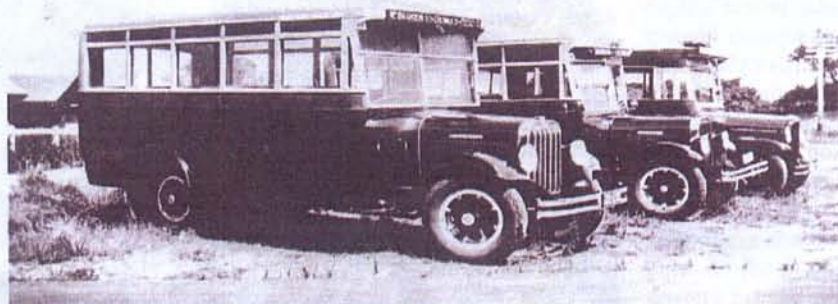


ALDECC inc.



Newsletter

January - April 2010



Fitting Tribute to Lance Grenda at Hall of Fame



Lance Grenda



Lance Grenda, the eldest son of George and Elsie Grenda, was born in Melbourne in February 1930. The family had a milk carting business, but directly following the end of WWII Lance's father saw a business opportunity where the cargo "loaded themselves" and in October 1945 he purchased a small Melbourne bus company consisting of six buses, four bus routes and a galvanised shed in Dandenong, Victoria.

Lance left school as soon as he was able, doing his mechanic's apprenticeship at Oakleigh Motors and assisting his Dad both in the workshop and with some driving. They were then in an ideal situation to capitalise on Melbourne's rapid expansion during the 1950's of suburbs, schools and businesses into the south-east. Grenda's Bus Service bought its first coach in 1958 with a Symonds and Fowler body which Lance claimed as his.

He loved taking away groups such as the Scouts and Guides, Marching Girls, Brass Bands and later school groups on trips to various gatherings and competitions all over Victoria and beyond. In approximately 1962 Lance made his first trip to Central Australia. At that time the roads were dirt, dusty and corrugated making it an extremely challenging trip for both vehicle and driver; however Lance with his mechanical skills was ideally suited to it and loved everything related to it. Driving, and the Australian countryside, got into his blood!

In 1963 George Grenda passed away and it was the practical mechanic Lance and his commerce-educated younger brother Ken who then took the business through the 60's and beyond. In 1967 Grenda's specified and purchased the first GM powered driving coach in Australia and Lance moved to the GM. This was an extremely successful vehicle for long distance coach travel and over 1000 GM Denning coaches followed this first vehicle.

Lananda Tours began in 1975 when Grenda's Bus Service sold the coach division to AAT Tours. Lance Grenda had already established himself as an industry leader in this unique business and did not want to separate himself from what had become his lifestyle, so as Lananda Tours Lance could continue, initially being used by AAT and Centralian Tours to instruct the early drivers on out-of-the-way destinations and the driving conditions of the Outback. In the 1970's the vehicles carried a lot of weight for their 40+ guests as all tents, poles and pegs, water and food, cooking equipment etc all had to be carried aboard. Lance then designed his coach camper trailer: half kitchen and half storage, and the envy of many other coach crews of the time!

In 1978 Lance involved himself in the founding of ALDECC: Australian Long Distance Experienced Coach Crews. This gathering of crews in the coach travel industry then became an annual affair and still continues, gathering first weekend in February before the new touring season starts each year. He was also a huge supporter of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and did what he could to fundraise.

Lance continued to operate Lananda Tours for the next 30+ years travelling to nearly every part of Australia, but Central Australia remained a favourite destination. His quiet sense of humour, practical outlook on life and generosity of spirit made him welcome everywhere he travelled. He would always stop to assist breakdowns; his mechanical wizardry helped many drivers of both cars and heavy vehicles that had broken down on the side of the road while touring, in often very remote locations.

