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COVER PHOTO: JACK MURPHY
THIS PAGE: GREG SNELL

Up front



Kirstie Bedford
Editor
editorial@cmca.net.au

This edition we take you to the 32nd National Rally. The event was a huge success, partly due to the support of host city Bundaberg, but also the fact so many of you turned out, despite the downpour! Read all about it on page 24.

In the September edition, you may have seen the story we ran on the commercialisation of coastlines, followed in October by a first-hand account by member Rodney Hutchison about the loss of his local park in Mooloolaba. This edition we take a different approach and explain how four small shires in WA have banded together to protect coastal caravan parks in their state. Read about the incredible project instigated by the Shire of Irwin on page 32.

On page 40 the Blom family talk through what it's like to celebrate Christmas on the road, and we take

you to Tumbaramba in the foothills of the Snowy Mountains, halfway between Sydney and Melbourne, on page 48; while on page 80 you can read my first hand account of getting an LR licence. There are the usual regulars, including What's New and Cooking, and in our soft-adventure feature this month, we take you bush walking on page 92.

With Christmas fast approaching, I'd like to wish you all a happy, healthy Christmas and when you set your new year resolutions, consider penning an article to us! In particular, we'd love to hear about your best freedom camping experiences. I'd like to also introduce new deputy editor Leah Glynn who is enthusiastically awaiting your stories. We both wish you all the very best for the new year.

– Kirstie

THE WANDERER

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Welcome



Garry Lee
Chairman, CMCA Board
garrylee@cmca.net.au

In the first board page I wrote as the new chair of the CMCA three years ago, I wrote about the challenges we expected to face as a relatively new board. I made the statement, 'to get to these desired outcomes, the board is going to require your support, patience and trust. These must be the basic requirements of any successful organisation. I have no issues with the membership questioning the board on its activities, and you will find that I am a very open person. My professional background has been based on providing professional information in a clear and concise manner. So, if you need to know something, just ask. After all, we are a Club.'

In last month's board page, I indicated members were discussing the proposed (unsuccessful) changes to the constitution, with some positivity and passion. However, as the date of the AGM drew closer, emotion seemed to get in the way of the facts. The board was accused of 'not being totally open and honest' when of course, under corporations law, full disclosure of all the changes as required by law and confirmed by the Club's solicitors, were provided to members. Having worked for some 40 years in a professional advisory

capacity, where a potential consequence of not being honest could result in a jail term, this accusation was a little disappointing.

It was also disappointing to hear that some members accused the board of referring to a survey that was biased. In effect, it was insinuated that the board influenced Colmar Brunton. They are the largest independent and Australian owned market research agency specialising in product, services and social research.

Sadly, the board was also accused of trying to change CMCA from a club into a corporate organisation. Maybe we need to look at a few facts. There are certain trends in the structure of the Club's membership that the board is certainly concerned about. At June 2012, the Club had 28,468 full memberships with a qualifying vehicle, as required by the current constitution. At June 2017, just five years later, we now have only 25,000 full memberships. We are losing an average of 700 qualifying vehicles each year. A very common statement in any organisation is 'that if you are not growing, you are dying', and I am certain that none of us want that to happen. At June 2017, CMCA had 12,994 associate memberships, so currently, figures show that one in every three memberships hold associate memberships. The influx of associate memberships is compensating for the loss of full memberships. As a Club, how do we manage this into the future? It will be an issue that all members need to address, as the current constitution dictates that only members can make the decisions around the solutions.

Another rumour was that the board intended on changing the name of the Club. This has never been contemplated, or even discussed. It seemed this was based on a couple of factors. One, it seemed, was the changing nature of our RV fleet as mentioned above. There is no need for our Club to change its name. It

also seems that members thought a name change was coming as we have numerous similar company names registered. This is necessary in order to protect ourselves from organisations or individuals wanting to make themselves look like us. Members would be unaware that last year an ex-member of the Club registered Motorhome & Campervan Club of Australia, ready to establish an alternative Club. The membership fee was \$44 too, what a surprise. When our solicitors sent a stern communication to this individual, pointing out the laws around 'passing off', this matter was quickly resolved.

There have also been some stories circulating about GeoWiki. One scenario was that we had sold GeoWiki. A conflicting story was that the board decided to scrap GeoWiki. Seeing we have now more than 20,000 downloads and invested more than \$100,000 towards the platform, this would have been a strange decision. GeoWiki is a huge member benefit and we will continue investment in this product to advance its features and capabilities.

Referring to my original comment in December 2014, if you have heard something that doesn't quite sound correct, please ask the board. Our email addresses are in every edition of *The Wanderer*. The board must make commercial decisions on a regular basis, and we appreciate that we are accountable to the membership for these decisions. But please, don't make comments in a public domain when you are unaware of all the facts. On behalf of the board, I would like to offer you, your family and friends all our best wishes for the Christmas and New Year festive season. If you are travelling, please travel safely. Catch you somewhere in the New Year.

Travel Safely and Laugh More - Live Longer
Garry Lee A67278
Chairman, on behalf of the CMCA
Board of Directors

Board of Directors

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View from NHQ



Richard Barwick
CEO
richardbarwick@cmca.net.au

17TH CMCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Club's seventeenth Annual General Meeting took place at Bundaberg during the running of the 32nd National Rally. Minutes and reports from the AGM have been placed on our website and are also included on page 17 in this edition of *The Wanderer*.

CMCA ENEWSLETTER

To keep you updated with the latest Club information, we are continuing to produce two eNewsletters each month. Early in the month the latest news and developments will be released, while the second newsletter will focus on many of our new and current member benefits. The open rate of our eNewsletter is phenomenal and is fast becoming very popular with members. To have access please ensure NHQ has your latest email address. You can check this by contacting us on 02 4978 8788 or logging in to your profile via the Member Portal.

VISITING FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

One of our new marketing initiatives in growing our membership is to target the family and friends of existing members. We would like you, the members, to help your Club prosper by encouraging your family and friends to join CMCA. You will see below the wonderful benefits they

can receive by being either a full or associate member of the Club.

CHRISTMAS GIFT

Are you struggling to find the perfect gift for family and friends? If they have an interest in motorised living, why not give them a CMCA membership and let them enjoy the wonderful benefits of belonging to the Club which include:

- A copy of *The Wanderer* magazine each month
- Access to our website and online RV product range
- Access to our new exclusive CMCA RV Parks (conditions apply)
- Access to our new generation GeoWiki
- Access to our CMCA Member Forum
- Access to our growing number of Dollar Wise Caravan Parks
- Access to the many benefits provided and assisted by CMCA such as dump points, RV Friendly Towns and Destinations, and CMCA Friendly Caravan Parks throughout Australia.

All this for just \$60.50 the first year and \$44 thereafter.

CMCA RV PARK CLOSURE

I would like to advise that CMCA RV Park Ingham will be closed for at least the next three months. This is no different from last year, as the hot drying conditions mixed with the tropical season prohibits members from using the park all year around. However, while Ingham is closed temporarily, both CMCA RV Park Railton and Euston are ready for patronage. We will advise you when Ingham will re-open next year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all custodians who have volunteered their time at our CMCA RV Parks. The time, effort, and commitment, is certainly appreciated by the board, members, and staff.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of several members who assist in extra areas of our CMCA RV park program; Aldo Lavinni (Ingham), Don Mackrill (Railton), and Ray Jones (Euston).

ASSISTING MEMBERS

NHQ staff are happy to assist in any way they can so you can gain maximum benefit from your membership. If you need assistance with information on how to do things online, or a renewal over the phone, please contact us. Our office hours are 8.45am to 5pm Monday to Friday (ESDT), and you can contact us on 02 49788 788 or enquiries@cmca.net.au.

TRAVELLING AND THE WANDERER

If you are currently on the road and have the expense of getting your mail diverted, have you thought about accessing *The Wanderer* online or via *The Wanderer* app? You won't miss a thing with the latest happenings as this digital and online version is fast becoming very popular with those on the road. To stop receiving hard copy versions, you can amend your membership profile online and click on the appropriate button, or just contact NHQ, and then when you finish travelling we can start sending them again. It is certainly worth considering.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

I would like to advise that NHQ will be closed for the Christmas and New Year period from 12 noon Friday 22 December 2017 to Tuesday 2 January 2018.

For members who are insured with Ken Tame & Associates, its office will be closed on public holidays only. After hours, you can contact Con on 0414 561 037.

To all our members, on behalf of management and staff at NHQ, we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

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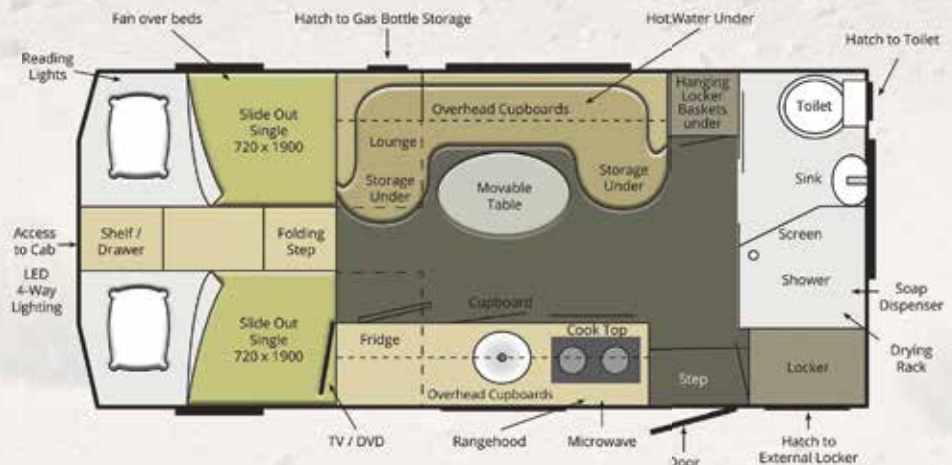


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maui Britz



CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE: THE SEASON OF RUSH

I write this reflecting on my time at the Bundaberg rally. It was very wet, if it had got any wetter some of us were thinking we might be needing boats rather than motorhomes, but it was great to catch up with so many members. If you who haven't been to a rally, don't miss out. There is one national rally, a number of state rallies and also chapter gatherings, so there is plenty to choose from. Rallies provide a great opportunity to meet fellow travellers. It is amazing what one can learn over a coffee or meal, at a seminar, or in casual meetings. Especially valuable are the money saving suggestions. My father always told me that a dollar saved today, was a dollar you could spend tomorrow.

My diary tells me that there are only 70 days to Christmas. It will be even less when you read this. At this time many clergy feel they are entering 'the season of rush'. I think in the next 70 days, I have to lead 32 events and services including a funeral, a baptism, speaking to 450 school children, three community carol services, a Christmas pageant as well as a Christmas Eve and Christmas Day service in addition to the end of year functions.

In this 'season of rush', it is very important not to let the urgent chase away the important times one needs to spend with loved ones, family and friends. The Americans have 'Thanksgiving' as a separate and special time they can focus on spending time with the important people in their lives. It is harder for us in the southern hemisphere as we tend to focus on Christmas and New Year as a time for the special people in our lives, but it also conflicts with our annual vacation time. For some the choosing between loved ones or recreation can be a difficult choice. I do hope you get time to spend time with your special people in the Christmas season and also find time for recreation.

As we head into a season when so many more vehicles will be on the roads, be vigilant and travel safe. Take care of each other. Take care for yourselves. Every blessing.

- Royce Thompson N92216
Club Chaplain



SUCCESS AT SANDOWN LEISUREFEST

RV enthusiasts proved the industry shows no sign of slowing down with 32,306 people attending October's Melbourne Leisurefest. The number was the highest attendance in seven years, as people flocked to Sandown Park to see more than 220 exhibits showcasing the latest model caravans, pop-tops, tents, camper trailers, motorhomes, campervans and camping and outdoor accessories.

According to the Caravan Industry Association of Victoria, senior adventurers made up the majority, however, there is an increase in family attendance.

For the first time, visitors were allowed to bring their dogs, to accommodate the 70 per cent of caravanners and campers who prefer to travel with their pet, which the CIA believes also boosted attendance.

CIA CEO Rob Lucas says the decision to allow dogs is part of its ongoing changes to ensure it continues to meet consumer demands.

"We listen very carefully to consumers needs, hence the introduction of dogs into association shows. Allowing dogs into our shows has been met with great applause from consumers with little or no concerns from exhibitors."

GEOWIKI Finding 'Places' on GeoWiki

GeoWiki opens to a map showing various 'Places' centered on your current location. To access and download offline maps, tap the 'hamburger' button (three horizontal bars) in the top left-hand corner (for android this will be a G). A new menu will appear showing the categories for predefined filters. Scroll to the bottom of this menu and select 'Map Downloads'.

Selecting 'Map Downloads' will give you access to offline maps. By downloading offline maps, you will be able to use the GeoWiki app offline (not connected to internet). To save on data usage, it is suggested that you only download the states/territories you immediately require, you can add to it later as you have available data. As it is downloading you will see a message near the top of the screen showing the progress of the download.

Once download is complete, touch the 'hamburger' button again and scroll to the bottom of the menu and select 'Map Settings'. Here you will have options to change how the maps are displayed. We suggest you turn on 'Show Map Status Bar' and 'Use Offline Street Maps', found by tapping the top box and scrolling in the fields that appear at the bottom of the screen, select 'Use Offline Street Maps' and tap 'Done'. Depending on how you wish to view your maps you can also turn on or off 'Rotate Maps' or '3D Maps'. Once completed, tap the 'hamburger' button to return to the menu section.

For assistance with GeoWiki please email geowiki@cmca.net.au or call the friendly staff at NHQ on 02 4978 8788.



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HORIZON MAKES HISTORY

Horizon Motorhomes has made history, winning 'Manufacturer of the Year' for three consecutive years and 'Best of the Best' for its second year at the NSW Caravan and Camping Industry Association (CCIA) Awards.

Horizon will now enter the CCIA's 'Hall of Fame'.

NSW CCIA president Theo Whitmont says the 2017 Excellence Awards had an unprecedented number of nominations.

Horizon managing director Clayton Kearney says he's proud and honoured to win the award.

"It's a huge victory, achievement and testament to all the hard work, loyalty and commitment of our team. We are dedicated to delivering the highest quality built-in motorhomes ... and we're continually improving our product to suit changing lifestyle demands."

Horizon hand-builds motorhomes in Ballina, NSW.



BRING ON THE BLUES

Acclaimed American blues singer and songwriter Eugene Hideaway Bridges has been confirmed to play at the 2018 Agnes Blues, Roots and Rock Festival - a popular event for RVers. Each year visitors swarm to the tiny seaside village of Agnes Water in Seventeen Seventy, in Queensland for the annual event. Held from 16th - 18th February, the three-day music festival has a line up of 20 acts under a purpose-built marquee. The festival weekend will also include food vendors and market stall holders.

For those in RVs, a shuttle service is provided from nearby parks for a gold coin donation.

Early bird tickets are available until 31st December 2017 at www.agnesbluesandroots.com.au

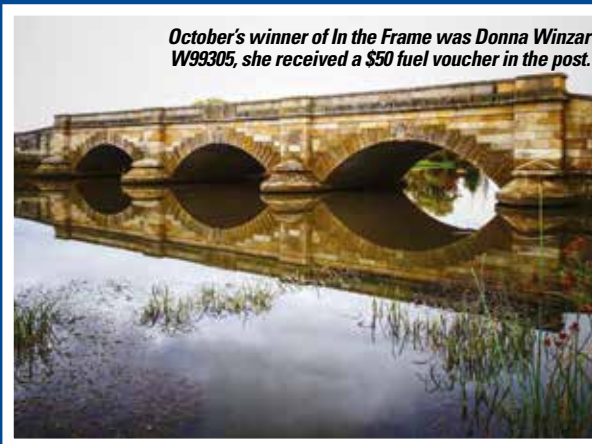


IN THE FRAME PHOTO COMPETITION

Yep, it's that time of year again and we'd love to see where you have spent your most memorable Christmas yet, so December's In the Frame photo competition theme is 'CHRISTMAS CHEER'. The image could be you and your friends and family camped in an amazing spot or sharing that delicious Christmas feast, whichever depicts 'Christmas Cheer' for you.



October's winner of In the Frame was Donna Winzar W99305, she received a \$50 fuel voucher in the post.



Members can submit their digital image of at least 1MB as a JPEG file via email to: wanderer@cmca.net.au.

Please include:

- *Your name*
- *CMCA membership number*
- *A photo caption*
- *Where and when the shot was taken*

The first 100 entries will be uploaded to the CMCA Facebook page (one entry per member) and the photo with the most viewer likes by 3pm on the last Thursday of the month will be deemed the winner. We will announce the winner and display their photo on the Club's Facebook page and in *The Wanderer* two months later.

The overall winner for the competition will receive a \$50 fuel voucher.

Good luck and we hope to see your photos In the Frame!

**By entering this competition, members give CMCA permission to use their image in any promotional or communication channels with appropriate acknowledgement.*



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AGM 2017 MINUTES

CAMPERVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED ABN 16 095 568 157

Seventeenth Annual General Meeting: Monday 09 October 2017 at Bundaberg Recreational Precinct, Bundaberg, QLD

The Chairman declared the meeting opened at 9:07am. He informed the meeting that the AGM was being recorded for the purpose of securing an accurate record for the minutes. The Chairman informed the meeting that the Club's lawyer, David Grace from Cooper Grace Ward, was in attendance and maybe used for advice when required. The Chairman was advised by the Company Secretary that we had a quorum.

