

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2020

THE CHALLENGE

Pioneer Challenge, it is a fun heritage hunt with the aim of discovering the pioneers of Western Australia. The game is a hybrid of a clue finding treasure hunt and a car rally that encourages people to explore our regional country towns. The game is run by an innovative Rotary group from Perth who has been looking to beat Covid-19 and assist in the recovery of Western Australia's tourism industry.

NARROGIN, WAGIN, WOODANILLING



"Gale-force winds, blinding rain, a venomous snake and swooping magpies could not dampen the enthusiasm of our group of six friends who've shared love, loss and laughter spanning forty years. Narrogin, Wagin and Woodanilling Cemeteries were our destinations. Coats buttoned tight, backs stooped, we traversed the rows of headstones in slow motion. Joyful shrieks signalled

the discovery of a nominated grave and prompted a group huddle to ponder the life of the pioneer.

These cemeteries reflect the harsh challenges facing our pioneers and the raw beauty which enticed them there. We had a wonderful time together with much laughter and stimulating discussion. But it was also great to have a purpose and it has piqued my interest in our pioneering past, especially my own family's!

You've created a fascinating challenge. Congratulations!"

TENTERDEN



We visited the town of Tenterden with Pioneer Challenge from Mt Barker to Katanning. Tenterden was destroyed in a fire, and only St Mildred's Church and hall

remain of the town. Cemented into the church entrance is an ancient piece of stone – 1180 – from namesake St Mildred's Church in Tenterden



Kent, England. So old!! It's a pretty church inside and out with remarkable stained glass."

LIMEBURNERS CHALLENGE

A cluster of Rotary teams will be rallying from Perth to Albany on different challenges, meeting up at Albany for dinner and a tour of the Limeburners distillery. This is a fabulous way to spend a weekend in the flower season when the countryside and the towns are looking their best," said Margaret. "I am looking forward to staying one night at the Premier Mill Hotel in Katanning."

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HOW TO PLAY



Once registered, players are assigned three Pioneer towns and nine Pioneers to investigate along a chosen segment of Route 120, (Great Southern Highway). Within these towns, players begin by finding and photographing the graves of these Pioneers at the local cemetery.

Search for historical clues around town, answer questions online and upload pictorial records of your trip. The game is played on mobile devices and the Pioneer Challenge website.

Explore unique and charming towns along the Great Southern Highway (Route 120). Learn about the town, enjoy the local fare and flavours and bring to life the amazing Pioneers of our state!

PRIZE PRESENTATION - August

Team Bonne Journee travelled from York to Beverley long Route 120 and is the winner of the Pioneer Challenge August prize draw. Dallas and Lynda were presented with a case of Ironcloud Wines at the King Edward Memorial Hospital Rose Garden. They plan to enter further challenges further south.



The rose garden is a unique venue which has been maintained by the Rotary Club of Matilda Bay for 30 years. It provides a repository for babies' ashes that previously were not retained, plus a place of recognition and acknowledgement for women and their families experiencing pregnancy or baby loss.

AND THE SEPTEMBER WINNER IS...

For September, the monthly winner is the Tour de Route 120 team. The team was allocated the towns of York, Broomehill and Cranbrook. The team spent Father's Day enjoying the challenge, museums, and accommodation in the towns. The Tour de Route 120 team receives a dozen bottles of Shiraz from Ironcloud Wines. "It's a great idea and adds interest to a road trip."



PIONEER BIOGRAPHIES

A new page on the Pioneer Challenge web site publishes challengers' reviews and short biographies of pioneers. Biographies have been kindly supplied by the Beverley Historical Society, the Brookton and Districts Historical Society, Narrogin Old Courthouse Museum, Lost Katanning and the Pingelly Museum and Historical Group. Many of the biographies are supported with portraits



Old Courthouse Museum, Narrogin

SPRING INTO ACTION

Don't miss the Great Southern Highway at its Spring best with the wildflowers and Canola fields in bloom. It is easy to incorporate the Pioneer Challenge as a fun day trip on the way to a holiday destination, or as a holiday on the Pioneer Challenge Route. Thank you for your support. Please forward this newsletter to friends and colleagues and encourage them to participate! Register a team at pioneerchallenge.com.au and plan your unique experience.