A great many of these long distance tours were supported by his long-term colleague, friend and cook Barbara Conner. With Barbara and friends, Lance took Lananda Tours to new heights in tour achievement all round Australia.

Lance died in October 2006. The Lananda vehicle on display at the Road Transport Hall of Fame is the second Lananda vehicle that Lance had and dates from 1985. With its camper-trailer, it was at that time a fabulously appointed and luxurious way to tour the Australian countryside. It has been donated to the Transport Hall of Fame by Lance's wife Raie Grenda, and family. Three generations of the Grenda family drove the vehicle all the way from Victoria to Alice Springs where it was handed over. Hall of Fame volunteers Kel Davis and Jim Haywood set up the display.



Fun with Functions



RTHS Board Member Marie Harrison managed to talk one of the trike owners into giving her a ride during their dinner at the Hall of Fame in October. Yes, that's Liz laughing her head off in the background having refused a ride herself.

We have been extremely busy with functions aside from the ReUnion. At one stage we provided 8,000 meals in a fortnight ranging from sausage sizzle to three course baked dinners in the weber.

To say we were exhausted would be an understatement but we had a great time anyway thanks to the enthusiasm of our volunteers and Board of Management.

With the Variety Bash having their National rally in Alice Springs we provided breakfast, lunch and dinner for four states over four days for between 100 and 600 people per setting. It was a fantastic experience and provided some much needed cash to finish off Stuarts Bush Kitchen in preparation for next year.

We also hosted a two day conference and dinner for the Australian Historic Motoring Federation which culminated in a bush dinner in Stuarts. It was also exciting for us to have the Triumph Club call in for a meal, and to have the closing dinner for the Outback Stores Conference among others. We also had a full weber dinner for the Trike Fest which was recently held in Alice Springs with visitors from all states.



The local Alice Springs Team 31 were among those that joined us for a great night out in the Kenworth Dealer Hall of Fame.



Roadranger: Eaton, Dana, and other trusted partners providing the best products and services in the industry.

Roadranger

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

Hi to all our trusty members.

Winter is now knocking at our doors. Oh how we remember those cold frosty windy nights arriving into a town starting work at 6pm. Waking up at 5-30am, crawling out of the sack to prepare brekky in order to be on the road by 8am or earlier. No, at this time in our lives we are happy to be beside the fire warm and cosy. There are still a few members out there making peoples holidays memorable, and we salute you!

The committee are seeking to find another venue for the next reunion. These weekends mean lots of travelling for some, however we are confident we will fulfil all our check list for your next reunion. As yet we have not made a final decision. We will let you know as soon as we have signed on the dotted line.

Our last reunion although small in numbers it was high in fellowship. I managed to spend lots of time chatting to others. Many committee members commented on the fact we had this time to catch up with friends which was thoroughly enjoyable.

The reunion is a very busy time making sure all is flowing smoothly.

Well that's all from your trusty Pres.

We hope everyone keeps well over the coming months. You will hear from us again soon.

Kind regards
Sue G



AND YOUR SECRETARY

Hello to you all

The 31st ALDECC Reunion was held once again at Feathertop Chalet and a great weekend was had by all those who attended.

The weather was a little cooler than last year and for the first time in years we were asked to keep the noise down a little at night cos there were younger people in the other section.

Elections were held once again for Committee positions with Rosemary Trease and Garry Higginson being elected along with John Gullock, Steve Damm and Bernie Greely for the next 2 years. We would like to thank Carmel McCartin and Graeme Hayes for their contributions over the past 2 years.

For those of you who couldn't make it to the reunion ALDECC have now come on line with our new Website being launched at the Annual General Meeting. A big thankyou to Carmel once again for helping to achieve this feat. Of course the website can only prosper if you the members log on and send in bits and pieces, news, photos etc. Check us out on www.aldecc.org.au

The committee have had their first meeting for the year and moves are a foot with looking for a new venue for 2011. A couple of places are on the short list and we will certainly keep you informed.