1. Apologies: Have been entered in the sheet provided for this purpose.

2. Business:

- (1) **MOTION:** THAT the Notice of the AGM be taken as read
Moved: Terry Barker Q42360
Seconded: Tony Woods Q72765
 The Chairman declared the MOTION was CARRIED.
- (2) The Chairman of Directors' Report
 To receive and consider the report from the Chairman of Directors on the activities of the company. The Chairman asked for questions from the floor.
MOTION: THAT the report of the Chairman of Directors on the activities of the company be received.
Moved: Garry Lee A67278
Seconded: Peter Bradley A2544
 The Chairman declared the MOTION was CARRIED.
- (3) **Chief Executive Officer's Report**
 To receive and consider the report from the Chief Executive Officer on the activities of the company during the last financial year as read and presented.
MOTION: THAT the Chief Executive Officer's report on the activities of the company during the financial year ended 30 June 2017 be received.
Moved: Ian McDowall S85734
Seconded: Ross Templeton V66245
 The Chairman declared the MOTION was CARRIED.
- (4) **The Financial Report:**
 To receive and consider the Financial Report, the Directors' Declaration, the Report of Directors and the Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2017 as read and presented. There followed questions from the floor regarding the financials.
MOTION: THAT the Financial Report, the Directors' Declaration, the Report of Directors and the Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2017 be received.
Moved: Rex Breen V41918
Seconded: Barry Baldock N1734
 Questions were taken from the floor and answered by the Chairman. The Chairman declared the MOTION was CARRIED.
- (5) **The Returning Officer's Report:**
 The report from the Returning Officer was delivered by the Company Secretary detailing the results of the election of two Directors of the Company.
MOTION: THAT the Returning Officer's Report of the results of the election of two Directors of the company be received.
Moved: Richard Mainey Q60401

Seconded: Yvonne Sorel V72195

The Chairman declared the MOTION was CARRIED.

(6) Ordinary Resolution

The Company has received a notice from Garry Lee A67278, a member of the company for the following Motion:
MOTION 1: THAT, Pricewaterhouse Coopers be appointed as the external auditor of the company.

Moved: Garry Lee A67278

Seconded: Ken Kipping Q44763

The Chairman detailed the number of the Proxy votes being 72 FOR/0 AGAINST and direct votes 327 FOR / 10 AGAINST the Motion.

The Chairman declared the MOTION was CARRIED.

(7) Special Resolutions

The Company has received a notice from Arthur Bugden Q21298, a member of the company for the following Motion:
MOTION 2: THAT, the CMCA Constitution be modified as set out below:

Moved: Arthur Bugden Q21298

Seconded: Gary Rebgetz Q2932

The Chairman detailed the number of the Proxy votes being 67 FOR /5 AGAINST and direct votes 226 FOR /11 AGAINST the Motion.

The Chairman informed the meeting a poll will be conducted by secret vote on the Motion.

Arthur Bugden Q21298 spoke for the motion.

Erica Whitworth N001 spoke for the motion.

Bernie Wolff Q3882 spoke against the motion.

John Burke Q52407 spoke for the motion.

Justin McCarthy Q1411 spoke against the motion.

Neville Deuis N72003 spoke for the motion.

Karen Griffin Q3960 spoke against the motion.

David Grace, Lawyer addressed the meeting.

Garry Lee A67278 addressed the meeting.

Dale Trevor Q80294 spoke for the motion.

Ken Kipping Q44763 spoke for the motion.

Lance Trestrail S25197 spoke against the motion.

Liz Dalton V89072 spoke for the motion.

Ted Jenkins Q1670 spoke against the motion.

Arthur Bugden Q21298 gave his right of reply.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:00am for the secret ballot to be conducted.

A secret poll was conducted.

The Chairman resumed the meeting at 11:55am

The Chairman declared the MOTION was LOST

MOTION 3: THAT, the CMCA Constitution be modified by deleting clauses 48.1 and 48.2 and replaced with the following clauses 48.1, 2 & 3.

Moved: Arthur Bugden Q21298

Seconded: David MacDonald N82914

The Chairman detailed the number of the Proxy votes being 69 FOR /3 AGAINST and direct votes 302 FOR /33 AGAINST the Motion.

Peter Little Q79388 spoke against the motion.

The Chairman declared the MOTION was CARRIED.

MOTION 4: THAT, the Proxy and Direct votes and secret poll votes be destroyed.

Moved: Neville Deuis N72003 Seconded: Hank Flanagan Q33702

The Chairman declared the MOTION was CARRIED.

A 'thank you' presentation was awarded to outgoing Director Lorraine Smith N55008.

There being further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 12:05pm.

AGM 2017 Chairman's Report

Presented at the Seventeenth Annual General Meeting of the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia Limited: Monday 09 October 2017 at Bundaberg Recreational Precinct, Bundaberg, QLD

I am privileged to be able to present this Chairman's Report, my third in this role. I am very honoured to be the Chairman of the CMCA Board of Directors, for a Club we all hold very close.

Once again, it has been a busy year with many positive outcomes. As a national Club with some 70,000 members, residing in every state and territory, there are the challenges of communicating Club philosophy, Club culture, and Club direction. We all have a role to play in this communication process.

As a board, we are well aware of our duties and responsibilities to CMCA. We regularly look at our short and medium-term planning, and in 2015, the board developed a strategic plan for the next three years. Back in January, as we do each year, we completed our annual review of this plan, and it was updated to cover the period 2017 - 2020. This plan identifies our mission, our vision, our history and past achievements, the critical success factors, and the strategic pillars of our Club. These pillars include membership, communications, member benefits, and finance and administration.

Your role in this Club philosophy and direction is initially to have a look at this strategic plan. It is on our webpage under Club Information- Club Policies. This will provide you with the necessary information to develop an understanding of the board and management team's direction and intent. There are certainly opportunities for members to comment and participate in this process. Issues such as membership growth and retention, member engagement, member benefits particularly our CMCA RV Parks, Member Stop Overs and further improvements to GeoWiki, are all areas where improved member participation will contribute towards the growth and development of our Club.

CMCA culture is one of my favorite subjects. The culture of any organisation can mean different things to different people, but I do know one thing, all 70,000 of us have a role to play in the culture of CMCA. We are all members of this Club, and therefore we have the right to voice an opinion. However, sometimes our selection of places to voice these opinions ultimately has a negative impact on the culture on the Club. When I see our members express negative opinions on the operations of the CMCA on foreign online forums and Facebook pages, I must admit it I find it rather disappointing. If there is a problem or an issue that needs to be addressed, let's do it internally. One of the most amazing aspects of CMCA, is that ex-members of our Club seem to want to continue to express their opinions of the Club, even though they have seen reasons to leave. This Club has the most amazing effect on people, so when you get a chance to 'shout from the treetops' about the benefits of being a member, just do it.

Much of the 2017 calendar year has consisted of discussion around the proposed changes to the CMCA constitution, a vote we will take later today. The constitution has not had a substantial

review for many years, and to some degree it is outdated by way of terminology, and overall it is not a well-structured legal document. I do not wish to open the discussion at this point as we will have suitable time during the course of this meeting for that. However, whatever the outcome, it will be the will of the members in a normal democratic process to decide. The board has been openly accused of being dishonest and hiding issues from members during this process. These accusations are disappointing. It was announced to members in 2015 that the board had intended to follow this process. In 2017, six board pages in *The Wanderer* addressed the constitutional review and proposed amendments. *The Wanderer's* monthly CEO page also addressed many aspects of the process. Much information has been disseminated to members via other platforms including our eNewsletter, the CMCA Member Forum, and social media. How members can now accuse the board of non-disclosure, describing the review as 'bit of a shock' that we get to where we are today is quite amazing.

An important aspect of CMCA, and a big part of the strategic plan, is our promotion of 'freedom of choice'. We must all continue promoting this message, and we need to be seen as environmentally friendly RV travellers. This is about a responsible and sustainable RV community, words that come straight out of our Club's vision. This year, we completed our own 'CMCA Self Containment Policy. This has had some controversy amongst the membership. The board were aware that not all members had complying vehicles. It is understood though that many more could comply, with relatively low-cost modifications to their RVs. This policy was not about exclusion.

In the last two weeks, an article appeared in the publication 'Caravan & Motorhome on Tour'. The article was titled 'The Great Grey Water Debate'. The opening line of the article states that 'The truth of the matter is, this is the biggest regulation to hit free campers in the past decade - not having a self-contained setup could cost you money and time in Australia's best freedom camps'. Phrases such as 'beneficial for the longevity of free and freedom camping' and 'allowed to camp in designated campgrounds across the country - the numbers for which are exponentially growing' are used. The article looks at the trends overseas as well. In all of this, the efforts of the CMCA are acknowledged. It also mentions a number of regions that are either backing our CMCA initiative or have their own self-containment regulations. The last sentence defines the intent of the article, 'while this means we might have to tweak our setups, it's a small price to pay to ensure our free and freedom camps remain open for years and years to come'.

RV Clubs of Australia Limited (RVCAL), formerly MoTOURing, continues to meet twice a year. This is a Company Limited by Guarantee (same as CMCA), consisting of CMCA, the National

Association of Caravan Clubs (NACC) and the Australasian Touring Caravan Motorhome & Caravan Club (ATCMCC). RVCAL will continue to promote the interests of RV travellers, utilising the force of numbers when it seems necessary. Certainly, the meetings provide the opportunity to discuss many aspects of RV and travelling issues. I am currently the Chairman of that board, and Gary Rebgetz also represents CMCA. We have recently discussed a more formal strategic plan for RVCAL, so this will be on the CMCA webpage once approved by all members of that board.

I would like to make a few comments on some other issues that I know our Chief Executive Officer Richard Barwick will also address.

The Wanderer: As we know, there are some major challenges around the future of our monthly magazine. I will go into more of the financial issues in the Finance Report. But please note, the intent of the Board is to continue producing the best quality, hard copy of the magazine until we have exhausted all possibilities.

Club Connect/website: The previous IT system, including the administration and website, were very ordinary. For the last four or so years, the board and staff have been continually challenged on a daily basis. This last year saw the launch of our new IT system, which is now totally operational. The board has approved expenditure for continued improvement to our website, which will see more developments around our RV Friendly program and Events microsite will provide members the opportunity to better plan their travels.

GeoWiki: This product will continue to be high on the board's list of priorities. Further expenditure has been approved to improve the operations of GeoWiki to meet the needs of members. We now have some 19,000 downloads which is up by some 30% from just 12 months ago.

CMCA Member Forum: We all know that online forums are not for all and they don't come without some issues. However, the CMCA Member Forum now has 5,200 registered users, which is an increase of 80% over last year. The number of topics has increased by some 85% so there is certainly substantial information available to all members who wish to participate.

CMCA RV Parks: The last year has proven a lot more productive than previous years. We have successfully established parks in Railton, TAS, and Euston, NSW, on the Murray River. We have two further parks in the construction stage, being Bundaberg, QLD and Penola, SA. There are a few others that are still in negotiation, so at last we are gaining some momentum.

Now I would like to thank the many people who willingly volunteer their time on behalf of CMCA. We only have to look around this rally site to see how this works. We also have our state representatives and their national member service teams. So much is achieved by this Club on the back of the hard work done by our volunteers.

Next, I would like to thank my fellow Directors, Lorraine Smith, Eleanor Scully, Gary Rebgetz, and Richard Mainey. Their contribution and commitment to CMCA is substantial. Lorraine is to now retire from the board, not seeking re-election at the recent election. We certainly owe Lorraine our gratitude for her efforts and work done on behalf of CMCA.

I would like to congratulate Kim Atkinson on her election to the board and Gary Rebgetz on his return. We should also acknowledge Arthur Bugden and Rick Banyard, who were prepared to put their names forward to the members, but were unsuccessful.

I should also thank our CEO Richard Barwick and all the very committed staff at head office for their hard work and support over the last year.

AGM Chief Executive Officer's Report

**Presented at the Seventeenth Annual General Meeting of Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia Limited:
Monday 09 October 2017 at Bundaberg Recreational Precinct, Bundaberg, QLD**

Dear members,
Many new and exciting developments have occurred during the past year, including the brand-new IT system and website. The overall update of the company's constitution has been at the forefront of moving the Club forward into the future.

I am pleased to present my report for the financial year ended 30 June 2017. Following are the highlights of 2016/17.

MEMBERSHIP

As at 30 June 2017, the Club had 37,994 financial memberships. This represents a net increase of 1900 memberships over the past 12 months. This is reflected with a 5.8% increase in our member subscriptions income. This increase is an amazing effort and I would like to thank you for encouraging other RV enthusiasts to join our great club and along with the Club's marketing campaigns. I ask you to continue spreading the word and promoting your Club. The new IT system and website has made joining easier and we have had 5896 new memberships in this financial year. We will continue to encourage new membership by attending consumer shows and through sustained marketing campaigns. Membership retention is also

a priority of ours. This is done through emails and phone calls to lapsed members who may have forgotten to renew their membership with the Club.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Honorary Life Membership is awarded to members in recognition of outstanding service to the Club. Potential life members are nominated by fellow members and recommended to the board. No Honorary Life Membership was awarded during the year. A special CMCA Medal was awarded to Don Mackrill T16082 for his dedicated work towards the establishment of the CMCA RV Park in Railton, TAS, and continued effort in assisting the Club. A big thank you to Don for his commitment in this area.

REPRESENTATION TO GOVERNMENT

We continue to be the premier representative of recreational vehicles Australia wide. The board and I, with support from state representatives and the national member services team, are active in this area. The Club attend many LGA conferences across the country. I would like to thank all volunteers for their time and efforts.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The strategic plan is an ongoing document that is constantly reviewed and updated by the board. The objectives in the plan include growing and retaining membership, guaranteeing financial security, maximising the environmental message of self-containment and Leave No Trace®, and importantly, the 'freedom of choice' message. In line with the strategic plan we are growing our CMCA RV Parks, with more parks being established. The strategic plan can be viewed on the website.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

The past year has seen limited changes to NHQ staff. We welcomed a new Member Services Officer in Tegan Morgan-O'Brien. NHQ has installed solar panels for our electricity supply to the building and we have noticed a considerable savings already of at least 25%. We also have implemented a new database. I would like to thank members for their assistance in transitioning to the new system which will be able to support us administratively for many years to come.

WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY

The Club is constantly updating its WHS policies and procedures, and this year was no different to ensure compliance in all facets. This is essential in our business management in order to minimise all risks to the company.

CHAPTERS

This year saw the board form and endorse two new Australia wide Chapters. The Club's 103rd chapter is the Geiro Gatherers, which was formed in December 2016, and the 104th chapter is the Aussie RV Travellers, which were established in May 2017. I would like to officially welcome both chapters and wish you all many fun times ahead.

THE WANDERER

In April 2016, the board approved the change in publishers of The Wanderer magazine, which was implemented from the November 2016 edition. The magazine was to be published by Bauer Media. As the Chairman mentioned in his address and will also detail in the 2017 Financial Report, The Wanderer magazine has become a substantial financial risk to the organisation. While it is considered as a premier RV lifestyle publication, it has come at alarming cost to the organisation compared to previous years. There are two significant factors, being the decline in print advertising (between 30-40% nationally) and the quadrupling of distribution costs through Australia Post. Garry Lee forecasted this financial risk at last year's AGM and unfortunately it has come to fruition, despite certain control measures put in place. At the end of the financial year we have minimised the impact with a change of publishers, with Bauer & CMCA severing ties from 30 June 2017, and an agreement was made to use Adventures Group Holdings from August 2017. In the new agreement, we have a new and viable pricing structure to produce The Wanderer, however the two factors that are out of the Club and managements control, print advertising revenue and distribution costs, still exist. Our aim is to continue to minimise the loss on the magazine by looking at enhancing other associated revenue streams and working with our new publishing company. One way members can assist is to start accessing the online and digital version only. This will assist by eliminating production and distribution costs; however, you will get the magazine freely online and will be able to read it the same way as hard copy.

NATIONAL RALLY

The Club's 31st National Rally in Canberra, ACT, was held in October 2016, and our very last Anniversary Rally, was held in Pontville, TAS, in March. Both rallies, although very different in their own rights, were enjoyed by many. I would like to thank our rally managers, Cathy Lee (Canberra) and Pete & Trish Gallagher (Pontville), and the wonderful and dedicated volunteers who went beyond to ensure success on both occasions. I would also like to thank the major sponsors of our rallies, which include EPIC, GME, Beyond Bank, The Tradies Club, Ken Tame & Associates, Kea Campers, Avida, Sydney RV, Events Tasmania, and BioMagic. Rallies are for all members, making them one of the largest Member Benefits on offer. We appreciate feedback from members, which can be done by completing the rally survey. All thoughts and suggestions for improvements are very welcome.

CMCA WEBSITE

The Club's website has undergone a total overhaul and we are very happy with the new look and feel. A lot of members have already made use of renewing their membership, registering for rallies, placing a Members' Market ad, and updating their details. If you are still unsure or need a username and/or password, please contact us at NHQ. You can still renew, register for rallies, place a Members' Market ad, purchase products from the Club Shop, and update your details, with ease and effectiveness. The website is also a great place for new members to join. I encourage you to use this site as much as you can.

GEOWIKI

The new generation GeoWiki was officially launched in 2015 at the 30th National Rally in Albany, and with more than 19,000 downloads to date, it is proving to be a major success and a fantastic member benefit. At the time GeoWiki was launched, a working party was established to ensure the continual improvement and development. This includes frequent work on the web version, the app, and the GPS files. The working party consists of two Directors, Lorraine Smith and Richard Mainey, two moderators, Arthur Bugden and Peter Milliken, NHQ staff member, Lillie Sinclair, and GeoWiki developer Justin Derry. Whilst the working party and moderators have worked extremely hard over the past two years to ensure the accuracy of GeoWiki, I encourage all members, whilst on the road, to make further contributions, whether this be a review of a site, submitting an image, or a brand-new entry, we value the information and believe it is your hard work that has contributed to the success.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful volunteers, as well as Justin Derry and his team, in developing and continuing to improve this fantastic member benefit.

CMCA RV PARKS

We have opened two more CMCA RV Parks in the past year, Railton in TAS and Euston in NSW. Along with Ingham in QLD, the parks will be popular areas for our members to stay. I would like to thank the custodians for their assistance in running our CMCA RV parks. Without their assistance, this would be difficult to manage. More custodians are always welcome and custodian training is available at the rally. I would like to thank Ray Jones and the support of the Euston Club in particular, for their wonderful contribution in developing our CMCA RV Park alongside their very impressive club in Euston. I'd also like to recognise the efforts of Don Mackrill and Kentish Council for the development of the park in Railton, which was officially opened in late March. Moving forward, we have two

sites approved for development with another six in the planning (DA being prepared) prior to development. These are concentrated around TAS, NSW, VIC, SA, and QLD. We are always actively looking for suitable land in areas around the country, and if you identify a potential site, that may be appropriate, please contact NHQ.

