



**Rally Headquarters – Retravisation Stadium, 156 Lockyer Ave., Centennial Park, Albany.**

## **“WHALE OF A TIME RALLY” - NEWSLETTER No. 1**

Welcome!

A warm welcome to all our Early Bird participants for the forthcoming *National Meet* in October 2026 — we’re delighted to have you on board!

And welcome to Albany, Western Australia, whose beautiful main street is featured in our letterhead above.

Before white settlement, Albany was home to the Menang people of the wider Noongar nation. In 2026, Albany will celebrate its Bicentennial as the first white settlement on the western coast of Australia — so there will be plenty happening around town!

While the southern and western coasts of Western Australia were recorded from around 1627 by Dutch, French, and English sailors, it wasn’t until 1791 that George Vancouver claimed the area for the British government, naming it *Frederick’s Town* (later changed to *Albany*).

In December 1826, the brig *Amity* arrived in King George Sound, establishing the first settlement — a valuable port for visiting whalers, passenger ships from Europe, and a supply post for vessels along the southern route. Over the years, industries flourished both on land and at sea — and, as they say, the rest is history!

We’ve chosen Albany for its diversity of attractions and the many nearby destinations, with plenty of activities being planned for your interest and enjoyment.



*A replica of the Amity sits next to the Princess Royal Harbour and is open for visitors daily - 9.30am & 4.00pm.*

## Weather

Albany's weather in October is generally cool to warm, with daytime temperatures averaging around 19°C and nights dropping to about 12°C. It can occasionally climb into the high 20s, so pack a variety of clothing.

Much like Melbourne, the weather can change a few times in one day — so bring both umbrella and sunscreen, just to be safe!

## Travelling to WA

Yes — we know it's a fair distance to come and visit us! WA members have made the trek east for most Nationals, so we fully understand.

Whether you drive your A, tow it, bring it on a truck or train, or even fly and collect it here, there are plenty of options to make the trip manageable. If you'd like advice, just ask — we've done it all!

Preparation is key. Several states are already organising group travel, so check with your state club to see what's being planned. Travelling in a convoy is not only practical — sharing tools, spare parts, and support — it's also a lot of fun. You'll make memories (and friends) along the way!

If you're working, book your 2026 holidays now and take the opportunity to explore. If you're retired — even better! Make it an adventure to remember.

## Hubleys!

You know that Hubley kit hiding in the back of the cupboard — the one you've promised yourself to finish "*one day*"? Well, this is *that day*!

Get building and bring it along to compete on our time-controlled Hubley track. No excuses!

If you're new to Hubleys, ask a club mate — they're loads of fun and always bring out some friendly interstate rivalry!



## Number Plates

A reminder that the rights to display Rally plate numbers 1, 1928, 1929, 1930, and 1931 were auctioned at the Maryborough National Meet. These numbers will only be issued to the purchasers of those rights (or their nominated participant). Numbers 28–31 will not be issued, so please don't ask!

## 1920s Attire

We encourage everyone to get into the spirit of the era — both daywear and evening wear.

We'll have spotters throughout the week keeping an eye out for great costumes, with prizes to be awarded. We'd love to see *whalers, convicts, fishermen, farmers, soldiers, ladies, gentlemen*, and all sorts of *hoi polloi* joining in the fun!

## Accommodation

As Albany will be celebrating its Bicentennial and it's also springtime, accommodation is likely to be in high demand. A separate information sheet is included, listing various options close to Rally Headquarters – Retravision Stadium, located in Centennial Park.

Prices aren't listed as they'll change at the end of the financial year, so allow some flexibility. Most accommodation providers open bookings about 12 months ahead, so now's the time to secure your spot — first in, comfiest bed!



**Questions??** – contact Toni Mahony, [toni.mahony@bigpond.com](mailto:toni.mahony@bigpond.com) or mail to 157 The Strand, BEDFORD, W.A. 6052 Australia. Phone: 0438 290 448.

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