Until next time stay safe and well

Regards
Mary Purtill
secretary@aldecc.org.au



FROM THE EDITOR:

My sincere apologies for the delay in getting this edition of your newsletter out to you, but due to personal reasons it has been totally unavoidable.

You will receive another one fairly soon.

Hope this finds you all well and you enjoy the read! A big thank you to all those who contributed articles for this edition

Don't forget to submit any news, gossip or "stuff" if you would like it to go in a newsletter.





A senior citizens group charts an overnight gambling casino bus trip from Coffs Harbour to the Sunshine Coast. As they enter Queensland, an elderly woman comes up to the bus driver and says, 'I've just been molested!' The driver felt that she had fallen asleep and had a dream. So he tells her to go back to her seat and sit down. A short time later, another old woman comes forward and claims that she was just molested. The driver thought he had a bus load of old wackos, but who would be molesting those old ladies? About 10 minutes later, a third old lady comes up and says that she'd been molested too. The bus driver decides that he'd had enough and pulls into the first rest area. When he turns the lights on and stands up, he sees an old man on his hands and knees crawling in the aisles. 'Hey gramps, what are you doing down there?' says the bus driver. 'I lost my toupee. I thought I found it three times, but every time I tried to grab it, it gets up and runs away!'



Whenever I get mad at you, you never seem to get upset. How do you manage to control your temper?

I just go and clean the toilet.

How does that help?

I use your toothbrush.



2010 ALDECC Committee Members

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Kevin ("K.B.") Bryant.



Kevin Raymond Bryant, commonly known as "KB" was born in 1938 and died in 2007. He was inducted into the Wall of Fame in 2009. His family then decided to donate MPF buses to the Road Transport museum.

KB was a real pioneer of outback tourism operating as an owner-operator of camping tour coaches throughout Australia. He drove tours for 16 years right around the country. He left school at 15 for a motor mechanic apprenticeship after which he then went on to become the mechanic for Sandringham Bus Lines (Vic) in 1963.

In Easter 1969 KB became one of the first owner-drivers for Centralian Tours, Melbourne, when he purchased the first of two Leyland-Freighter coaches. A Hino and two bogey-drive Dennings were followed soon after. For some years KB employed a driver for his second coach.

KB was a founding member of: the A.R.C.S.C. (Ayers Rock Cock Sock Club) which raised thousands of dollars for the Royal Flying Doctor and other charities. His wife Gwen, has donated also donated KB's sock to the Hall of Fame. He was also a foundation member of A.L.D.E.C.C. - Australian Long Distance Experienced Coach Crews group which works to preserve both the history of the coach industry and the many friendships made over the years.

KB pioneered the north-south Tanami Track tourist coach route 3-5 May 1972 initially camping at Rabbit Flat May 4th. KB always found extra things for passengers to see/do and was usually last coach to arrive at camp!

After Centralian Tours folded in January 1974, became a founding director of Centralian Staff Pty Ltd (trading as Camping Tours of Australia) and continued as an owner-driver for them until 1983. He believed the sealing of many roads, the Ayers Rock Pub closure, (K.B. was a lifetime teatotaler) and the change from Ayers Rock National Park campsites to upmarket Uluru marked the end of an era. It was time to move on and he retired from "The Track,"

KB found a new niche in the film industry in late 1983 when he purchased three ex-school run Bedford buses. K.B. was the first to set up buses as mobile make-up and wardrobe facilities. These have been used on location on many Australian film and television productions. He continued to work in this industry until his death in 2007.

His son Peter continues to run Mobile Production Facilities.

Long Nostalgic Trip for these 'neighbourly' old Bedfords

These two old Bedfords recently made the long trek from Melbourne to Alice to retire in our museum after long and productive lives. Donated by Gwen and Peter Bryant (KB's wife and son) they are both in good operating condition and made the trip with ease.



ABOVE: The two Elma's parked up in the Hall of Fame workshop area after their long trip.