CMCA MEMBER FORUM

The CMCA Member Forum has been operating well, with many members participating in accordance with the Forum User Agreement. I would like to congratulate the majority of forum users for utilising the forum for what it is intended for; a great platform for exchanging ideas and information. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the team of moderators who work hard to monitor the content and conduct. It's yours to use, please respect it.

MEMBER ADVANTAGES

The Club is constantly looking to expand and develop substantial Member Advantages for our members. We are very proud to have the support of Ken Tame & Associates, who continue to provide a wonderful service to CMCA via their RV tailored insurance. This now includes the Roadside Assistance Program which is well accepted by the members. In the last 12 months, we have secured great deals through Specsavers, and also Cruise Express, who offer customised designed cruises throughout the world. We have gained several more Member Advantages for members. You can view these retailers, who offer a variety of excellent discounts and offers, on our website and in *The Wanderer*.

FACEBOOK

I hope you have had the opportunity to enjoy reading my weekly message via Facebook. Our Facebook page now has over 18,000 page likes, proving to be an excellent form of communication. As we look to the future, Facebook and other social media platforms will certainly be used as a new member resource.

RV FRIENDLY TOWN™ PROGRAM

More and more towns across the country have joined the RV Friendly Town™ Program, with 312 towns now accredited. The RV Friendly Destinations have also grown in number with 147 destinations now involved.

CMCA DOLLAR WISE CARAVAN PARKS & MEMBER STOP OVER'S

The CMCA Dollar Wise Caravan Park Network continues to be popular with CMCA members.

These are caravan parks that offer members sites at \$10 per vehicle per night or less. The criteria is different at each park, some will offer basic self-contained sites, while others will have amenities included in the price. A list of participating Dollar Wise Parks can be found on the Club's website. Please patronise these parks and always respect their conditions. The Member Stop Over Facility has also grown in popularity. MSO's are private properties of members, who allow other members to stop over at no cost. This initiative gives property owners the pleasure of meeting new and interesting people, and sharing in the camaraderie associated with the lifestyle. Visitors to MSO's will have access to safe, relaxing, and no cost overnight parking.

IN CLOSING

I would like to thank my staff for their commitment over the past year. Without good staff, you don't have a good business - I have both. I also thank the Board of Directors for their support, given to both myself and National Headquarters. I extend my congratulations to Gary Rebgetz on his re-election to the Board and to Kim Atkinson for her election. I would like to thank Lorraine Smith, who did not stand for re-election, for her commitment and time as a CMCA Director.

I look forward to a successful 2017/2018 year for CMCA.

Safe Travelling

Richard Barwick

Chief Executive Officer

2017 AGM Finance Report

Presented at the Seventeenth Annual General Meeting of the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia Limited, held at Bundaberg, QLD, on Monday October 09, 2017.

It is with pleasure that I present the 2016/17 Financial Statements and Reports to the members of CMCA. I will provide some key comments and explanations on these figures, and provide some insight into the financial challenges facing our Club.

CMCA is quite obviously in a very strong financial position, and the 2016/17 financial year results added to that situation. The Net Assets of CMCA at 30 June 2017 are \$7,050,016 as compared to \$6,780,013 at 30 June 2016.

The financial result for 2016/17 is a Profit of \$289,050 as compared to the previous financial year of \$383,595

The Gross Revenue is \$3,443,205 as compared to \$3,482,283 in 2015/16.

The main movements are:

Membership Subscriptions of \$1,637,932 show an increase of \$90,390 or 5.8% over 2016.

Insurance Scheme income of \$1,018,551 show an increase of \$126,154 or 14.1% over 2016.

Rally Income of \$412,798 is a decrease of \$98,604 or 19.2% over 2016. Rally Expenses were \$587,043 similar to 2015/16 but

the Rally Losses totalled \$174,245 as compared to \$61,054 the previous financial year. Both rallies in Canberra and Tasmania did not meet expectations in respect to attendance numbers. The Canberra loss was \$73,870 and the Tasmanian loss was \$100,375.

The Wanderer Income of \$53,059 is a decrease of \$79,814 or 60% over 2016. *The Wanderer* Expenses were \$372,603, an increase of \$333,382 from the previous year. I will discuss *The Wanderer* in more detail, later in this Report.

Overall the Total Expenditure for 2016/17 was \$3,154,155, only a minor increase of the \$3,098,688 for 2015/16. There were significant reductions in our Employee Costs, Marketing and Consulting, NHQ Office Operations, Travel and Accommodation, and Depreciation and Amortization. You would have noticed for the last two years that we now have a line item for the operations of our CMCA RV Parks. Presently, these are operating at a loss, quite simply because they have been free for members to use. This has now changed with access to all three parks being an administration fee of \$3 per person per night. It seems that some members thought these were going to be at no cost in the long

term, and I am not sure how that message was communicated as it was always the intention that there would be a charge eventually. There is an expectation that these parks will continue to operate at a loss until more parks are developed, and this will lead to a greater usage by members and economies of scale.

We receive quite some interest from our members on the actual cash position of the Club. The figure at 30 June 2017 is \$6,522,823. So, even with abnormal capital expenditure over the last two financial years on the Club Connect/website computer system, GeoWiki, and three CMCA RV Parks, we have been able to accumulate additional cash reserves, an excellent result showing the resilience of the financial position of our Club.

CHALLENGES

I did report last year that the Club profits were being squeezed with increasing expenses and a relatively fixed revenue. I think we can all see that for 2016/17, without the increase in Membership Subscriptions and our Insurance Scheme revenue, we would have been looking at a much smaller profit. The board, CEO Richard, and our management accountant Wylva, are certainly aware of this and continually review those areas where the CMCA is most at financial risk.

We need to look at the current membership structure of the CMCA to identify these risks and put in place a plan to alleviate the potential loss. At 30 June 2012, we had 28,468 Full Members. At 30 June 2017, that number has reduced to 25,000, a decrease of 3,468 or 12% over this 5-year period. We now have a total of 37,994 Memberships. So, Associate Members are 12,994 or 1 in every 3 members, essentially one-third of the Club. Membership Subscriptions and Insurance Scheme income generated from these Associate Members contribute Gross Revenue of \$640,510. If Full Membership numbers continue to decrease at the current rate, and if the growth in Associate Membership slows down, or in fact starts to decline as Full Memberships are, CMCA is heading for a financial disaster. So, if we all take the attitude, it is not my role to attract new members or try to retain existing members, it is obvious where the Club is heading. There are a few alternatives for CMCA to address these issues, the majority of which are controlled by the members, not the board. The question is how quickly can the membership react to limit this potential loss.

In all of this, the board has no intention of reducing expenditure on those core areas, our 'freedom of choice' and government representation, member benefits and IT with our Club Connect, Webpage and GeoWiki. All areas necessary to improve the member experience of being part of the CMCA.

I should also add that the board has no intention of increasing fees or bringing any motion to the membership for an increase in fees. Through this whole constitution review process, the intent of changing the constitution so that the board can set the fees has been scrutinized and questioned so many times. I even wrote the February's edition of *The Wanderer* on this single subject. Even as recent as a few weeks ago, I saw a comment on our own CMCA Member Forum along the lines, 'why would you trust the board'. How can this Club progress or even operate with members who make statements like this?

In the 2015 AGM Finance Report delivered at the national rally in Albany, I stated 'the times when publishers paid organisations to produce their magazine is now a thing of the past. The hard copy magazine advertising has diminished sharply mainly through the economic conditions and vendors are now preferring digital advertising. The only problem is that expenditure on digital advertising is not growing at the same rate as hard copy magazine advertising is reducing'.

In the 2016 AGM Finance Report delivered at the national rally in Canberra, I stated that 'CMCA can now no longer expect this publication to be a revenue source'. I explained the tender process we had conducted over a six-month period for a new publisher, as our contract with our existing publisher was to expire on 30 June 2016. Our first choice Bauer Media produced their first *The Wanderer* in November 2016. The two main reasons for this choice were that Bauer's presentation to the board was much more professional than the other two tenders'. The board did believe that they could deliver on their promises. And by virtue of them being a national company, with some large publications under their belt, we believed that they would be able to generate a greater revenue from advertisers. Since our financial arrangement was based on a share of the advertising revenue after covering the costs of producing *The Wanderer*, this was critical for CMCA. The first few months were fine with only small losses. Production costs against advertising revenue was acceptable and quite predictable. Their statements about being able to generate additional advertising looked like coming to fruition, but by March/April, CMCA were incurring losses of approximately \$50,000 per month. This was quite obviously unsustainable. So, by May, a new publisher was appointed and it was then a matter of negotiating a suitable exit from our contract. Part of that exit was an \$80,000 discount on the amount we owed Bauer negotiated by CEO Richard Barwick. August's *The Wanderer* has been delivered by our new publisher, Adventures Group Holdings Pty Ltd. The Board has received many member submissions and input on how they believe *The Wanderer* should be published and delivered in the future. The board has considered these submissions but it always seems to come down to 'I like, my wife likes, our hard copy of *The Wanderer* turning up in our letterbox every month'. This continues to be the key message to the board and I have already stated that the overriding issue with the Board is that we must continue producing a quality magazine. We all know that *The Wanderer* is the public face of the CMCA, it is one of the 'key hooks' for new members joining the Club. So at this time, this is what we will keep doing. Our new publisher believes it can get into a break-even position in 12 months. Rob Gallagher, CEO and co-owner of Adventures Group addressed the board at August's Board Meeting, so he understands the board's position. I must say, you will see some commercial changes, we are trying to save *The Wanderer*, don't forget. Our CEO Richard is in constant contact with Adventures Group, and our management accountant Wylva, recently visited their office in Melbourne to meet with their accountant. This is very much a 'watching brief'.

All members should be aware that our auditors saw the need to qualify our Audit Report this year. The qualification does not detract from the financial results of the Club, nor does it reflect on the financial stability of CMCA. Members should read that part of the PWC Independent Auditor's Report 'Basis for qualified opinion'. Simply, these are the funds held by the chapters and special interest groups. The auditor has now discussed the issues with the board and management, and we will just need to introduce a more formal system around the recording of these funds.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank CEO Richard Barwick and management accountant Wylva Hall, for their contribution and commitment to the sound financial management of our Club. These two CMCA staff members have the main responsibility for the day to day operations and do an exceptional job on our behalf.



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RED CARPET WELCOME AT RALLY



*Bundaberg Recreational Precinct Grounds,
Bundaberg Regional Council*

CMCA members made their mark on Bundaberg at the 32nd National Rally, as Kirstie Bedford discovered

PHOTOS BY KIRSTIE BEDFORD, LIUDMILA SMELYANSKAYA AND ANITA FLYNN Q2119





From main: Editor Kirstie Bedford driving the Paradise Independence Delxue to Bundaberg for the rally, above; her two boys sitting in the dual cab seat.

Hundreds of RVs rolled into the Queensland coastal city of Bundaberg in October for the 32nd National Rally, to a red carpet welcome by the region.

On the first day alone more than 600 RVs pulled into the Bundaberg Recreational Precinct grounds, home for the nine days of the rally; while in total, more than 920 RVs attended from all over the country.

A huge billboard welcomed CMCA members on arrival to the city, a literal sign of how we were to be treated during the course of the event.

Mayor Jack Dempsey had been a strong vocal supporter of CMCA, and encouraged locals to do everything they could to welcome members, saying the visit would be a huge economic injection into the region - and that it was.

It's estimated about two million dollars was spent in preparation,

and over the nine days, by CMCA members, with retail spend at \$363,000.

Rally manager Paul Scully says those are conservative estimations. He says stallholders in the Searles RV Trade Centre alone were pleasantly surprised at the volume of business.

"There was a diverse representation, including a massage business, and mattress retailer, and they were all wildly successful, which was intriguing given the types of businesses participating. "All of those in the trade centre also said there weren't any slow periods, so that was a nice surprise."

Mayor Dempsey was certainly under no illusion as to the impact members had on local trade.

"It was an absolute privilege and honour to have CMCA for the national rally in the area, and certainly the way they contributed

both socially and economically.

“CMCA is a living national icon that transverses the nation, and certainly all levels of Government should look at this particular group to be able to necessitate how they can do things better in their community.”

With support like that, it’s clear to see why the city was recently named a CMCA RV Friendly Town.

ARRIVAL

I drove to Bundaberg (with stops at parks along the way, which you’ll hear about in the January edition) in the luxury of the Paradise Independence Deluxe. While initially nervous about driving the roughly 450 kilometres from Gold Coast (due to it being a 28 foot, seven tonne big rig, and having the family on board), once we got through the busy Bruce Highway, it was smooth sailing all the way! I was surprised at how easy the Paradise was to drive. You just put it in gear, and you’re off. It also proved economical and we only filled up once the entire journey.

Perfect for a family of four, our Paradise had a dual cab seat in the back (see photo on page 26) and

a fold down sofa bed. If you have older kids or grandkids, there’s also plenty of floor space for a blow-up mattress. Vital for us, during our nine-day adventure was storage to pack away all the suitcases and, in my younger son’s case, oversized teddy bear, and the Paradise has it in abundance.

Once parked in our site at the rally (which created some entertainment as I reversed into position), we were out and about chatting with members, including neighbouring Paradise owners Mary and Mike Vigan Q24159, who have had their Paradise for one year, their fourth motorhome. The couple are on the road six months of the year, and as with many who buy a motorhome, Mike says, “I wished we started 10 years ago.”

The resounding message from talking to members was, not only that they wished they hit the road earlier, but also that they want to see as much of Australia as possible. Of the many members I personally spoke to, everyone had travelled the length of the country at least once, in varying directions, and various ways, and not just viewed great sights along the way,

From top: Richard Mainey, Garry Lee and Murray Wall at the CMCA rally. Below, Trish Johnston and Lizzy Saltmarsh in the trade centre.



THE VOLUNTEERS

In total, 210 volunteers were involved in the rally, doing everything from taking members to their site, assisting with directions around the rally, to first aid. Without the volunteers, this event would simply not be able to happen.

To be a volunteer for the 33rd National Rally in Gunnedah in NSW contact NHQ at suzannemurray@cmca.net.au



but participated in all manner of festivals, events and activities themselves. While most travel north during the winter months, a bit of rain certainly doesn’t bother anyone, and nor was it going to be an issue at the rally, which was just as well!

RALLYING MEMBERS

The grounds were awash when members arrived, but whether it was disc bowls on the vast lawn, or meandering around the food court, members were out and about chatting with others; and as is the nature of these types of things, the umbrellas were soon up for a different reason, as the sun blazed down, providing glorious 30 degree days.

When not learning from talking to each other at the rally, there were no shortage of more formal sessions, whether it was a dog



From above left: CMCA members Monica and David McPherson and Heather and Michael Puller on the glassbottom boat heading to Lady Musgrave Island. Snorkelling off the Lady Musgrave Experience.

education seminar with Australian dog whisperer, Chris de Aboitiz, who was providing tips on how to keep your dogs under control while travelling, to a battery and low voltage techtalk and sessions on safety on the road.

In the Searles RV Trade Centre, Bundaberg North Burnett Tourism offered day trips from tasting the famous Bundy Brews, to exploring its backyard of the Southern Great Barrier Reef - and if the queue to book was anything to go by, it was clear this was going to be a win-win for everyone.

ALL ABOARD

One of my personal highlights was a day trip with members to Lady Musgrave Island with Lady Musgrave Experience. Besides both of my children 'feeding the fish' shall we say, their stomachs soon settled and before we knew it we were walking around the 34.6 acre (14 hectare) coral cay on Australia's Great Barrier Reef. The colours are simply stunning. Crystal clear blue water and the island fascinating, with its enormous number of black noddly tern birds nesting in abundance in the *Pisonia* trees. Never before have the boys approached a bird so close, which didn't so much as flinch.

The island is a national park and was named after the wife of a colonial governor of Queensland, Sir Anthony Musgrave, and can only be reached by boat. The boat

ride takes about two and a half hours, and beside the birds, trees and coral, it's untouched. You can freedom camp on the island, but numbers are limited and the island has no fresh water supply, and only a composting toilet.

Our transfer back to the big boat was via a glass bottom boat, providing the perfect chance to see the stunning coral and sea life of the southern Great Barrier Reef. Concerns about the vulnerability and pollution of the reef could not be seen here, the fish were vibrant and active, and the coral a vast array of colour.

Then it was a chance to kick back and enjoy a gourmet lunch, before snorkelling with turtles and in the case of our group, a reef shark!

Lady Musgrave Experience was founded by Brett Lakey, and it's certainly an experience you'll never forget. Lakey also offers an overnight option to sleep on the reef, and has plans to add a luxury arm to the business.

BACK IN BUNDY

Back in Bundy, we hit the grassed food court, where Ed's Tucker Box was a huge hit with members, with queues up to 30 people deep at times. The food is prepared by former chef Eddie Delves. who dished up such delights as Peking duck pancake with hoisin, cucumber and spring onion; and angel chicken pieces wrapped in bacon, crumbed and shallow fried served with a

mango sour cream, so it was little wonder the queues were so long.

The food court area was one of two seated areas where members could congregate, and as Paul Scully notes, "people do come to the rally to talk about life on the road and it's a great opportunity to talk to people with a similar outlook."

He says having two lay days was another great way to ensure people have time to chat.

Waking the next morning, I watched the disc bowls and then took a walk around the enormous site, again talking to members and reflecting on all the work which has gone into this mammoth event.

There were people in craft break-out rooms (including the self-proclaimed 'stitch and bitch' group), dozens of people buying from the trade centre (as mentioned earlier), people listening to poetry, seminars, and others simply having a cuppa.

Everyone a proud CMCA member. Proud of what the Club is doing, or has achieved, and proud to say they are part of it.

All members, of course, have varying views on the RV they drive/ or should drive, and how many kilometres you should do per day, or how long you are on the road as this is all based on personal preference, but I quickly realised most share the same dream - to simply get out as see as much of this great country as we can. Something I certainly plan to do more of.

