## **Teddies Terrific Tour 2015** David & Carolyn Williams.

With a great deal of excitement, and looking forward to Teddies Terrific Tour and the Cit-In we headed south from Noosa. We did have a few commitments on the way, a 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Camping weekend at Canungra (Qld) and a family visit at Kiama (NSW). We had been told by our daughter of the lovely craft shops and Pie shop at Braidwood so headed south and after a great pie lunch and visit to the craft market there we turned north west travelling through Bungendore, Queanbeyan and skirted around Canberra making our way to Gundagai for our rest stop. Then we toured south through Beechworth and Ned Kelly Country Glen Rowan for our next stop. Finally we made Rockbank Caravan Park for the night (one of the noisiest night's stop we have ever experienced, trains one side, highway the other, and planes taking off and landing overhead.

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March had arrived and we drove to "Teddies Terrific Tour" meeting place. Being Queenslanders and not knowing anyone we were greeted warmly by those that had gathered. As we had been told by several places that we had called for accommodation that they didn't have room for our Car trailer and Motorhome (completely false information) we opted to leave the Light 15 at home and follow on in our Motorhome.

At our first lunch stop we met Chris Hawthorne & Craig Mitchell and after pleasant conversation, of course about Citroens, we moved on to spend our first night at Halls Gap. Having set up our motorhome for the night we were offered a lift to the dinner venue by lovely couple Rob & Margie Barton. It had been decided that after dinner back at camp there would be a bit of a sing a long and Bernie Rachelle provided great music which eventually drew other campers to join in. Thanks to Bernie a most enjoyable night. It was here that Barry and Linda Shaw and Brian and Esther Wade, fellow Qld club members caught up with the group



Wednesday we travelled on through the Grampians, great scenery

stopping at

Cavendish for morning tea. Here we met Ken Johnston and his tales of trekking with his partner and their donkeys. A little slower we thought than driving his 2cv but what an amazing adventure for them. We sometimes took up the rear of the group and were amazed at the little CVs and how well they travelled, then at the end of the day in some cases, provided sleeping quarters for the driver and the amount of camping gear etc that came out of the boot of these little vehicles was amazing. Our lunch stop was the quaint little town of Harrow. Then on to Naracoorte. Some of us were taken on a tour of the Alexander Cave at the Naracoorte Caves by experienced guides and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Then back to camp and dinner at the Naracoorte Historic Vehicle Club, enjoying a delicious meal prepared by some of their members. Prior to going to dinner we had a small hiccup with mate Barry slipping on the wet concrete, but saving his bottle of beer as he went down. He was quickly helped up and a couple of lovely ladies looked after his wellbeing. A big thank you to President Andrew Begelhole and the Naracoorte club for the meal and display of cars at their clubhouse.



## 2cvs at the Naracoorte Caves

Thursday we travelled on towards Mannum stopping in a pretty little park at Keith, and passing fields of vineyards, with a lunch stop at Murray Bridge. Then on to the beautiful Murray River and the vehicular ferry which ferried us across to the caravan park.



We had been told there was no accommodation for our van there but being patient and polite we eventually secured a site for the night, right on the River. We strolled up to the town and did a bit of shopping and stocked up on some supplies, then later had a most enjoyable meal at the Mannum Community Club.

Most of the group were fortunate (well maybe) enough to share the Bunkhouse for the night, and Helen and Ted had offered a cooked brekky the next morning. Barry had to make sure that everyone would be ready to be fed on time, and just happened to have a set of bagpipes with him. It was the obvious choice for early morning entertainment "Amazing Grace" courtesy of Baz. Hey Baz we are sure everyone was thrilled to be woken up so early and all thank you sincerely!!!!!

Fortunately we were far enough away on our site to miss the early morning entertainment, and close enough to the river to see the sunrise over the Murray and soon the sounds of the paddle streamer's whistle as the "Murray Princess" ploughed its way past with many lucky passengers onboard waving to all those on the river edge. A great sight.



So the last leg of the tour from Mannum to Birdwood where there were quite a few other Cit-In participants waiting to guide us in to Nuriootpa. The National Motor Museum at Birdwood was great and a wonderful display, we have visited many museums on our travels and this was just as good as many we have seen.



Next on to the Vine Inn at Nuriootpa, travelling through the lovely town of Angaston and seeing the many vineyards along the way. So finally we had reached the end of "Teddies Tour" which certainly was "Terrific" and it was time to register for the Cit-In and book in to the Barossa Valley Tourist Park.

We met many friendly people on the tour, Graeme & Janie Barton, John & Tricia Flemming, John & Helen Parsons, Robin & Susanne Smith, Peter Judson & Carmel English to name a few and thank All the group we travelled with for their company, the information on all things Citroen and generally the camaraderie we experienced along the way.

Lastly to **Helen and Ted** for the wonderful trip they organized. It all went like clockwork down to the last detail. It is no mean feat to organize such a large group for that length of time and was always done with good humor and understanding. Thanks so much to you both for organizing such a great trip. We are sure you will do more tours in the future many more Citroen people will enjoy your planning and organization, friendship and patience.