Both buses have worked extensively as film industry buses in the family business Mobile Production Facilities. Peter Bryant, owner manager of the business and son of the founder said these vehicles are what is known in the industry as a wardrobe vehicle and a green room vehicle (which is essentially a mobile lounge room). They have been used on many great productions including Neighbours, Where the Rivers run and Alice to Nowhere.

Peter has also managed to track down as much history of each vehicle as possible and has a great collection of photos to accompany each vehicle. Peter's first ride with his father was as a ten year old in 1973 on a tour that meant to go to Darwin. They ended up stranded in Winton for ten days in floods and had to turn back. He was set to go to Darwin again in 1975 but Cyclone Tracy intervened and the trip was cancelled.

Gwen (KB's widow) said she was terrified when he decided to start the business. She had three little kids and didn't know how she'd cope. She soon found herself busy with phone calls and bookings and loading spare parts onto planes in the middle of the night to send to some remote outback post. Gwen never got to accompany Peter on a trip. She said it was 48 years of ups and downs but she has no regrets.

The two buses were driven up by Alison Coop and Peter McGrath, the company mechanic. Alison, now retired, has worked for KB for over 25 years driving buses around various locations for TV and film productions mainly in Victoria but also throughout the country. She started as a cook with KB back in 1975 and after travelling through the Outback decided she needed to get her license in case anything went wrong. Fortunately it didn't, but she never stopped driving for thirty years.



ABOVE: Gwen Bryant hands over KB's uniform from his Centralian Staff days to Liz Martin



ABOVE: It was a nostalgic trip for Alison Coop who drove her beloved Bedford, one she has driven for many years, from Melbourne to Alice.

DELUXE

Those Deluxe drivers that are coming to the ALICE ReUnion to join coachies from all over the country (including Lananda, Bus Australia, Pioneer, CATA, Centralian Staff, Levers, McCaffertys, Greyhound, Kangaroo Flat, Redline etc) are asked to make contact now to ensure they are included in the Great Aussie Busmans BBQ **Kel Davis 0421 771 412**

Have You Heard?



New Banking Details for ALDECC

Mary P has worked hard to secure a better bank account for ALDECC. The poor person at the bank wondered what struck her when Mary grabbed her jugular and would not let go until the bank charges had been dropped.

Please note our new banking details below if you intend to deposit subs or reunion fees:

ANZ Bank BSB 012-708
Account No 3692 76963

Address Centro Lavington S/C
Lavington Shop 80 Griffith Rd
Lavington NSW 2641

Alison Coop has the wonder lust at present (she could turn up anywhere), and was recently seen up in the Alice at the Transport Hall of Fame with Peter Bryant. Kel Davies mentioned to Alison that the ARCSC Board might be better positioned in a very nice specially built glass cabinet. It would then have a permanent display spot and would be protected. The ALDECC committee are following up with this.



Life has been very busy and somewhat stressful down at Pentil Island. Seems to be a never ending stream of guests. Mary decided to make a load of quiches and off to the chooks she went to gather up the eggs. Imagine her surprise when she went to crack them to find they were already hard boiled! Recent visitor Garry Higgs swears he knows NOTHING however he proclaimed his innocence way too loudly and is still laughing at the image of Big M trying to crack them.



Women are angels.

And when someone breaks our wings, we simply continue to fly on a broomstick.

We're flexible like that.

Mary Kirk has been up to Queensland partying, and while up there popped in on Faye and Elwyn — who were doing just fine and send their very best wishes to all in ALDECC and around the traps.



SEX AT 82!

I just took a leaflet out of my mailbox, informing me that I can have sex at 82!

I'm sooooo happy, because I live at 73 ... So it's not far to walk home afterwards!

Speaking of money—it would appear the recent locust plague was in fact moths straight out of Hazey's wallet. Mary and Alfie were very happy recipients of a slab of beef and a bottle of red rum purchased by none other than Mr Hayes himself. It was a thank you present, and once resuscitated, Alfie and Mary enjoyed the gift immensely.