BUNDABERG RALLY DISC BOWLS RESULTS

MIXED TRIPLES

1st Sydney Wanderers

Lead: Lyn Russo N40139
 2nd: Syd Bell N10455
 3rd: Pat Russo N40139

2nd Wide Bay Wanderers

Lead: Audrey Ambrose N49771
 2nd: Paul Jensen Q73126
 3rd: Peter Ambrose N49771

3rd: Lakelanders 1

Lead: Glennis Wood N84330
 2nd: Daryl McPherson N52896
 3rd: Dough Stott N84330

LADIES TRIPLES

1st: Darling Downs Drifters 1

Lead: Marg Doherty Q50970
 2nd: Helen Berlin Q33624
 3rd: Beryl Watt Q44885

2nd: Lakelanders 1

Lead: Clare Holmes N82914
 2nd Gail Stedman N18738
 3rd: Glennis Wood N84330

3rd: Lakelanders 3

Lead: Margaret Kelly N35803
 2nd: Janet Payne N95955
 3rd: Enid Leech N22133

MENS TRIPLES

1st Sydney Wanderers 1

Lead: Syd Bell N10455
 2nd: Alan Larsen N51271
 3rd: Pat Russo N40139

2nd: Suncoasters 2

Lead: Tom Hawke Q42395
 2nd: Noel Sorrensen Q6178
 3rd: Leo Aldridge Q27120

3rd: Southern Explorers 2

Lead: Bill Roberts V45792
 2nd: Guido Colla V73211
 3rd: Greg Greenwood V25743

SINGLES

Ladies Champion:
 Beryl Watt Q44885

Mens Champion:
 Joseph Mancini N77351

Champion of Champions:
 Joseph Manini N77351



BUNDABERG PHOTOGRAPHY WINNERS

Category A - B is for Bundaberg

- Highly Commended: Margaret Cook W74379
- 1st: Steve Knott V71774

Category B - Agriculture

- Highly Commended: Cliff Everson Q83318
- 1st: Camilla Barker Q42360

Category C - Taking Flight

- Highly Commended: Doc Payne N95955
- 1st - Marja Zids N85377

Category D - Natures Aviators

- Highly Commended: Lynda Woods N65113
- 1st: Diana Worner N480

Category E - CMCA Media

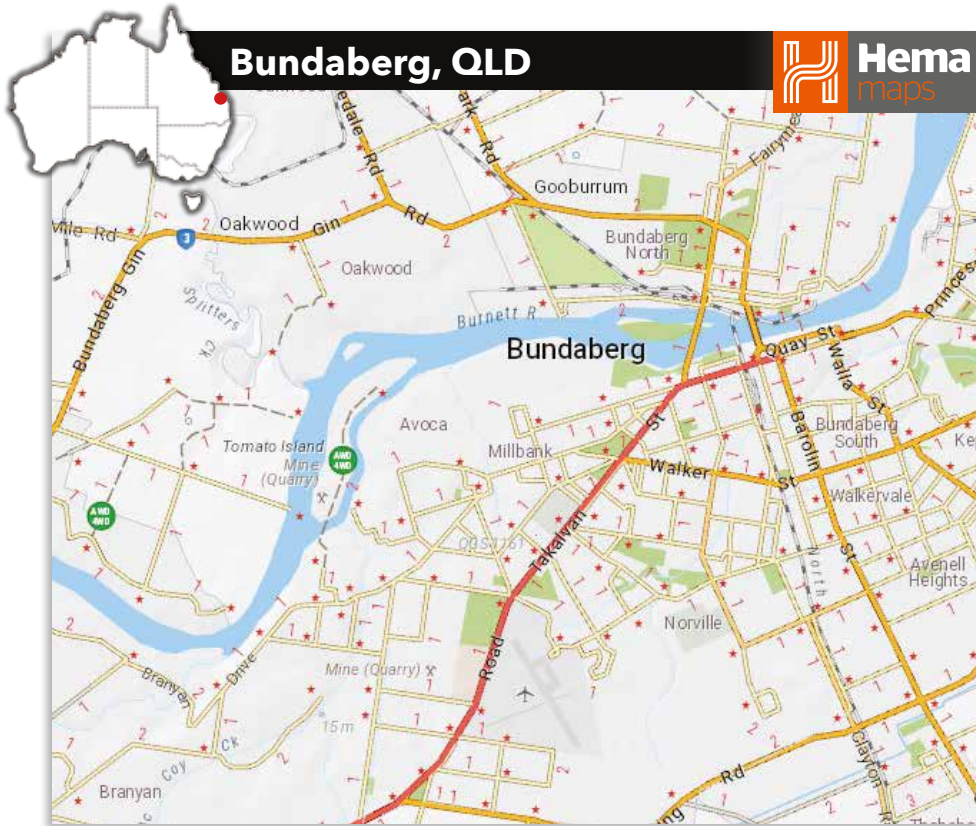
- Highly Commended: Doc Payne N95955
- 1st: Jacqui Everson Q83318

Overall Winner

- Diana Worner N480



From top: Lakelanders Newcastle at the disc bowls; members enjoying the sunshine during happy hour and in the foodcourt area at the CMCA rally; winning photograph submitted Diana Worner.



JOURNEY PLANNER



Bundaberg is a city within Queensland's broader Wide Bay-Burnett region. The city is on the Burnett River, approximately 385 kilometres north of the state capital, Brisbane, and 15 kilometres inland from the coast.

Bundaberg is known for its food and wine, and as a gateway to some of Australia's best natural wonders.

It is home to Bundaberg Rum, the Bundaberg Distillery, Bundaberg Botanic Gardens as well as the Hinkler Hall of Aviation, dedicated to solo long-distance pilot Bert Hinkler. The area also lays claim to the internationally-renowned Southern Great Barrier Reef and Mon Repos Turtle Rookery. Visit www.bundabergregion.org

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CONSERVING THE COASTAL DREAM

How four WA shires banded together to preserve the great Aussie RV coastal dream

STORY BY GWEN O'TOOLE; PHOTOS BY SARAH HENDERSON

Irwin River Mouth Nature Trail



PHOTO: TOURISM WESTERN AUSTRALIA

While more and more coastal caravan parks are being turned into commercial developments, four shires in Western Australia have gone to great lengths to preserve a chunk of the WA coastline for future generations to enjoy coastal camping.

The stretch of coast, along the Coral Coast in the Mid West of Western Australia, is a three hour drive north of Perth, an area which sees many RVs pass through via the Brand Highway (particularly during wildflower season) or along the Indian Ocean Drive, meandering through Nambung National Park to see the famous Pinnacles desert.

There's plenty of walking and cycling trails and local residents day trip to the area for 4WD adventures, fishing, bird watching, snorkelling, surfing on giant white sand dunes and swimming in Ellendale Pool, a natural watering hole along the Greenough River.

If this 340kms of pristine

coastline existed anywhere else in Australia, the area might be prime real estate for coastal condos and high rises, but the local towns here have made it a priority to retain the coast specifically for the self-drive leisure tourism market, and preserve freedom camping, right on the beach at popular spots such as Cliff Head, or low cost camping at Sandy Cape.

A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

Spearheaded by Nicole Nelson, Acting Director Planning, Community and Infrastructure, at the Shire of Irwin, the \$2.5 million Coastal Nodes Project included short stay campsites, which are among 200 campsites in the Mid West, including those at Sandy Cape in the Shire of Dandaragan, Milligan Island in the Shire of Coorow, Cliff Head in the Shire of Irwin and Lucky Bay in the Shire of Northampton.

When the shires first teamed up with support from the Mid West Development Commission,

and Tourism Western Australia, seeking funding from 'Royalties for Regions' (a government initiative enhancing regional development), the goal was to simply put a serious refresh on the area's much-loved coastal campsites. This was in order to attract both the self-drive tourism market and fishing and aquatic day-trippers, and open up the region from as far south as the Indian Ocean Drive to the north at Lucky Bay, south of Kalbarri.

The local governments, which share the region's boundaries, then decided to join forces to make the area a self-drive drawcard with a shared commitment to refreshing camping and campground infrastructure. The project was extended to include not only refreshing the sites and facilities, and planting native species of vegetation, but also included the rehabilitation of old access tracks and entry points off the main road to 'open up' the Mid West coast and increase access.

Now complete, the 'Coastal Nodes Project' is expected to attract an



“This project is quite rare in that four local governments in two development boundaries have worked together in one development.”

- Nicole Nelson, Shire of Irwin

additional 4,700 people annually bringing an additional \$585,000 into the region. But like any new project, it brought with it its own set of challenges, says Nicole Nelson.

“Some local governments received enquiries from residents who were concerned about opening up their favourite fishing and camping spots to the nation, but each site is well separated from the next, so there’s lots of privacy and lots of sites on offer.” She says, “this project is also quite rare in that four local governments in two development

boundaries have worked together in one development”.

“It did mean regular meetings were not always possible in person, so there were constant emails, and regular phone conferences being sent to the team to ensure everyone was on track.”

Nelson also adds that the locations proved to be tricky to redevelop, as they were without both water or power, and had limited accessibility, meaning everything needed to be carted in, “products were specifically designed to ensure protection from



Above: Nicole Nelson, Shire of Irwin
Below left to right: Travelling the coast in Western Australia; an aerial of Cliff Head



PHOTO: TOURISM WESTERN AUSTRALIA



PHOTO: SARAH HENDERSON

the elements to ensure they were low maintenance, because the infrastructure needed to be able to stand up to the harsh coastal conditions of wind, salt and rust, and withstand the test of time.”

THE BIGGER PROJECT

The project is one of six priorities identified within the Mid West Tourism Development Strategy 2015-2025, which focuses on increasing accommodation capacity from camping through to resorts, and opening up day use sites - places previously overlooked or under developed.

She says other priorities include opening up the Abrolhos Islands to visitors and the Kalbarri National Park iconic skywalk, which is currently underway.

THE RESULT

So far, Nicole says, they have received overwhelmingly positive feedback.

“The response has been extremely positive with users doing all our marketing for us on social media, including drone footage of the locations placed on YouTube.

“All sites are being well utilised and users are supporting the participating local governments by purchasing their supplies from the nearby towns of Kalbarri, Northampton, Dongara, Port Denison, Leeman, Green Head and Jurien Bay.”

She says the collaboration allowed the local governments to develop great working relationships, so they can look for ways in which they can include the whole Mid

West region, working alongside the Mid West Development Commission and Tourism WA in attracting visitors as well as creating economic benefit to the region.

As the Project Manager, the Shire of Irwin has also spoken at several tourism and local government conferences to inspire other regions to work together to achieve similar great results.

“Following our start up, Tourism WA took the idea to local governments in the South West of the state who also developed 11 campsites across six local governments,” she says.

“We are proud to have lead this project, it’s great to identify a need, but to successfully see the project to completion is another thing. It has taken us several years of



Below left to right: Sand surfing, tracks and walkways in Sandy Cape
Bottom: Enjoying a beverage in Cliff Head



PHOTOS: SARAH HENDERSON



Above: Steve Wood, CEO, Tourism WA
Right: A quiet moment in Cliff Head

careful planning, talking to the right people and collaboration, and we're now seeing the benefits through visitors' positive feedback.

"To make a difference we needed the entire region to be RV friendly, not just one town, and are confident the RV market will travel from the other side of Australia to support the region and travel the beautiful coastline."

THE FUTURE

The concept is one Tourism Western Australia was quick to support.

"Western Australian beaches are regularly voted among the best in the world, and with good reason," says Tourism Western Australia's CEO Steve Wood.

"Along its 12,500 kilometres of coastline, you'll find some of the most stunning World Heritage scenery, once-in-a-lifetime wildlife encounters, and endless opportunities for beach holiday memories.

"Camping in WA is a great way to immerse yourself in the world-renowned natural wonders and diversity of Western Australia's coast."

For the Shire of Irwin, the campaign has shown how with a bit of collaboration, and a lot of hard work, coastal parks needn't be resigned to redevelopment, and how big thinking from small towns is opening up entire new areas to the RV market.



PHOTO: SARAH HENDERSON

"Following our start up, Tourism WA took the idea to local governments in the South West of the state who also developed 11 campsites across six local governments."

- Nicole Nelson, Shire of Irwin



JOURNEY PLANNER




The Shire of Irwin is a local government area in the Mid West region of Western Australia, about 50 kilometres south of Geraldton and about 360 kilometres north of the state capital, Perth.

MORE INFO

Visit: www.irwin.wa.gov.au

NEXT ISSUE:

The Wanderer editor Kirstie Bedford visits the region to give you a first-hand account of what this incredible piece of coastline can offer for those wanting an affordable, unique, coastal camping experience. 

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CHRISTMAS AS A NOMAD

The Blom family re-live their experience of
Christmas on the road in South Australia

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KIM BLOM-JANSSEN N58424



Innes National Park, SA





Main: Stopping in at Peterborough, SA, en-route to Moonta Bay
Inset: Sunset at Newey Recreation Reservoir, Cobar

You all know that feeling, when you drive off in your motorhome, leaving your house behind. The thoughts of, “did we close all the windows? Is there rubbish lying around? Did we bring everything we need on this trip?”. It takes a few kilometres until those questions pass your mind and the further you are away from home, the more the holiday feeling starts to settle in. What is done is done, you won’t turn around now and if you’ve forgotten anything, well, you’ll just have to buy it.

And so this is how our trip to South Australia started just before Christmas last year.

For months, we’d thought about soaking up the Queensland sun,

but in the week before, a weather forecast check changed our plans. Rockhampton looked good, but temperatures were expected to get above 22 degrees overnight. South Australia was also on our wish list and still hot during the day, but the nights looked better with temperatures set to average between 16 and 18 degrees. So in an instant, we set our sights on the southern state. We had already ticked many destinations from our list, but in the nine years we had owned our motorhome, we had never been to Adelaide. So with the motorhome packed, and the kids ready (we have three children aged between six and 12 years old), we set off. We spent the first night at Jerrys Plains in the upper Hunter

Valley, a great, spacious reserve with a beautiful tennis/basketball court you can use, all for free. Note to self: don't forget to pack the tennis rackets next time. The kids loved it, with lots of space to run around and kick a ball. When we were eating our dinner under the big tree, we saw a group of kangaroos hopping past. What a great way to start a holiday. We had forgotten about home already.

BOUND FOR BROKEN HILL

Over the next few days, we set forth for Broken Hill. We love free camping, not only because of the freedom and space it provides, but also because it gets expensive to stay every night in a caravan park with three kids. On average, we pay \$80 for a powered site for the five of us and our motorhome. We'd rather spend money in local towns, at the bakery or the butcher and so on. We are very fortunate in Australia to have so many beautiful spots to camp for free.

The kids love stopping at a local pool to cool off, which is another way to support the local community. Cobar has a fantastic big pool, complete with slides and water park. We'll be going back there for sure. When we arrived in Broken Hill, we thought of visiting

the Royal Flying Doctor Service Bruce Langford Visitor Centre. It's a great little museum with hands-on experiences for the kids. It had been a while since we were last there, but when we parked the motorhome and got out, I heard a hissing sound. Not good! Where did it come from? Was it a snake? Then I saw one of the rear tyres had a puncture and was leaking air. While my husband tried to patch it up with duct tape (can't travel without it), I googled tyre places in Broken Hill. There was one only a few kilometres down the road towards town. We set off as quick and safe as we could, and we made it there! Luckily, they found

a tyre at the back of the shop that fitted our motorhome. It was a bit dusty, but isn't everything dusty in Broken Hill? Well, not everything as it turned out. We went to the racecourse for an overnight stay, and found a beautiful patch of green grass that cost us only \$15 a night. The next morning we were woken by the horses training and running around the track. What a great little oasis in the outback. We decided to give the museum a miss and travelled further west, bound for South Australia. The outback

*Below: Barossa Valley
Bottom: Moonta Bay Caravan Park*



This pic: Playing in the shallows of Stenhouse Bay, Innes NP
Below: Spotting emus kept the kids entertained mid-commute



journey may be long and straight with not much happening, but we love it. The scenery changes and we relish the feeling of being small and nature so overwhelming. The kids kept busy in the back spotting and counting emus. They saw more than 40 on this trip. The best time was when we were singing to the *Twelve days of Christmas* and spotted an emu at the exact moment we warbled about an emu up a gumtree. What a coincidence, or maybe we were just singing that song a lot.

CHRISTMAS AT MOONTA BAY

When we travel, we always keep an eye on the weather forecast and we saw that Christmas Day was going to be a 40 degree day. So we called ahead to some caravan parks on the Yorke Peninsula to spend those hot days by the water, instead of somewhere along the

Innes National Park



way in the outback. We got a spot for three nights at a caravan park in Moonta Bay. We could only stay until Boxing Day as it was fully booked afterwards. But that was long enough for us. We had a great Christmas. Although it was hot, with the aircon running inside we kept our cool. The kids loved the free water park next door. Perfect for those hot days.

The busiest time of the year for camping is definitely between Boxing Day and New Year's Eve. We knew we wouldn't have much luck finding a caravan park, but

we found a campsite at Innes National Park and booked it online. So we drove all the way down to the southern end of the Yorke Peninsula. We had some beautiful days there. Wow, Innes National Park is impressive! The only thing we were unprepared for were the marsh flies, which wreaked havoc on our walk around the historic town Inneston. Having sought refuge in our motorhome after being aggressively chased, we later learned that insect repellent will keep them at bay.

New Year's Eve was a quiet

evening at Port Julia, at a great camping reserve run by volunteers. After that, we drove to Barossa Valley to meet up with friends from home. We went for lunch at Maggie Beer's Farm Shop, the food was delicious. We bought some goodies to take home, although not all made it home, it was too good not to eat. Of course, we also visited some wineries, more goodies to take home.

Our next stop was Kangaroo Island, that was a holiday within our holiday, so I'll tell you more about that another time!

KEEPING SANTA A SECRET

Having owned their motorhome for nine years, the Blom family often spend Christmas on the road, renting out their Sydney home, "we immigrated a few years ago and our extended family is overseas, so for us, travelling over Christmas is easy" explains Kim.

Kim likes to book the family in somewhere comfortable for a few days in the lead up to Christmas, so the kids are settled. "After Boxing Day, it gets busy, but in the lead up to Christmas it's usually okay." Family travels put Father Christmas on the hop so Kim says, she tells them they just hope Santa is following them! The gifts, meanwhile, purchased prior to the trip, are carefully hidden as they travel.

