by the coast with spectacular scenery.

Keith was keen to go as his Great Uncle Deny King [Charles Denison King], built the airstrip and was a tin miner in Melaleuca in 1945. In 1946 he became a volunteer weather observer for the Bureau of Meteorology for 45 yrs . A book was written about him. KING OF THE WILDERNESS [ The Life Of Deny King]

Our last dinner was back at Salamanca Place at an Italian Restaurant called La Menza. More great conversation, a few more reds and another great meal.

### **Fri 4<sup>th</sup> March .**

We were to go up to St Helens but the Airport for John was closed so we decided we would head back to Wynyard . Bill & Joyce still decided to go to St Helens as they were travelling by another hire car. Stayed overnight & flew out of Devonport back to Melbourne on Saturday. John flew back to Wynyard and the Roadies had more Tassie country side to see. When we arrived in Wynyard the pilots decided to fly back to the mainland. Rod, Jim & Roger had to land on King Island as the weather closed in. Found accommodation & enjoyed a great meal at the Motel Restaurant. A group of golfers were staying at the motel also. John made it back to Wagga Fri. (IFR all the way) Rod, Jim & Roger headed off Saturday morning to get back home . Rod made it back to Narrandera, as he couldn't get into Wagga because of the weather. Jim had to land at Lockhart airstrip [ just made it because of the weather] his own strip too wet. Roger had to land at Ballarat because of the weather closing in . Roger & LYN had 2 nights to celebrate their 30<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Blue skies on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> for Roger and Lyn to fly home to the farm ,landed at 11.20am .

Everyone seemed to enjoy all we had to see despite the weather not been accommodating for us at times.

**A BIG THANK YOU** again to our Captain of Flying John Smith for organizing another great trip.