The Walsh family (Laurie, Caroline, Liam and Caitlin) recently visited John Barnett. John has been isolated by floods earlier in the year but managed to come out of it fairly well with no major damage.



On a recent tour up to Sydney, Mary Purtill and Smurf (Steve Damm) spent several anxious minutes searching the camp including all the rubbish bins looking for Mary's wallet which they discovered had been stolen from her trailer.

Lucky for her, she had photocopied all her bank cards, licences, and all the other necessary crap that we all carry around in our wallets on a daily basis. This made cancelling them so much easier.

Remember that ALDECC has joined the computer age and now has our own

ALDECC Website
www.aldecc.org.au

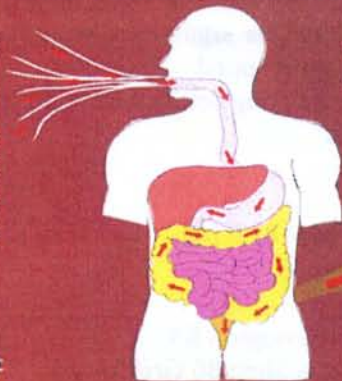
If you want to contact Mary Purtill via email — the email address is:

secretary@aldecc.org.au

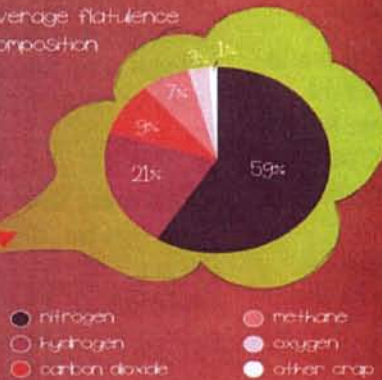
FARTS

Farting is the act of passing intestinal gases through the anus. These can sometimes be odorless and sometimes deathly. But do you know why you pass gas? Do you know why your farts are sometimes as loud as a blow horn or as quiet as a mouse? The facts below will tell you a thing or two about something everyone does multiple times a day.

Flatulence is the production of a mixture of air and gases in the digestive tract that are by-products of the digestion process



Average flatulence composition



The average person will fart 14 times a day



and produce half a liter of fart gas per day



Farts are indeed **FLAMMABLE**



Top 10 Farters

1. Termites
2. Carrots
3. Zebras
4. Sheep
5. Cows
6. Elephants
7. Labrador Retrievers
8. Humans (vegetarians)
9. Humans (non-vegetarians)
10. Gerbils



termites produce more methane than cows and even all man-made polluting machinery (but don't release any other harmful chemicals)



Hydrogen sulfide is the compound in farts that makes them stink

Farts can come blazing out of your ass at 7 mph

7 mph



98.6°F

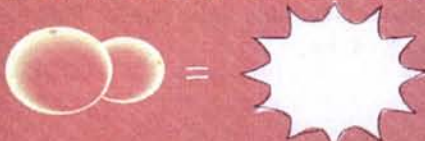
and are **98.6°F** at the time of creation

You cannot suffocate in a chamber full of your own fart



Stealthy Flatulence

Most farts come from swallowed air (largely nitrogen and CO₂) and are relatively odorless. The bubbles from these farts are large and can produce large sounds.



Bacterial fermentation and digestion processes can produce various pungent gases in other farts. The bubbles from these farts tend to be small and smelly and do not produce much sound.

OO = Silent but Deadly



RIP

A person can still fart after death

The nerve endings in your rectal area help distinguish the difference between farts and poop...

...but sometimes these nerves can get confused when your poop is more fluid than usual and results in things such as mud butt and sharting



Beans do, in fact, make you fart more.

The human body cannot digest certain polysaccharides. As these carbohydrate structures reach the lower intestine, bacteria feed on them, producing a lot of flatus.