"We have a few storage spaces the kids don't know about under the bedding and seats, and then on Christmas Eve we move the presents to the front of the motorhome when they're not looking, and hide them in big bags under a few towels."

She says celebrating Christmas on the

road stops her from going overboard.

"There is only so much room in the front of the motorhome [for gifts]," she says.

"I like to pick things they can use on the trip, a book to read, and something to play and often something to wear, like bathers or a towel. We still manage to fill up two big bags!"

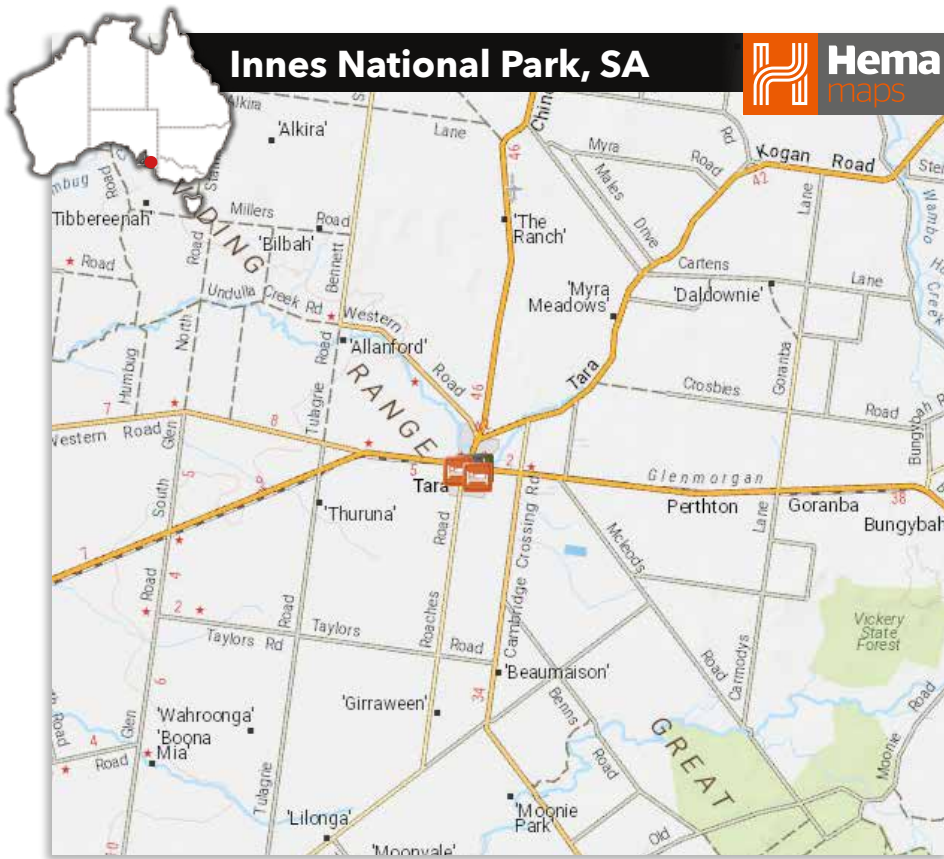
Decorating is also an important Christmas tradition.

"We travel with a little Christmas Tree, and bring it out everywhere we camp, the kids make Christmas-themed artworks which we put up around the motorhome.

"And you know what is easy on the road as well? Those gingerbread house kits. We make them up on Christmas Eve so we have something yummy to eat on Christmas Day."

Christmas lunch is usually a simple affair, but the kids like to get involved. "It's often pasta or salad. We're Dutch, so sometimes my daughter likes to make special pancakes and a fruit salad."





JOURNEY PLANNER



GETTING THERE

Innes National Park is 173km south-west of the Yorke Peninsula, which is 486km west of Broken Hill.

MORE INFO

Broken Hill and Cobar, visit the Broken Hill Visitor Centre at Bromide St, Broken Hill
Ph: 08 8080 3560

Port Julia Oval camping area, Yorke Peninsula Visitor Information Centre
Ph: 1800 202 445

Moonta Bay Caravan Park
www.moontabaycaravanpark.com.au
Ph: 08 8825 2406

For Innes National Park
www.environment.sa.gov.au
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FIFTY SHADES OF GREEN

Emma Ryan discovers the town of Tumbarumba, tucked
in the verdant foothills of the Snowy Mountains

STORY BY EMMA RYAN PHOTOS BY LIUDMILA SMELYANSKAYA

It doesn't matter from which direction you arrive in Tumbarumba, the drive will take your breath away. From the north, through the charming riverside town of Tumut, the apple orchards of Batlow and the lush rolling countryside that connects them. From the east, via Kosciuszko National Park, with its pristine forests of snow gum, its wild brumbies (the stuff of literary legend), and that incredible feat of engineering, the Snowy Hydro Scheme, and the alpine lakes and dams that go with it. From the south, via idyllic hamlets dotted along the mighty Murray River, and upon sweeping open roads, where productive cattle country sprawls under the watchful eye of the Snowy Mountains, still fulfilling their namesake during our visit in October.

If you're thinking this route between Sydney and Melbourne sounds a whole lot more interesting than the tired old Hume Highway, you'd be absolutely right. But more than just a convenient halfway point between Australia's biggest cities, Tumbarumba is a wonderful destination in its own right, particularly for the caravan and motorhome crowd. From low cost campsites which are amongst the best I've encountered, to interesting history, wonderful local produce, award winning wine, and coffee as good as your local back home, this little high country town has it all. And don't even get us started on the plethora of surrounding natural wonders that await your exploration.

GIRL ABOUT TOWN

Lured out of our cabin at the Tumbarumba Creek Caravan Park by the fragrant spring air, we headed straight for Nest Café, undeniably the best coffee in town. We were welcomed by the smiling face of Nest's owner, Laura, and her seven-month-old babe in arms, Victor, whose gummy grin and spikey hairdo had us love-struck.

Right: wander through the whimsical Sugarpine Walk



A Sydney girl who made her tree change to 'Tumba' eight years ago, Laura found love here and is now kept wildly busy with three kids under five and a café-cum-cinema to manage. It's a charming space in a reclaimed Masonic lodge, and what was doubtlessly once an austere environment is now a vibrant hub serving delicious food, and offering a boutique armchair cinema experience – complete with dinner and wine.

Alternatively, the Tumba Bakery draws a crowd most mornings, and this sunny Tuesday was no exception. We befriended a group of bikers, who were more than happy to sing their praises of the region, its windy roads with breathtaking vistas tickling them rather pink. It's little wonder this region attracts the two wheel brigade, both of the motored and human-powered variety.

SUGARPINE WALK

After a mandatory visit to the antique shop on the main street, we headed out of town to find the famous Sugarpine Walk near the town of Laurel Hill, 22km north of Tumbarumba.

A popular spot for wedding photography, the Sugarpine Walk is simply an isle of cleared pine trees amongst a forestry plantation, but it's rather beautiful. Tall, perfectly straight trees frame the cleared isle like a crowd of giant onlookers, their discarded needles forming a spongy carpet underfoot. The canopy whirs in the breeze high above, giving the illusion that perhaps, just over the next hill, you'll find the ocean. The trunks and branches creak and crack at random, causing one to whip one's head around in expectation of a companion in these otherwise lonely woods. It's all very whimsical, and you'll want to pack your camera.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

We then headed over to the Pioneer Women's Hut, where we

From top: Nest Cafe serves the best coffee and food in town; the pet-friendly Tumbarumba Creek Caravan Park is conveniently located to town



TUMBARUMBA CREEK CARAVAN PARK

The Tumbarumba Creek Caravan Park is a lovely green park with mature trees offering shady sites, and has an assortment of cabins to suit most familial arrangements. A two minute walk to the main street, there is no more convenient place to set up your van in Tumbarumba. Pets are welcome.

were told we'd gain a vivid picture of the lives of Australian women from bygone times.

We pulled onto the museum grounds and parked the car, doing a double take at the silhouette of a bloke and two kelpies atop the property's gentle hill. Inanimate, as it happens, and as we made our introductions to museum volunteer Ann Thoroughgood, we quickly learnt the sculpture is of her late father, who ran sheep and cattle on this property and founded the Glenroy Heritage Reserve on which the museum now stands.

The main museum building – built from recycled prison cells from the nearby Mannus Correctional Centre – houses a quirky collection of domestic items that tell the tale not only of their owner or maker, but of pioneer Australian women more broadly. From hats made of tussock grass to hand-sewn dresses, the ingenuity of country women is evident everywhere you look. Most pieces were donated by relatives of their former owners, and the display tells the story of many of them.

But the jewel in the museum's crown is its quilt collection, where a wonderful assortment of handmade patchwork quilts are laid out upon antique beds, the stories of their maker presented at the foot of the bed. Ann tells me they wanted to collect something that would be both beautiful and sentimental, something that would tell deeply personal stories: a blanket made for a little boy to stay warm on the train back from boarding school; a quilt that grew layers like a tree throughout the years as the family of its maker moved to ever colder parts of Europe before migrating to Australia. These deeply personal tales are sewn together like a patchwork quilt to tell the broader story of our nation. It's really quite touching.

A SPARKLING TOWN

After soaking in all that wonderful colonial history we were able to

Right: freedom camping on the Murray River at nearby Jingellic Reserve



deduce one thing: we deserved a glass of wine. So it was off to Courabyra Wines, 6km northwest of Tumbarumba via a very pretty drive through the countryside.

Cathy Gairn greeted us at the cellar door with a mottled German shorthaired pointer dog by her side, and welcomed us into a room filled with flowers with incredible views across the vineyard to the mountains beyond. With a kids' playground and a menu that had me wishing it was lunchtime (homemade gnocchi gets me every time), I couldn't help but imagine whiling away an afternoon here amongst the stunning gardens, grazing casually on produce grown on site by Cathy, a former horticulturalist.

But alas, I was working, so it was time to get down to business and sample the wines. I know what you're thinking, it's a filthy job, but someone's gotta do it.

Cathy chatted excitedly about how she was heading to Sydney the following day to rub shoulders with industry big wigs; her sparkling wine had again won the best sparkling in NSW and she was off to collect her prize. Stocked in some of the best restaurants in Sydney, this wine is evidence of Tumbarumba's growing reputation as one of the best cool climate wine growing regions in Australia. Needless to say, I swiftly purchased a couple of bottles to enjoy in the sun that weekend. And yes, it was delicious.

PUTTING ON A SHOW

We finally tore ourselves away from Courabyra and made a beeline for a property to the west of Tumbarumba for what we'd heard was going to be quite the treat: the Boggy Creek Show.

Created and performed by fourth generation mountain cattleman Tim O'Brien, the two hour show is a thoroughly entertaining and often funny demonstration of life on the land, both past and present. Tim is a talented animal trainer, as evidenced by the impressive performance of his

From top: The Pioneer Women's Museum tells of the resourcefulness of women in the bush; Emma inspects early growth at Courabyra Wines; stars of the Boggy Creek Show, the hard-working Australian kelpies





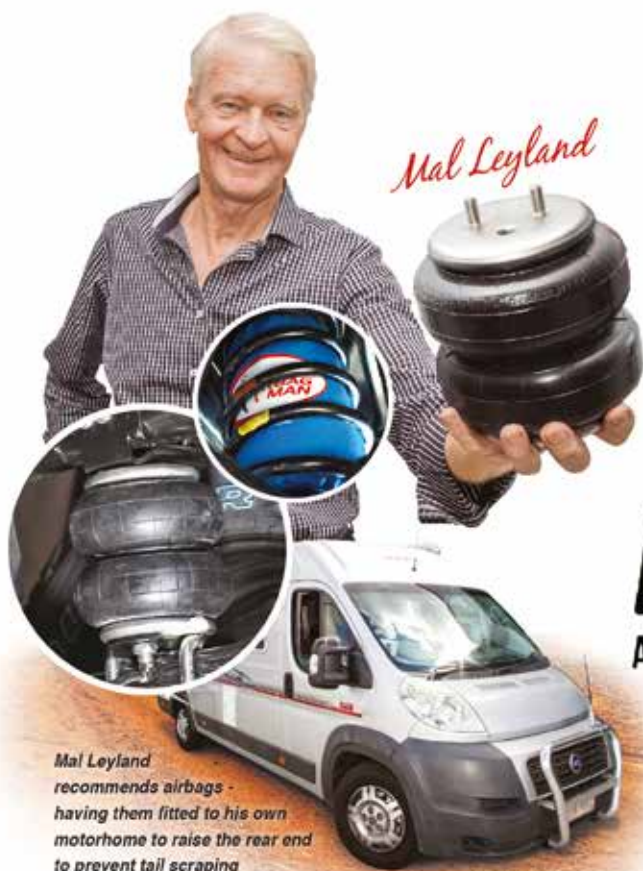
working kelpies, horses, ponies, goats and even pigs. Choreographed to music and performed in the custom built arena set against the backdrop of the Snowy Mountains, the show is a fun exploration of Australiana filled with herding, horse work, whip cracking, pony races, shearing and more. Tim is entertaining and charismatic, and the show is well worth checking out. For us, it was the perfect way to end a wonderful day exploring Tumbarumba.

Above: set against a backdrop of the Snowy Mountains, the Boggy Creek Show is lots of fun

FREEDOM CAMPING

The Snowy Valley boasts some great freedom campsites. Here's our pick of the best, within a stone's throw of Tumbarumba.

- **Henry Angel Track Head:** Located just 7km from Tumbarumba, this is a sprawling, grassy freedom camp offering plenty of space, lots of shade, flushing toilets, BBQs and undercover picnic areas. Its lush greenery and mountain backdrop, combined with its proximity to town, make it our pick of the bunch.
- **Paddy's River Flats:** 18km outside Tumbarumba you'll find this flat, grassy campsite on Paddy's River. It has firepits, picnic tables and toilets.
- **Jingellic Reserve:** There's lots to love about this one, from the shady sites to the scenic location on the banks of the Murray River. Best of all, it's right next door to the historic Bridge Hotel. Jingellic is 45km southwest of Tumba. The pub has showers and toilets, so buy a beer or a meal to gain access. 🚗



Mal Leyland

Mal Leyland recommends airbags - having them fitted to his own motorhome to raise the rear end to prevent tail scraping



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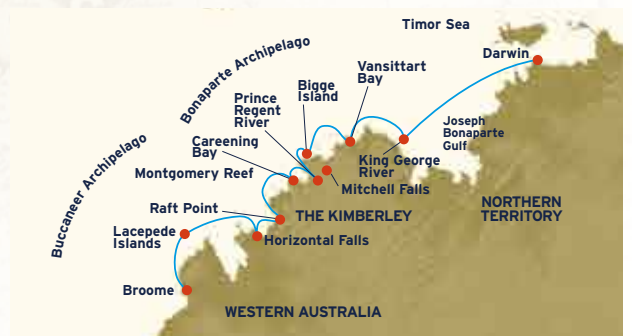
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Katherine Sellers explores the
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PHOTOS BY KATHERINE SELLERS Q77503 AND SUPPLIED

Wallaman Falls



PHOTO: KATHERINE SELLERS

We had passed through the Hinchinbrook region of North Queensland several times but hadn't managed to have a good look around, until now. The newly-opened CMCA RV Park Ingham was an incentive to stop overnight. Warmly greeted by the custodians, we were provided with information, pamphlets of what to see and do, and directed where to park our motorhome. With the sun setting we settled into our camp chairs with a drink and antipasto plate (purchased from the Italian deli Lou's Emporium located two blocks away in the main street), and planned our sightseeing activities for the next couple of days. As the light faded, hundreds of silhouettes whooshed overhead, which turned out to be an enormous colony of flying foxes in search of their nightly food.

EXPLORING INGHAM

After a peaceful sleep, we woke to a bright and clear morning, perfect for an early ride around the cane fields and township of Ingham. Cycling is an easy way to explore an area without following the usual signed routes, and we often stumble across interesting sights. The magnificent display of Mediterranean mausoleums at the New Ingham Cemetery about 5km out of town is impressive. The uniform rows of crypts and chapels adorned with Italian names and ornate colours, resemble a miniature village set in amongst well-manicured gardens.

Heading back towards the town centre we followed the sealed track of the Great Palm Walk, over creeks and through lush tropical trees and plants to the Ingham Memorial Botanical Gardens. Inside the Bicentennial Bush House, there are numerous orchid and palm varieties, an inspiration for any lover of native gardens. The squeak and chatter from high up in the adjacent trees answered our question as to the origins of last night's mammal exodus.

Also in the gardens is the

Right: Ingham Botanical Gardens and the many rows of sugarcanes.

PHOTO: TOURISM AND EVENTS QUEENSLAND



PHOTO: KATHERINE SELLERS



Immigrant Remembrance Wall, commemorating the eclectic mix of settlers who made their mark in the founding of Ingham; including the town's namesake, Englishman William Bairstow Ingham. He came to the district to make his fortune in 1873, only to lose it all four years later, and then meet an untimely end in Papua New Guinea.

On the south side of town is the 271 acre (110 hectare) TYTO Wetlands site, which is a must for the avid twitcher. Boasting more than 240 different species, more than two-thirds of all Australian bird species, this land was destined to be developed until a couple of enthusiastic locals stepped in to save it. Armed with water, hats, sunscreen, insect repellent, camera, and a map from the helpful information centre, my husband and I managed to clock up 6.5 kilometres walking on the well-formed paths around lagoons and woodlands.

Bird songs accompanied us, and as we rested in hides along the way, only the sound of wings flapping and feet breaking water broke the silence. We spotted a few birds such as the colourful rainbow bee-eater, a red-browed finch, the majestic great egret and a white-bellied cuckoo-shrike. We were not so lucky to see the wetland's namesake; the *Tyto capensis*, or eastern grass owl. Timing and luck are everything.

Returning to the information centre we checked to see if we could add any new bird sightings to the daily board, and expanded our flora and fauna knowledge through the informative and interpretative displays. We completed our visit crossing the sugar cane bin architectural walkway to climb the 11-metre tower for 360-degree views of the wetlands and township.

Guided tours of the wetlands are available on Tuesdays and Saturdays only, and if we had more time, we would have also included a visit to the Regional Art Gallery. This natural and cultural precinct in the heart of Ingham is a real credit to the town's citizens.

