

Lorraine's Blog

I feel the last three months have been a bit of a blur, that nothing much has happened, that we have not done much, so not sure just how this blog will pan out.

We left the Camp Oven Festival Site at Millmerran, by being towed out with a tractor. The rain had softened the show grounds, and despite John's careful manoeuvrings, still managed to sink! Tractor to the rescue, we were towed out with no further drama.



We had a date to head towards in Toowoomba for a geocaching event at the Golf Club two weeks later, so started wandering around the countryside on the western slopes of the Darling Downs. Bowenville – beside a beautiful little



creek, Cooyar Swinging Bridge – we had camped there before, this time using it as a base to visit Coomba Falls and the Bunya Mountains and the pretty town of Crows Nest, where you can camp at the back of the caravan park for \$10.00 if you are totally self-contained.

We enjoyed our lunch at the golf club and It was great to meet up with some more geo-cachers in Toowoomba, particularly RoddyC, YoungOldFella, BrotherColin and GrannySmith1947.

From Toowoomba we came down the mountain, through our beautiful Lockyer Valley and back to Caboolture, where my sister Faye lives.



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Faye is my "Post Mistress", so it was catch up on mail time, doctors and dentist appointments, and a few visits to grey nomads that we had met on the road. We joined Pat and Janelle at Redcliffe for



lunch on Melbourne Cup Day (we met them in the Red Centre) and Ken and Sue at Sandstone Point for a drink or two (they were from Tassie), as well as having lunch at Bribie and dinner at Wellington Point with the Grandies.



Another of our friends, Meg, wanted to show us her new Kelpie (her camper trailer) She was still

learning to put it up, and I have since heard she has realised it is too hard, so will be selling it again.



Caboolture airport had an open day, so that filled in some more time. In general, we were marking time before heading down to Brunswick Heads for Leon and Melly's wedding.

It was amazing to think that we sat on the Post Mistresses front lawn in our caravan for two weeks.

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John (Mr Dunmowin)
mowed before we moved
on.

November...

After leaving Caboolture, we went the back way out of the shire, via Woodford and Kilcoy, and found a delightful little camp beside a creek just out of Fernvale where we were able to watch a beautiful sunset.



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From there we crossed the border via the Mt Lindsay Highway, stayed at the little camp at Woodenbong, then down Summerland Way to Grafton, and Cangai Bridge with my brother Geoff and his wife.

We spent quite a few days there, taking gentle walks around the park, drives through the back country and sitting in the water of the Mann River.



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But we had to keep moving! Wedding to get to, new relatives to meet.

Leon and Melly's wedding was simple – a civil service at a lookout overlooking the ocean, and a casual reception at the Ocean Shores Country Club.



It was great to meet Melly's parents from Indonesia, Uppin and Ubwei (my phonetical spelling), Melly's 7 year old nephew Bibbin – who was great at translating for us,



(just don't ask him to translate!) and her heavily pregnant sister, Ata (who has since delivered a healthy baby girl). We had a great weekend in the area, John eldest son, Adam was there as well – he was ring bearer/flower holder at the wedding!

Bibbin kept us entertained, it was interesting chatting via translation to Uppin and Ubwei. All went well; a great weekend and we have a new daughter in law.



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Back to Brisbane, and called into Jimboomba where we used to live before we hit the road. We stayed with Lionel and Lynne on the property across the road. It was great to catch up with them after more than five years.



The street has not changed much! We all went for a drive to Wyaralong Dam, which we watched being built, and was completed in time for the floods in early 2011. The area looks great, a beautiful area.



We still had two weeks to kill before we had our house sit in Brisbane, so after a brief visit to my sister in Caboolture again, we headed over to Bribie Island.



We had heard the weather was going to get hot, so decided this might be the best place to sit out the heat.

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We were fortunate to get a shady site with no neighbours on one side and only one van on the other for a couple of days.



Two weeks on the island, walking the beaches and esplanade, found a couple of bush walks, and most of the caches and we caught up with John and Joan, who we met in our very early days of travel.

December...

We arrived at Pinjarra Hills for our month long Christmas house sit. The van was due to go to "Kedron" for a maintenance check-up, and we had lots of things to do in the van while it was off the road – cleaning and maintenance.... The list goes on.....

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We have a pool and pool studio to live in, two boxer dogs to look after.



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John managed to collect a couple of kidney stones, I have had a day in bed with a stomach upset – bought on by the heat I think, the grandies have visited us.



John's match stick model of a timber jinker is now complete, and has been donated (sitting alongside his two previous models) to the Gatton Transport Museum.



Tonight is Christmas Eve, we await seeing Santa tonight as we watch "The Adventures of Tin Tin" on the TV. (HOW EXCITEMENT!)

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Tomorrow, we will see the grandies again.

So there you go, not a very exciting blog – apart from watching Tin Tin, but we have kept moving over the past three months. Next year brings more travels.

2018...

When we leave here, we head north. Bargara in February to watch the turtles hatch at Mon Repos. Cairns by June, when we fly to Indonesia for two weeks. Then up the Cape! After that, who knows where?

All the best readers, happy New Year to you all.

And as for eating our way around Australia, here is our next photo.....