Farty Foods

beans, corn, bell peppers, cauliflower, cabbage, milk, bread, eggs, beer, raisins, brussel sprouts, lentils, onions, garlic, leeks, oats, yeast, radishes, sweet potatoes, cassava, turnips, rutabagas

It's Hell to be Old !

OLD people have problems that you haven't even considered yet!

An 85-year-old man was requested by his Doctor for a sperm count as part of his physical exam.

The doctor gave the man a jar and said, 'Take this jar home and bring back a semen sample tomorrow.'

The next day the 85-year-old man reappeared at the doctor's office and gave him the jar, which was as clean and empty as on the previous day.

The doctor asked what happened and the man explained, 'Well, doc, it's like this--first I tried with my right hand, but nothing. Then I tried with my left hand, but still nothing..

'Then I asked my wife for help. She tried with her right hand, then with her left, still nothing. She tried with her mouth, first with the teeth in, then with her teeth out, still nothing.





RAFFLE

Once again the raffle was a huge success at the 31st Annual Reunion. There were a lot of Grinners amongst the Winners. The Committee and Members would like to thank all those who donated prizes for this years raffles.

Prize

- Green Sapphire Donated by John Barnett
- Aboriginal Painting Donated by Steve Damm
- QLD Painting Donated by Kevin Lamb
- Beacon Lighting Voucher Donated by Colin Stubbs
- Secretary's Surprise Donated by the Secretary
- Carved Wooden Clock Donated by Graeme Hayes
- Bag of grog donated by Steve Damm
- 50 Year old Port Donated by Greg Oakley

Won By

- Kevin Lamb
- Reen Hillman
- Graeme Hayes
- Amy McClaggish
- John Whitlock
- Paul Beames
- Margie Goates
- Amy McClaggish

Hazey's Hat donated by the kids

Graeme Hayes

Numerous bottles of the 30th Reunion Port were given to members in the name badge draw.

Winners were.

- Steve Damm, Paul Beames, Dawn Lever, Graeme Trease
- Ray Higginson, Dieter Sternberg, Amy McClaggish, Barb Conner,
- Nyrie Butterfield, Helen Oakley, Frances Higginson, Keith Grant,
- John Thornely, Tracey Whitlock, Eric Blizzard, Ruth Carmichael,
- Ian Purtill, Leonie Thornely, Mary Kirk.





One day an Irishman, who had been stranded on a deserted island for over 10 years, saw a speck on the horizon.. He thought to himself, "It's certainly not a ship" As the speck got closer and closer, he began to rule out even the possibilities of a small boat or a raft.

Suddenly there strode from the surf a figure clad in a black wet suit. Putting aside the scuba tanks and mask and zipping down the top of the wet suit stood a drop-dead gorgeous blonde! She walked up to the stunned Irishman and said to him, "Tell me, how long has it been since you've had a good cigar?" "Ten years," replied the amazed Irishman. With that, she reached over and unzipped a waterproof pocket on the left sleeve of her wet suit and pulled out a fresh package of cigars and a lighter.

He took a cigar, slowly lit it, and took a long drag. "Faith and begorrah," said the castaway, "that is so good! I'd almost forgotten how great a smoke can be!" "And how long has it been since you've had a drop of good Bushmill's Irish Whiskey?" asked the blonde.

Trembling, the castaway replied, "Ten years." Hearing that, the blonde reached over to her right sleeve, unzipped a pocket there and removed a flask and handed it to him. He opened the flask and took a long drink. " 'Tis nectar of the gods!" shouted the Irishman. " 'Tis truly fantastic!!!"

At this point the gorgeous blonde started to slowly unzip the long front of her wet suit, right down the middle. She looked at the trembling man and asked, "And how long has it been since you played around?" With tears in his eyes, the Irishman fell to his knees and sobbed, "Jesus, Mary and Joseph! Don't tell me that you've got golf clubs in there too!"



Stay safe and happy travels—until next time.....