PHOTO: KATHERINE SELLERS



Right: TYTO Wetlands

The drive to Australia's highest permanent single drop waterfall, Wallaman Falls, takes about an hour from Ingham. The now fully-sealed road skirts cane fields, passes through cattle grazing on and beside the road, before climbing up the range to Girringun National Park. It's best to visit in the dry season, from April to September; however, it can rain anytime so drive with caution. It's called the wet tropics for a reason! If the weather is clear, make a stop halfway up for sublime views of Hinchinbrook Island and the Herbert River Valley. Keep an eye out for the endangered southern cassowary as you journey to the top. Plunging 268 metres

from the escarpment to a 20-metre pool below, Wallaman Falls is truly spectacular. From the lookout, those with a good level of fitness can tackle the 3.2km return walk through vine forest to the base of the falls. Remember you have to come back up! There is an easier 800m Banggurruloo loop along the banks of Stony Creek at the camping and day-use area, where platypus, water dragons and saw-shelled turtle hang out in the rock pools.

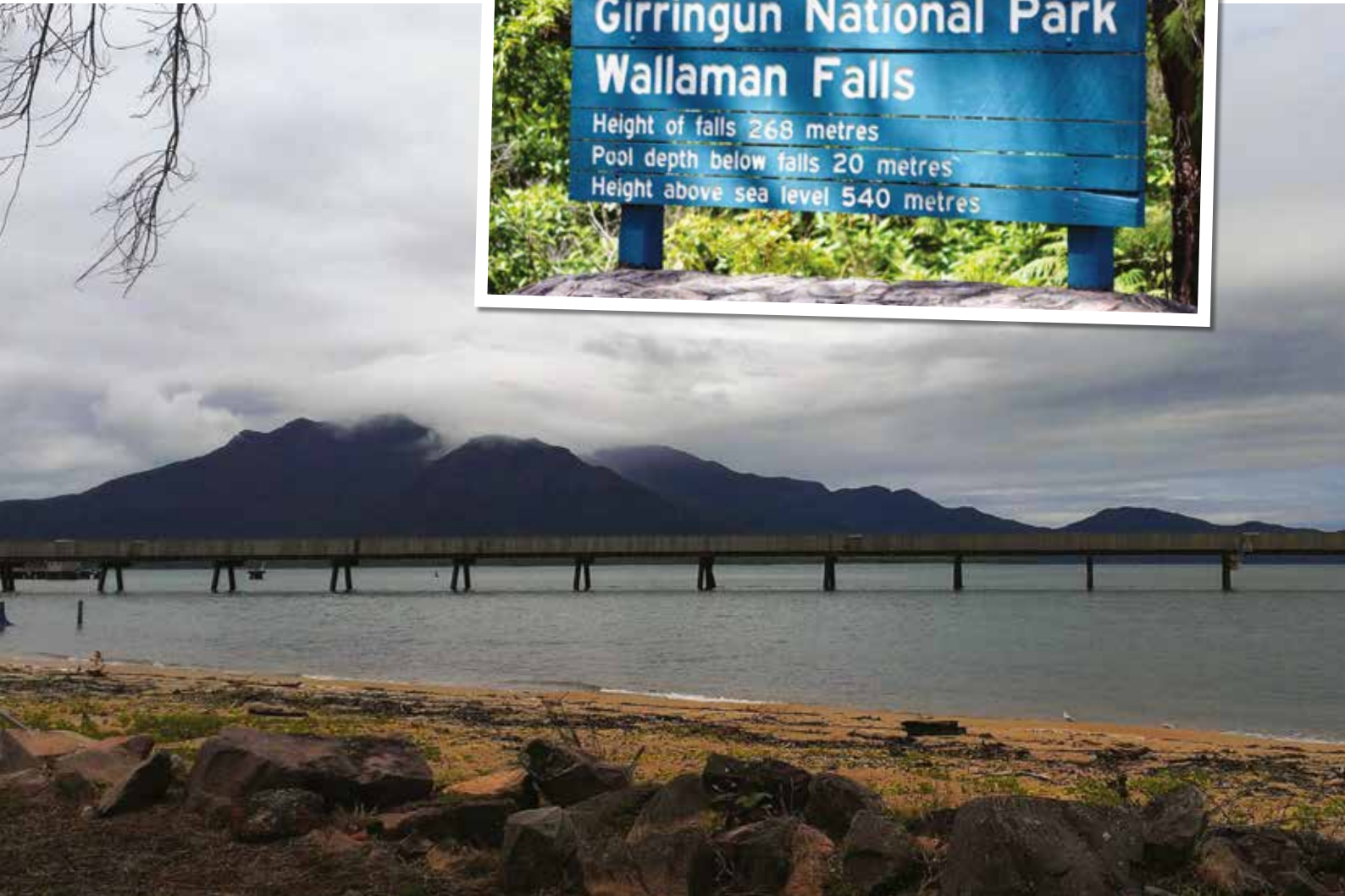
Returning to Ingham, we stopped at the 100-year-old historic post office at Trebonne along the way. This quaint wooden building is still serving the community, for an hour each weekday afternoon. After

another big day sightseeing, we bought some freshly cooked local fish with chips from Wild Local Prawns around the corner and returned to the CMCA RV park for a friendly chat, and another flying fox display.

HINCHINBROOK

The next morning we continued our tour of the Hinchinbrook region by turning east off the Bruce Highway for Lucinda, via Halifax. We passed Victoria Mill, once one of the largest sugarcane mills in the southern hemisphere, with its three tall steam stacks clearly visible in the distance. From June to November, the mill crushes 3.74 million tonnes of sugarcane, and recycles its waste

Below: Hinchinbrook Island



into energy and feeds power back into the electricity grid. The raw sugar produced is then transported by rail to the port village of Lucinda, home of the world's longest offshore sugar loading facility with a 6km long jetty stretching out to sea. A pity it's off limits to the public, as a spin on the bike here would have been fun!

Australia's largest island national park, Hinchinbrook Island, looms majestically in the background with its chain of rainforest clad granite crags rising to 1121 metres. As the closest mainland connection, Lucinda is the departure point for boat fishing charters in the channel or access to the well-known 32km Thorsborne Trail. The Palm Island Group is also nearby, which includes the luxury resort island of Orpheus.

The sleepy main street of Halifax, once the hub of the Herbert River district, is lined with heritage-listed mango trees and historic building facades. During the warmer months of December and January, the smell of mango hangs heavy in the air as abundant fruit falls from the trees and ferments in the hot sun.

Looping back onto the highway the road climbs north for some fantastic views of the Hinchinbrook Channel. There's a lookout at the top – well worth the stop, if there is no cloud, to take in this magnificent World Heritage Area.

There is plenty more to explore along the Hinchinbrook Way, so we will just have to come back another time. Perhaps for the

PHOTO: TOURISM WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Main: Hinchinbrook Island
Above: A white-bellied Cuckoo-shrike



annual Australian Italian Festival in August, as the delicious fine homemade food was definitely a highlight of our stay.

The warm welcome from the custodians, plus the facilities of water, dump point and flat ground provided an easy choice for us to stay an extra night and enjoy what Ingham and surrounds has to offer.


JOURNEY PLANNER



GETTING THERE

CMCA Members whose vehicles meet the Self Contained Vehicle (SCV) Policy can stay at the CMCA RV Park Ingham, cnr Cooper and Davidson Streets, Ingham, QLD, during the dry season.

MORE INFO

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In real world terms, this means you can plug your 12v fridge directly into the ITECH900a and run it for up to 10 hours before any recharge is required. Or you could use the ITECH900a to run a 12v sleep apnea CPAP machine overnight. Now that's some serious power from a product that is so compact, lightweight and easy to store in your glove box.

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HOT TO TROT

Brigitte and George Prince catch all the action of the Tara Camel Races, before a rainforest reprieve

STORY AND PHOTOS BY BRIGITTE AND GEORGE PRINCE Q67212





One of our Logan/Moreton Rambler members offered to organise an extra outing to this special event. So it was that 16 rigs camped for a couple of nights at Oakey Creek, before heading into Tara together. I felt this free camp was preparing my nostrils for the Camel Races, which I heard can get smelly. My sister thought it might be silage, but whatever it was, it spoilt the otherwise lovely, peaceful, rural setting for me, though others focused on the beautiful wide open spaces. It really is an excellent freedom camp, when not smelly. Fortunately, the offending odour was not an omen for the coming event, which we couldn't fault at all.

ESTABLISHING CAMP

The little town of Tara buzzes with life every second year when the community hosts the Tara Festival of Culture and Camel Races. We hadn't been there before, and were astounded, and impressed, with the experience. All were welcome to set up camp the Wednesday morning preceding the races, providing ample time to catch up with friends and yarn around campfires (with wood available and delivered) in the lead up to the main events.

We'd never seen so many vans, even at a National Rally! It was claimed there were 1,600 vans with a total of 15,000 people attending the festival on the main day. We don't know how the organisers kept the camping costs so low at \$25 per van for up to five days, including hot showers and toilets. Another \$35 provided three-day access to all the events and entertainment, and there was certainly plenty of that. Everything seemed to run so smoothly, from the entry to the campground, parking, provision of sufficient amenities, to the efficient scheduling of events.

RACING ACTION

Camel races are notoriously funny as the camels will do their own thing, and often head off in the wrong direction. I didn't watch too many, as being a softie I don't like to see animals hit with the crop, but we did see one camel streak early down the straight, with the



dismayed rider looking over her shoulder at the stationary line-up. No need to use a crop here that's for sure! The announcer explained camels don't always co-operate at the starting line, as once they are facing the track, they're ready to run at full gallop. Yabby races were new to us too and we were amazed at the high prices punters were bidding for each yabby, as they were auctioned off. Some fetched more than \$300! Once all are placed in the middle of a

ring, the first yabby to crawl to any edge of the circle wins. Apart from the races, which ran Friday, Saturday and Sunday, there were also sheepdog and shearing demonstrations, chainsaw and sand sculpting displays, multiple cultural demonstrations, roving entertainers, the 'Globe of Death' motorbike display, many market stalls, helicopter, camel and horse-drawn rides, plus a wide range of food offerings, bar and coffee stalls, and great raffles. The



Clockwise from far left: Never a dull moment at the camel races; racing down the straight; there's something for kids of all ages

“Camel races are notoriously funny as the camels will do their own thing, and often head off in the wrong direction.”

special children’s corner with fairy floss and other delights featured a mechanical bull, with clown entertainment for those waiting in queue.

George enjoyed a memorable birthday at the races, with many in our group sampling quinoa, chocolate and avocado cake for the first time.

SO MUCH ON OFFER

With the Camel Races and much of the entertainment starting

on Friday, we were ‘wowed’ with an impressive fireworks display, followed by cultural entertainers. We found it impossible to attend all that was on offer; with two stages plus other arenas. Judah Kelly, the recent winner of The Voice, was very popular, with people claiming seats an hour and a half before his performance was due to start. On Saturday morning there was a street parade in which all the children of the community participated. It was Book

Week parade with a cultural, international theme. A large number of countries were represented, and the kids were dressed in all sorts of colourful and imaginative costumes, providing a delightful display. There was even a miniature Donald Trump look-a-like! It was obvious the whole town and surrounding communities supported this impressive festival in so many ways.

Sunday morning started with a short, early church service followed



by a poet's breakfast. We are used to several poets taking turns to present, but Gary Fogarty was the sole entertainer and he held us captive with his tall tales. Off for a coffee after this and I was astounded to see chai latte crossed out from the menu. Fancy running out of something so fancy, so quickly, way out here?

All weekend there were Latin dancers and drummers, a Bollywood band, a Caledonian pipe band, a Caribbean steel band, a Chinese musical duo, a Reggae/Latin and soul band, Indian musicians, Indigenous performers, country musicians, Haka dancers, Polynesian and belly dancers, as well as some buskers. What a birthday party for George! It will be hard to trump that. It is a pity that we will have to wait another two years to appreciate this biennial event again.

WARM WATERS

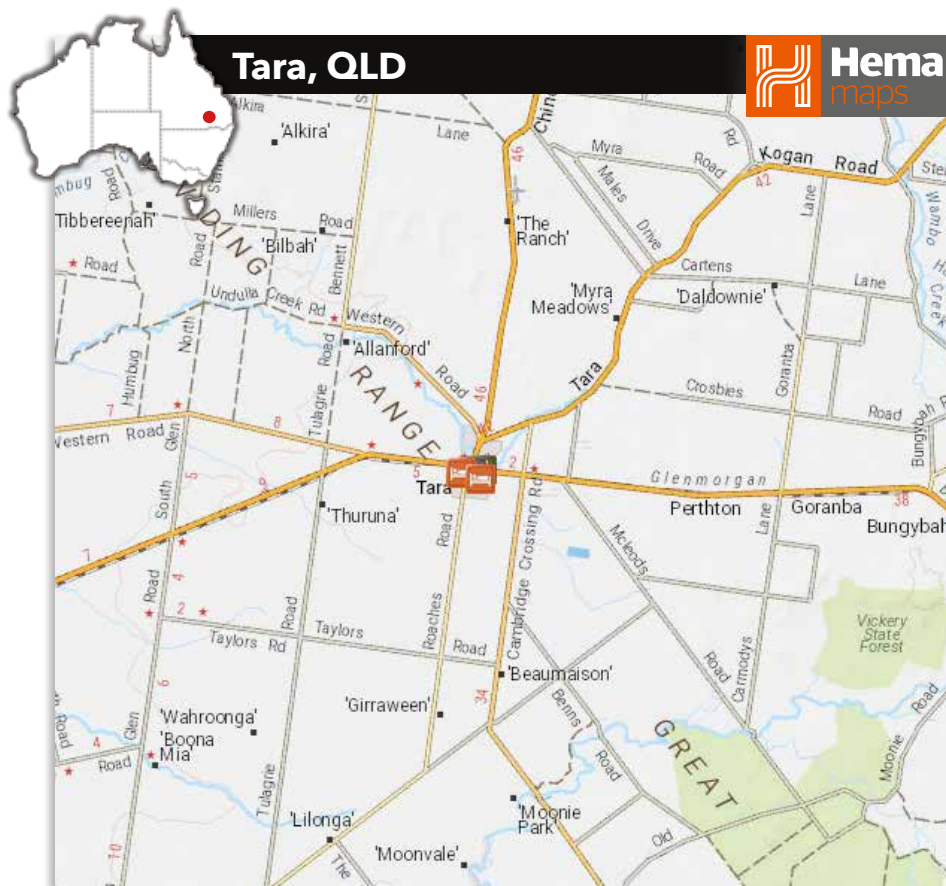
Leaving Tara, we bid our farewells to our friends for a wonderful camp in Goondiwindi, near the NSW/QLD border, and the therapeutic Boomi Hot Springs. We enjoyed the artesian springs so much, we headed for more at Moree. The Gwydir Thermal Pools Motel and

Caravan Park, with its range of heated pools, had recently taken over a deserted nearby resort. A huge artesian spa pool, with several waterfall features and changing coloured lights, was housed under a dome. There were plenty of change rooms and amenities plus a resort-style ambience, with potted palms, huge television screens and modern beach furniture. We couldn't resist the offer to camp over at this new area for only \$17 per night, including power, as the park was still a work in progress. Walking back to our van after an evening appreciating the warm water in the Gatsby-style surroundings, we looked up to the stars and the clear, full moon added an enchanting touch. George had more delights in store as he drove us to another one of my favourite spots, Dorrigo. Although reaching there meant an overnight stay in Armidale (where the water pipes froze and we woke to ice on the ground in the morning), it was worth it once we reached the road known as Waterfall Way. I rate the Wonga Walk through the rainforest at Dorrigo highly, but we'd forgotten how long and steep it was, so we hadn't taken a water bottle. However, with three waterfalls



Clockwise from far left: Celebrating a hard fought camel win; experience a range of cultural entertainment; the impressive Crystal Shower Falls; a sparkling display of pyrotechnics





to admire including Crystal Shower Falls (which you can walk behind), the two and a half hour walk provided an abundance of beauty, so there were no regrets. We concluded our day at Dangar Lodge, next to Dangar Falls. The spectacular views were particularly picturesque at dawn, as we rose to another day of new adventures.

JOURNEY PLANNER



GETTING THERE

Tara is about 300km west of Brisbane via Dalby, and 343km from Moree via Goondiwindi and Boomi. Tara Camel Races and Cultural Festival returns August 2-4, 2019 at the Tara Showgrounds.

MORE INFO

The Gwydir Thermal Pools Motel and Caravan Park
www.gwydirthermalpoolsresort.com.au.
 Visit: www.tarafestivalncamels.org.au.

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AND WE'RE AWAY!

Stylish and smooth to drive, it's not hard to see why you'd want a Wirraway 260SL

STORY BY MALCOLM STREET PHOTOS BY JACK MURPHY



Mildura, located on the Murray River in Victoria, might seem an odd place for a motorhome manufacturer to be located, but in fact, it's typical of Australian motorhome manufacturers to be based further afield. Wirraway is a boutique manufacturer, and under Rob Tonkin has found a successful market niche, building mostly a range of B class motorhomes. A typical example being the 260SL, the 260 being 26ft (7.9m) and the SL being a slide-out.

THE VEHICLE

Mercedes-Benz Sprinter is the Wirraway choice for its 260 range and this vehicle has a 519 CDI cab chassis that comes with a 3L V6 turbo diesel that puts out a maximum of 140kW and a very torquy 440Nm. It also comes with a GVM of 5250kg, which is higher than the normal Benz specification of 5000kg, and requires an LR licence. Having a Tare of 4600kg gives the motorhome a load capacity of 650kg.

BODYWORK

The most noticeable feature of the 260SL is of course the offside slide-out. It takes up more than two thirds of the wall area, and is electrically driven. For those who

worry about such things, there is also a manual override.

Another noticeable item is the external storage capacity, of which there is plenty. Much of the storage is drawer based, which is very handy, but the rest are more conventional. There are of course the usual dedicated bins for batteries and gas cylinders, but I particularly like the ones at the nearside rear, which contain a very user friendly slide-out barbecue, and tank connected hose reel. Apart from anything else, it makes it easy to wash the motorhome down, even if not connected to mains water.

