

TARA RALLY – September 17-23/2023

Tara, a rural town in the Western Downs Region of Queensland, is the location for our next Solos Network rally. The heart of camel country, home to 2,000 people and the Tara Festival of Culture and Camel Races (held alternate years, next one is 2024), as well as local industries of wheat, beef, wool and gas. Even though we will miss the camel race this year, there are many other things to entice you to the region.

Take a scenic drive along the Sunset Way, a 4-hour highway starting in Tara and finishing in Surat, with 4 towns in between. Watch the sun go down over the Tara Lagoon, one of the best sunset views in town. You might want to throw a line in while there. Picnic in the beautiful Grevillea Park and stroll through the landscaped gardens built around emu and camel sculptures. Visit the magnificent sunset mural on the corner of Fry and Day Streets. Have a cuppa in the Tara Care or Tara Woolshed Bakery.

For those who enjoy a bit of history, Tara is dedicated to preserving its past and heritage. Visit the iconic Commercial Hotel with camel cartoons all over the windows. This pub has been pouring cold beers since 1912. You will find the art of Hugh Sawrey on the walls inside the pub. His art also hangs in the Queensland Art Gallery and the National Museum in Canberra. Sawrey was a Tara resident in the 1960s, painting local scenery and people. You could visit the Historical Museum and also check out the quirky vintage car museum.

Facilities in Tara include a supermarket, medical centre, pharmacy, hardware, newsagency, liquor store, fuel, dump point, police station, post office, swimming pool, café, bakery, and gift shop.

The Tara rally will be full of the usual fun activities that Solos rallies are famous for, as well as plenty of time to catch up with new and old friends and take in the sights of the region. To whet your appetite, JoAnne Arthur has given us a taste of some of the seminars and workshops she is organising:

Geowiki; The Witches Dance; craft workshops including knitting with a loom, dot painting, basket weaving; and progressive Bush Rummy. There will also be a room available for board and card games. **Please contact [JoAnne Arthur on 0407 260 464](mailto:JoAnne.Arthur@solos.com.au) if you would like to run a workshop or seminar. For more rally information, contact [Jerry Gwynne on 0411 494 200](mailto:Jerry.Gwynne@solos.com.au) or jerrygwynne@gmail.com**



Here's a message from our **Events Coordinator, Jean Rowley**, to get your fun mojo working:

Hi everyone, I am enroute to Tara to hopefully put in place lots of great activities, tours, music and dancing, along with anything else you would like to suggest. The Events Team understands it's early days yet but we have a pretty fun-filled calendar already.

Let's whet your appetite with our initial planning. We are going to hold a "Bad Taste Wedding" the night of our dinner dance. So, it's time to get into the Op shops. The Dress Attire for the wedding will be Op Shop Glamour, so off you go to find those amazing outfits. We will be having a Bucks Night for the blokes and a Hens night for the Girls prior to the Wedding Day, so get your thinking caps on for Party Games.

Also, while you are shopping pick up some cheap clothes in the colours of a Rubiks Cube. You may not get your clothes back so please get cheapies only. I will explain more on this game as time goes on.....but it's a great Happy Hour Game.

We will have the usual Rock and Roll Dancing, Line Dancing, Ukulele Jam Sessions, Card Games, Bingo, Trivia, Puzzles and hopefully much more.

So, at this early stage the Events Team just want to let you know planning is well underway for another successful Solo Rally.

Any suggestions are gratefully received and I would like to give a huge Thankyou to everyone who has volunteered their time to help the Events Team. There is still plenty of time to Volunteer if you would like to give us a hand.

Hope this gets you excited, and we look forward to seeing you there!