In the body building department, the 260SL has a chassis built from RHS aluminium which supports a 12mm plywood floor. Composite styrofoam/fibreglass vacuum sealed panels form up the wall structure, which includes double glazed acrylic windows and the Dometic door with glass insert. The two pack epoxy paint finish sparkles in the sunshine, increasing the longevity of the vehicle. An option fitted to this motorhome is the levelling – very handy when using the slide-out.

ON THE ROAD

Driving the 260SL is certainly a pleasure. Being fitted with the most powerful of the Sprinter engines,

the 140kW 3L diesel delivers the grunt when needed, but otherwise just cruises along. Certainly the Mercedes automatic gearboxes are some of the smoothest and most responsive in the business. Noise wise, there are certainly some of the expected rattles and grunts from the rear, but nothing that couldn't be fixed with a towel or cushion in the right place.

STEP INSIDE

Wirraway motorhomes come with a choice of interior decor, either a more traditional Tasmanian Myrtle timber or a modern white contemporary look. In this case, the 260SL has the latter and the overall effect is a light and bright interior. Having the full width bathroom across the rear of the motorhome does result in the perception of a very spacious interior.

There are some slide-out based motorhome layouts I have seen where the slide-out looks a bit like an afterthought rather than being integrated into the overall design. Not here, because built into the slide-out, working from rear to front are an east-west queen bed, fridge with microwave oven above and, up front a sideways facing lounge. Of course the driver's cab seats swivel around, thus forming an area for lounging and dining – the sideways









Clockwise from main: Malcolm Street (far right) enjoys a beverage under the awning with motorhome owner Ray Muster and Adventures Group's El Rattray. Left; inside, the stylish Wirraway houses all the home comforts.

SPECIFICATIONS

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

External length 7.9m (26ft)
External width 2.25m (7ft 5in)
Internal height 2m (6ft 6in)
Travel height 3.15m (10ft 4in)
Tare 4600kg
GVM 5250kg

ENGINE

Base vehicle Mercedes 519 cab chassis
Engine 3L V6 turbo diesel
Gearbox 5 speed automatic
Max power 140kW@3800rpm
Max torque 440Nm@1400-2400rpm
External

Brakes All wheel disc brakes
Fresh water 140L
Grey water 80L
Batteries 2x110AH
Solar 1x130W
Air-conditioner Air Command Ibis
Gas 3x4.5kg

Internal

Cooking Dometic Oven/Grill/hotplates
Fridge Dometic AES 184 litre 3 way
Microwave 27L microwave
Toilet Thetford China bowl
Shower Separate round cubicle
Lighting 12V LED
Hot water Truma 14L

OPTIONS FITTED

Levelling system
 Satellite TV
 TEC29 internal start generator
 Washing Machine

PRICE AS SHOWN

\$239,000 plus options of \$16,500

CONTACT (MANUFACTURER)

To enquire about this motorhome, for more information or to find your closest Wirraway dealer visit www.wirraway.com.au or phone (03) 5023 0230.

lounge having a detachable table, which is stored under the bed when not being used.

The Wanderer editor Kirstie Bedford was equally impressed with the Wirraway.

"It is a really beautiful motorhome, with a stylish bathroom and kitchen, liquor cabinet, and power points at every turn, including three in the roomy ensuite alone," she says.

"There's ample storage under the bed, a full-length pull-out pantry, and large fridge. In the ensuite is a washing machine and separate shower. For couples wanting a luxurious home-away-from-home, this motorhome is definitely the one for you."

For Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) CEO Richard Barwick, the build quality of the Wirraway was something to be commended.

"It's a quality vehicle, which is well-made, some of the features will allow members to enjoy the comforts of home, especially with the good storage capacity complemented by the quality of the décor."

He said the motorhome was great value for money.

"Vehicles like this will always retain their value. Wirraway has a strong reputation in the market place for producing an excellent product. The attention to detail in the vehicle is an added attraction."




Above: Ray Muster in his new Wirraway 260SL

POWERING UP

Sophisticated power systems sometimes put people off but in this case the 120A batteries, 130W solar panel, 25A smart charger and auto filling of the drinking water tank is all controlled by a control panel located above the entry door. That area is where the water tank, generator controls and radio/CD player are fitted, so everything is centrally located. A benefit of the electrical control system is that it's either set and forget or can be played with by those more technically inclined.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Whilst much attention is grabbed by the spacious interior of the 260SL, where the accent is very much on living area, the outside of the motorhome has much to offer as well with both its Mercedes-Benz undercarriage and the external bins that give not only easy storage access but a good number of external lifestyle features as well. 

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LESSONS OF AN LR LICENCE

Kirstie Bedford talks through the trials and tribulations of getting a light rigid licence

PHOTOS BY AARON FLANAGAN AND SUPPLIED

Failing doesn't sit well with me, it never really has, but sometimes it teaches you a good lesson.

In my case, I learned that lesson after failing my first light rigid licence theory test. It was only by one point, but it was still a fail, made worse by the fact that my CEO, Adventures Group's Rob Gallagher sat it the same day, and passed. You can imagine my afternoon. It was low, but it was a very good reminder of the seriousness of obtaining a licence.

It's not that I didn't take it seriously, I just thought it would be a whole lot easier. Knowing exactly how many metres to place cones when stopped in a 12 tonne truck, and how far I can park a bus from an unmarked railway crossing didn't seem relevant for a licence to drive a motorhome.



But, such is the nature of the licence, you have to understand the workings of a fatigue management diary, and what to do with hydraulic and auxiliary brakes in an emergency, so it was back to the books, for the entire weekend.

With the help of my 12-year-old son (who was determined nothing was going to stop us taking the Paradise Independence Deluxe motorhome up the east coast of Queensland for nine days), I studied the *VicRoads truck and bus drivers' handbook*, and when I re-sat the theory, under the watchful eye of the great team at TDT Training, I passed with flying colours (well, practically).

Making me feel somewhat better, TDT Training told me that it is the most failed component of the licence, and many fail by up to 24 questions.

SO WHY DO IT?

In my case I had committed to driving the seven tonne, 28-foot Paradise to the CMCA rally (with the family in tow), and, as editor of *The Wanderer*, I want to be able to intrinsically write about the experiences readers are having.

For others, besides the legal requirement, it's about having confidence when driving a big rig, or a bus full of school children.

TDT Managing Director Dr Brett Roberts says the reason for getting a licence is also quite simply one of safety.

"Heavy vehicles are not cars and cannot be driven or handled the same way, they are longer, wider and heavier. A common error with new drivers is that they think the truck will respond the same way as a car and as a result they don't give themselves enough time to



Above: Adventures deputy editor Peter Quilty is given instructions pre his testing by Dee Carlton at TDT Training.



From above: TDT Managing Director Dr Brett Roberts; Editor Kirstie Bedford driving the Paradise Independence Deluxe after passing her test.

“Heavy vehicles are not cars and cannot be driven or handled the same way. A common error with new drivers is that they think the truck will respond the same way as a car.”

– Dr Brett Roberts

TDT Training says it has seen an increase in LR/MR licences in the last 12 months alone by about 10%, with about 800 licences delivered through its branches in 2017.

THE PROCESS

Your first requirement is to sit the theory test. My advice is don't just flick through the handbook and do a few online tests. Study it thoroughly.

Our trainer Mike Rinaldi, who has been training since 2004, says like me, most people fail the first time. He says it's because of the complexity of the questions, and how they specifically related to the truck sector, so if you are getting a

licence to drive an RV, or a bus, and you aren't immersed in industry, it becomes a little tougher.

However, the process in sitting the theory is really quite easy. You turn up and the staff ask you to fill in a bit of paperwork and then you are escorted into a quiet room, and you are given one of a series of tests. You can get six questions wrong to pass.

It's best to do the theory at least two days before the practical because you can only re-sit it twice on one day, so if you fail twice, you need to go back another day.

The practical is typically a full (or half) day of driving training, followed by a driving test. The trainers are personable, helpful, and they'll even take you for a cuppa to calm the nerves!

Regardless of how long you've been driving, in my case 25 years, don't underestimate the process the trainers will put you through. You need to be vigilant at all times, and as Rob Gallagher says, anyone looking at driving a motorhome, or large caravan, should consider doing it, even as a refresher.

“When I recently picked up a motorhome in the Northern Territory with my family, I was far more comfortable driving it than I would have been had I not done the test. When it comes to compliance and safety, understanding the way to drive this size of vehicle, you'll feel much safer having done it.”

He says it also leaves you with a greater awareness of the challenges of heavy vehicles as a normal driver.

“Having gone through it, you know when a truck can or can't see you in their mirror, where before you tend to make assumptions.”

prepare, be it stopping, turning or changing lanes.

“Training helps reduce accidents. At TDT we aim to provide our students with the best possible knowledge and skills to begin them on their journey.”

And, if the stats are anything to go by, more people are realising the importance and value in having a heavy vehicle licence.



It's something I too felt incredibly helpful when driving the Queensland coast to the CMCA rally in Bundaberg. You come out of the test considering truck signs, road signs and road markings, where as before-hand it's easy to become complacent.

Gallagher says as a business focused on consumer safety in this category, "I'd like to see courses like this become more common practice. It can only be a positive step in helping keep drivers safe."

As to the future of training, Dr Roberts says while technology will increase, nothing beats driving experience, "when dealing with heavy vehicles, online training can never replace time behind the wheel. There may be a move to more online theory and knowledge training, but the only way to learn and experience a heavy vehicle is to spend time in the seat driving and preparing for all possible road situations".

TOP TIPS

- Study, study, study
- Practice the modules available and provided to you on TDT's website via its e-learning system, the 'Moodle platform' - road rules can differ from state to state, so it's best to follow the tests you are given by your training professional
- On the day of practical test, wear sensible shoes and be prepared for a long intense day - get a good night's sleep and eat well that morning
- Remember if I can get it, then so can you!

LICENCE CLASSES

Light rigid (LR)

- Has a gross vehicle mass (GVM) more than 4.5 tonnes but not more than 8 tonnes
- Seats more than 12 adults (including the driver) and has a GVM not more than 8 tonnes

Medium rigid (MR)


- Has a GVM more than 8 tonnes and has no more than 2 axles

Heavy rigid (HR)

- Has a GVM more than 8 tonnes and has 3 or more axles (whether or not the wheels on those axles are on the road)
- A bus consisting of more than one rigid section, which are connected to one another so as to allow rotary movement and passenger access between the sections

Heavy combination (HC)

- A prime mover to which is attached a single semi-trailer that has a gross vehicle mass (GVM) more than 9 tonnes plus any unladen converter dolly
- A rigid motor vehicle to which is attached a trailer that has a GVM more than 9 tonnes plus any unladen converter dolly

For more information, see your local government transport website. Here you'll find a list of approved training and testing providers. 



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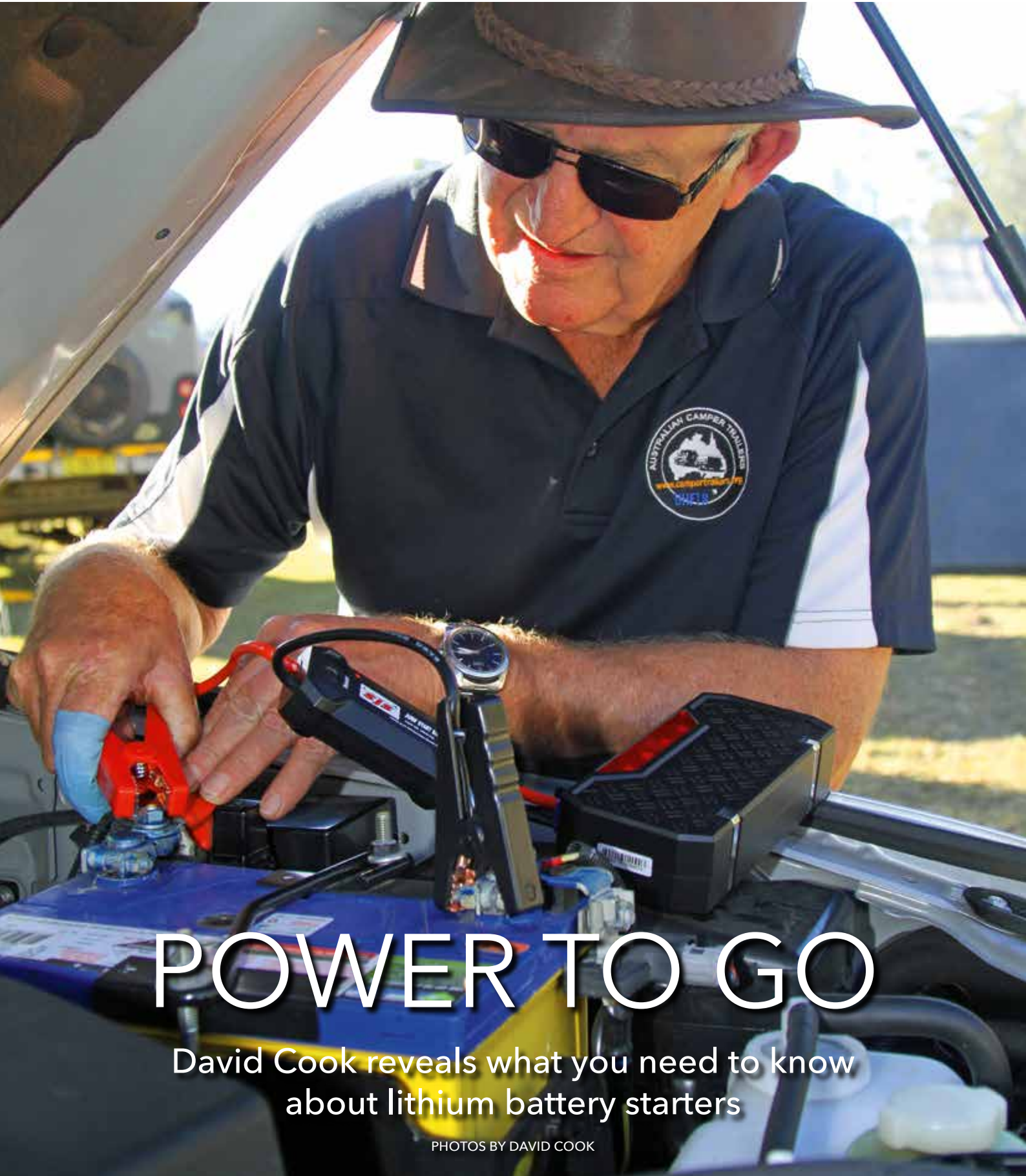


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POWER TO GO

David Cook reveals what you need to know about lithium battery starters

PHOTOS BY DAVID COOK

When you're frequently on the road, a little doubt niggles every time you feed your key into the ignition: will there be that reassuring spin followed by the engine bursting into happy life? Fortunately, those doubts usually evaporate and without thinking we accept the systems operating our vehicles will serve us well. But every now and then they fail to the sad, slow turn of the crankshaft or worse still, to a 'click, click' sound.

THE BATTERY HAS CARKED IT

In the past, a jump start required a willing traveller able to get their battery close enough to yours for the jumper leads to reach, or one those handy, if hefty, jump starters, with leads connected to wet cell battery encased in a poly box.

But in recent times, small lithium polymer battery packs are now claiming to achieve the same thing.

The sales hype quotes figures in the many thousands of milliamps (mA) and we are assured one will fit in our shirt pocket or handbag. But can they really do the job? Well, the short answer is mostly yes, but sometimes, no.

A unit's ability to start a vehicle depends on its stored power capacity, the type of vehicle, and the degree of discharge in the vehicle's battery.

IGNORE THE MILLIAMPS

A milliamp is just one thousandth of an amp, and they look better than amps, because there are more of them. It's best to ignore the quoted figures for amps and cold cranking amps, the usual measure for a battery's ability to turn over an engine. Manufacturers may quote a peak amperage at the jumper unit's terminal, which lasts a nanosecond or so, and is well over what's sustained at the battery clamps for even a few seconds. A watt-hour (Wh) rating is more reliable, where one watt-hour equals the consumption of a watt of energy for one hour, as it must meet a global standard for transport purposes.

WHY GO LITHIUM?

Although older wet-cell starters are effective back-ups for your



batteries, technology has improved the functionality of our battery-powered items. Lithium-based batteries sustain their voltage output from fully-charged to almost dead flat, are quicker to charge, hold their charge longer, are generally more tolerant of misuse and are much lighter and smaller than battery with other chemistries.

All lithium battery packs should have over-discharge protection. Generally, the power pack will turn off around 8.5V to 9.5V. In terms of jump starters, this means considerable savings in size and weight - with many units weighing less than a kilogram. Some can be used as torches, have USB ports for charging phones or laptops, or connections for tyre compressors. In referring to "lithium polymer" (often shortened to LiPo) we are more correctly talking about lithium-ion technology that uses a high solid (gel) polymer electrolyte instead of the more commonly used liquid electrolyte.

There are no Australian standards for these products but many power packs cells are UL-rated, which is a stringent USA standard.

CAPACITY

Engine size greatly impacts in the demands made on a jump starter, simply because of the number

and size of components that must be turned over. Generally, petrol-fuelled vehicles will require minimum output peak current of:

- 4 cylinders 150-200 amps
- 6 cylinders 200-400 amps
- 8 cylinders 250-500 amps

Diesels, which have much higher internal compression ratios, will require minimum compression capacities of:

- 4 cylinders 300-500 amps
- 6 cylinders 400-700 amps
- 8 cylinders 600-1200 amps

These figures can be regarded as minimums, so aim for something higher if you can afford it to ensure you have a margin of safety.

OPERATING EXTREMES

Many jump starters will operate in any ambient temperature you're likely to experience in Australia but some won't, so do your research, and read all the instructions before use. The temperature in a vehicle boot can reach 90 degrees Celsius or more on a hot day, and that will be above the operating maximum for any jump starter. At lower temperatures (around freezing) the performance of any jump starter will be greatly impaired. Extremely low temperatures will impose an added load on any jump starter attempting to turn over an engine by slowing the chemical reactions which produce the current flow.

Do your research and read the documentation on your proposed unit to ensure you are within operating parameters.

CABLING

Look for a unit that has well-shielded sturdy battery clamps: the harder they are to put on the better they will grip the battery terminals and do their job of making a good electrical connection. The larger the gauge of the cables the less resistance to current flow to the vehicle's battery and so, the more efficient it is likely to be. You also don't want excessively long cables, to minimise resistance, but not so short that you can't comfortably connect the terminals and have the jump starter battery securely seated on surrounding structure (don't sit it on the battery).

START-ELING CLAIMS

Be wary of claims regarding the number of 'starts' that can be made from a jump starter pack. A completely flat battery in a car will draw much more from the jump starter battery than one that is down only enough to just prevent the car's starter from cranking over the engine. The number of starts on

one charge will depend on the state of the vehicle's battery.

KEEP IT CHARGED

One of the biggest problems that is likely to arise in the use of a battery jump starter is that it may not be fully charged when you need it. Despite its lithium technology it will slowly self discharge, so you need to have a disciplined approach to keeping it topped up from the mains supply at home - put it on your checklist of pre-trip things to do. Read your unit's paperwork, as some recommend charging annually, others every three months. If uncertain, a regime close to the latter will help sustain the battery and won't create any problems. These are complex and sometimes delicate devices, as illustrated by some of the warranties, which are as short as six months.

SAFETY

LiPo batteries adhere to stringently-enforced aircraft transport regulations for a reason, so be sure to take care. So always use the dedicated charging unit to maintain your LiPo jump-starter, or any other appliance

From far left: The Endeavour Tools ET6797 Jump Starter/Power Bank and the units selected to test

CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS

All lithium cobalt polymer (lithium ion common name) battery cells are 3.7V each. There are usually three cells in a jump start power pack connected in series (3S), which gives a nominal voltage of 11.1 volts. Fully charged they are usually 12.5V. To determine the capacity in a lithium battery power pack, e.g. 120Whrs, divide by 3.7V = 32,430mAh (32.43Ahr), or 3.7V x 32.43 = 120Whrs. This is the formula that is used worldwide for all shipping and airfreight. To convert watt-hours to amps divide by volts. In other words a 120Wh jump starter pack will produce a notional 10 amps (120 divided by 12) in a 12V system. Overstating of battery capacity in these products is quite common so be aware. Battery capacity provides power. The larger the capacity the more jump start power the unit should have. Like any type of battery the price you pay is related to the claimed capacity of the battery pack. A very rough guide as to the maximum peak amps at the jumper clamps you should expect when jump starting a vehicle is to multiply the claimed capacity in watt hours by a factor of 10. For example, a claimed 60Whrs capacity x 10 should produce a maximum peak current at the clamps of 600A. The maximum cell power claims in the thousands of amps can be a little confusing. MCP is the claimed absolute power output of the battery cell itself for a period of less than 0.5 seconds. As it takes longer than 0.5 seconds to jump start a car one would assume that MCP is a marketing ploy, but not quite so. Generally the higher MCP claim will give you a higher claimed maximum peak current and maximum start current. Maximum peak clamp current is the current required to initially turn the engine over for around three seconds until the flywheel and inertia of all the moving parts in the engine takes over. We are indebted to Ross Loudon, Managing and Technical Director of Smart Jump Starters for his assistance with this.



with a rechargeable battery for that matter. Labelling and checking your chargers before plugging them in will avoid this issue.

Overcharging, excessive discharging, over-temperature, short circuit, crush or penetration issues can cause structural failure, leaking electrolyte and fire. That said, the appropriate design of ancillary equipment minimises these risks, but as with all lithium-polymer battery-powered items, you are dealing with something with high-energy density - which you shouldn't be casual about.

TAKING TO THE AIR

For air transport, 160Wh is the maximum battery capacity permitted and it must be carried on as hand luggage and be in its enclosed carry case with the terminals not exposed. Always check an airline's battery policy before fronting up to the airport, as it can change regularly depending on any recent happenings around the world. ✈️



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HOLIDAY DRILL

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
ANTHONY 'MACCA' MACDONALD

'Tis the season to be eating

Christmas is a time to catch up with friends and family, to plan for the future, and to reflect on the year that's been.

It's also all about enjoying great food, but you may prefer to spend your time relaxing, rather than cooking, so we've whipped up some simple celebration favourites that are sure to please any crowd.

SALT AND VINEGAR FISH IN BEER BATTER

1 cup (125g) plain flour, plus extra
for dusting
1 egg, whisked
1 tsp garlic powder

½ tsp ground black pepper
1½ cups (375ml) beer; stout works well
40g pack of salt and vinegar chips, crushed
600g firm fish fillets

PREPARATION

In a bowl, add the flour, egg, garlic, pepper and mix until combined. Add the beer and mix until combined.

In the meantime, crush the packet of chips with a rolling pin. Dry the fish with paper towel, then dust in a plate of flour before dipping the fish in the batter. Roll the battered fish in the crushed chips and pat firmly to help chips stick to the fish. Shallow fry in vegetable oil.

TASTY BARBECUE CHICKEN MARINADE

½ cup brown sugar
½ cup balsamic vinegar
½ cup soy sauce
¼ cup olive oil
2 tbsp worcestershire sauce

2 tbsp sesame oil
4 cloves garlic, chopped
½ tsp ground black pepper
1.5kg chicken pieces or wings

PREPARATION

Whisk together the brown sugar, vinegar, soy sauce, olive oil, worcestershire sauce, sesame oil, garlic, and pepper, until the sugar has dissolved.

Add your chicken to a large zip-lock bag and pour in the marinade. Refrigerate for two hours or overnight. Cook over the grill section of your barbecue, brushing liberally with leftover marinade.



CRUNCHY ASIAN SALAD

750g Asian cabbage, finely chopped
1kg carrot, shredded
4 or 5 spring onions, finely chopped
250g frozen peas, cooked and cooled
Salt to taste
Handful of flat-leaf parsley, chopped
Handful of coriander, chopped

For the dressing
½ lime, juiced
3 tbsp vegetable oil
2 tbsp white wine vinegar

PREPARATION

Put the dressing ingredients into a bowl, whisk well and set aside. Mix together the cabbage, carrots, spring onions, and peas. Sprinkle with a little salt, mix again and leave to stand for five minutes.

Pour the dressing over the vegetables and mix well. Stir in the parsley and coriander just before serving.

The dressing can be made a day ahead. 🚚



FRANK SCATURCHIO N93013

BEEF STROGANOFF

INGREDIENTS

- › 1 tbsp olive oil for frying
- › ½ kilo rump steak (sliced very thin)
- › Butter 100g
- › 150-200g button mushrooms (sliced fine)
- › 1 brown onion (sliced fine)
- › 2 tbsp plain flour
- › Beef stock or water
- › Good splash of mushroom soy sauce
- › Small splash of white vinegar
- › Dollop of sour cream
- › Salt and pepper

METHOD

- › Heat olive oil in pot and cook rump in batches so it doesn't stew, then remove and put on a plate
- › Add butter to pot and stir in brown onion and mushrooms, till tender and cooked
- › Add plain flour and cook for 1-2 minutes over reduced heat. Slowly add beef stock or water, stirring constantly until you have a nice sauce
- › Add a good splash of mushroom soy sauce
- › Small splash of white vinegar, salt and pepper. Stir well
- › Return beef to mixture



Winner!

Congratulations to Frank Scaturchio, who has won a Beaver StoneRock 22 (10-piece) Cooking Set, StoneRock 28cm Wok, and a StoneRock 28cm Grill – valued at \$252.

Made in Italy from 99.5 per cent pure aluminium, this space-saving cookware set is a super lightweight alternative to the usual pots or pans. Their specially designed bases ensure that heat is distributed evenly, and their interior all feature a food-grade, non-stick coating. Beaver cookware is suitable for use on gas and electric hobs and can even be put into the dishwasher! The handles and lids are interchangeable, and as far as storage goes, everything packs into once compact unit.

Visit www.rvpartsexpress.com.au for more information.

For your chance to win one of our fantastic prizes, send us your own on-the-road-recipe and a great photo of the meal!

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125 Hawthorn Rd Caulfield North, VIC 3161 or editorial@cmca.net.au



\$252 VALUE!

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SOUTHERN STROLLS

Chris Whitelaw shares some of his favourite southern strolls

PHOTOS BY CHRIS WHITELAW



A cove on Snake Lagoon walk



1 TIDAL RIVER

Wilsons Promontory NP, VIC

Wilsons Promontory (aka 'the Prom') is the southernmost point of the Australian mainland. Tidal River, 30km inside the park boundary, is the focus for tourism and recreation, with numerous walking trails fanning out from here through temperate rainforests and coastal wilderness to towering granite mountains and sugar-white beaches.

One of the best day walks begins at the carpark opposite the visitor centre and meanders on a 1km boardwalk (the Loo-Errn Track) over pristine wetlands to the south bank of Tidal River. Crossing a footbridge, with platforms allowing access for fishing, the trail climbs to Tidal Overlook, the highest point between Norman and Leonard Bays, with panoramic views across the riverine wetlands to Mount Oberon.

The trail soon intersects a circuit that encompasses Pillar Point. Turning right leads to an outcrop of granite boulders with splendid views toward the rocky summit of



Above: Footbridge across Tidal River

Mount Bishop. Continuing on the circuit track through banksia heath and wildflowers takes walkers out along the ridge to Pillar Point, a headland with breathtaking views of Norman Beach and Mount Oberon to the south, and Leonard Bay to the north.

From the headland, walkers can either continue the loop back to Tidal River or pick up the Squeaky Beach Track for a moderate 2km (one way) descent through bushland to Leonard Bay. Either way, a refreshing swim awaits you at a magnificent surf beach.

JOURNEY PLANNER



GETTING THERE

Camping is available at Tidal River campground, 225km south-east of Melbourne.

MORE INFO

Conditions are suitable for hiking and camping year-round. Visit www.parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/wilsons-promontory-national-park for more

2 DOVE LAKE HIGH CIRCUIT

Cradle Mountain NP, TAS

Cradle Mountain is the starting point of the iconic, multi-day Overland Track, but the majority of visitors come to Dove Lake on a day pass, looking to step out on one (or more) of the many excellent walks in the area.

The most popular is the Dove Lake Loop Track, a 6km (Grade 2) circuit that takes about two hours. But for those looking for a more challenging excursion, the Dove Lake High Circuit is highly recommended. This Grade 4 hike begins at the lakeside carpark and follows the Dove Lake Loop along the eastern shore to Glacier Rock, the top of which affords an excellent view across the lake to Cradle Mountain.

Further on, it connects with the Lake Rodway Track, where chains have been installed in rough gullies to assist the steep ascent towards Hanson's Peak (1185m). At the top, the track continues south across

an exposed granite saddle with spectacular panoramic views. Just beyond Lake Hanson and the Twisted Lakes is a junction where the Face Track diverts steeply towards Little Horn (1355m), then skirts beneath the dolerite ramparts of Weindorfers Tower and Smithies Peak.

Part way along this section, the Lake Wilks Track descends the mountain (using more chains) past an alpine tarn to re-join the Dove Lake Loop and return via the primeval Ballroom Forest and the boat shed back to the carpark.

According to my Fitbit, this is about 10km, 15,000 steps and 161 floors – and a fantastic way to see one of the best-known natural wonders in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.



Above: High above Twisted Lake

JOURNEY PLANNER



GETTING THERE

Camping is available at Discovery Parks – Cradle Mountain, 1.5 hours' (90km) south of Devonport.

MORE INFO

Conditions are more reliable in summer and autumn. Visit www.parks.tas.gov.au/natparks/cradle or www.discoveryholidayparks.com.au/tas for more.

3 SNAKE LAGOON Flinders Chase NP, SA

This rugged wilderness is at the western extremity of Kangaroo Island. As well as iconic features like Admirals Arch and the aptly named Remarkable Rocks, the park contains a network of walking trails, including the 4.2km (return) Snake Lagoon hike.

This popular 'Great South Australian Short Walk' is of moderate difficulty and begins at the secluded Snake Lagoon campground. The trail is a flat and sandy path for the first kilometre as it traces a ridgeline through woodland of mallee and sugar gum. This is a great opportunity to observe some of the abundant wildlife, including Tamar wallabies, Rosenberg's goannas, short-beaked echidnas, scarlet robins and golden whistlers.

Gradually, the track descends into Rocky River Valley and crosses the watercourse on a footbridge, which may be submerged when the river is swollen by winter rains. In the arid heat of summer, the

river can shrink to a chain of isolated billabongs above the crossing, while below it the valley floor is exposed to reveal a corridor of bare serrated ridges and folds of rock.

For the next kilometre, the trail meanders beside rock formations in the riverbed that become increasingly dramatic as it approaches the mouth. Near the end, the river cascades (seasonally) over a jagged waterfall before tumbling the last few hundred metres onto a snowy-white sand beach. At the shore of this clandestine cove, the surf rolls in off a turquoise Southern Ocean to complete a scene of coastal splendour.



Above: Isolated billabong in the Rocky River Valley


JOURNEY PLANNER



GETTING THERE

Snake Lagoon campground in Flinders Chase NP Visitor Centre is about 130km west of Penneshaw where the ferry from the mainland operates.

MORE INFO

Conditions are most favourable in spring and autumn. Visit www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks for more. 

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WHAT'S NEW

SMOKY SENSATION

Outdoor entertaining is one of the best parts of the summer months, and nothing beats a barbie. Cooking with wood adds a delicious flavour into the meat, and is guaranteed to wow your guests. The Fornetto range is the perfect way to do this, with the popular Razzo all-in-one smoker able to roast, steam or barbecue a variety of meat, seafood, fish, and vegetables. The perfect accompaniment of course, is Fornetto's Smoking Chips which come in a range of flavours, including Red Wine Barrel. There's also other flavours including Muscatel Barrel and Cognac Barrel. Time to fire up the cooker and invite the neighbours over!

Fornetto Smoking Chips
RRP: \$12.95
Visit: www.fornetto.com

MOUNT IT UP

In today's day and age, having your devices at the ready to capture those special moments and stay connected really matters. However, convenience and safety is important too. REDARC now stocks a wide range of RAM Mounts, for phones, laptops, GPS units, and other electronic devices, perfect for mounting to cars, trucks, boats, and even motorcycles. There are more than 80 different bases,

arms and device holders with endless combinations, and you can change the direction or angle of the device simply by loosening a single knob. The unique design also reduces vibration - perfect if you're on rough outback roads.

REDARC Ram Mounts
RRP: From \$18.73, prices varying according to mount
Visit: www.redarc.com.au



COMFORT CLOSE BY

Beating the heat in the Aussie summer is a constant battle in the great outdoors, especially when power is at a premium. Thankfully, Close Comfort introduces the PC9+plus air-conditioner, which the company claims will slash your energy bills by about 85 per cent. Requiring no installation or pipes to operate, the lightweight PC9+plus air-conditioner simply plugs in and is good to go, for easy operation at happy hour under the awning.

The new Close Comfort PC9+plus operates at 300W (less than four light bulbs), weighs just 17kg and moves on castor wheels for cool air wherever you go. It uses a refrigerant to cool, not water or ice so it's self-operative, and unlike split system air-conditioners, windows can remain open allowing fresh air to circulate the room. Trialled in Pakistan at temperatures reaching 53.3 degrees Celsius, it will easily keep you cool.

Close Comfort
RRP: \$649
Visit: www.closecomfort.com.au



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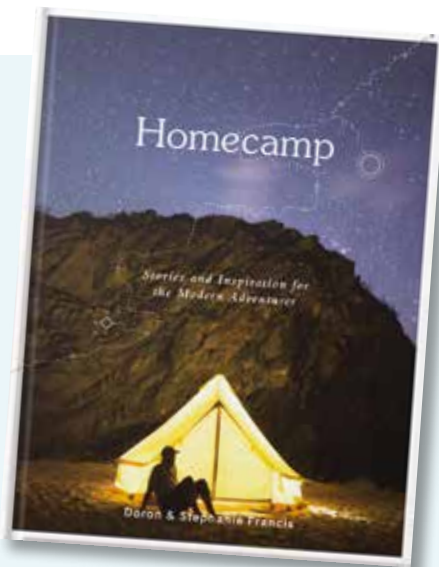
An icy beverage to end a steamy summer day travelling is not just welcome - in the Australian climate, it's a necessity! Thankfully, the new range of Pelican Elite Coolers is the perfect chiller, taming tempers in the Aussie outback extremes.

Climate-wise, the coolers are up to task and backed by a lifetime guarantee: 'You break it - we replace it - forever'. This is thanks to the corrosion-resistant stainless steel hardware, ultra-tough handles and heavy duty wheels used for moving around camp. Available in two models and a range of colours, the 80QT and the 50QT include latches, freezer-grade seals, and a graduated floor for draining. Pelican says they can retain ice for 10 days, effectively ending the tyranny of the lukewarm beer.

Pelican Store

RRP: \$429.95 (50QT) and \$599 (80QT)

Visit: www.pelicanstore.com.au



LIFESTYLE INSPO

If you've ever fancied throwing in your job and society's trappings for a life in a shipping container in the middle of the forest, then Homecamp by Doron and Stephanie Francis is for you! It outlines fascinating real-life stories of everyday people who dared to do something extraordinary by embarking on an adventure. While most of us put getting back to nature full time in the 'too hard basket', Homecampers prove it's easier than we might think. Along with incredible photography and inspirational adventures, Homecamp offers how-to guides for enjoying life in the natural world, and looks at everything from finding the perfect campsite to foraging for food and the best campfire coffee brew.

Homecamp

RRP: \$59.99

Visit: www.homecamp.com.au



SMART SOLAR

Embarking on a remote extended tour is exciting, but you need power to maintain comfort in our unforgiving extremes. Happily, Projecta boosts self-sufficiency off the grid with its new range of automatic four-stage Smart Solar Charge Converters.

The new controllers offer a four-stage charging process and can be set to suit a variety of battery types: Wet, AGM, or Gel. What's more, two 5V 2.4A USB ports let you charge phones, cameras and similar devices directly from the controller.

An easy-to-read, digital LCD screen displays battery voltage, charging current and capacity, as well as fault codes. Each controller is equipped with a low voltage disconnect function to protect the battery from damage. Other benefits are a built-in temperature sensor for each unit to optimise charge performance and offer additional protection.

Projecta Smart Solar

RRP: Priced from \$155 each for the SC220 base model
(subject to change pending reseller specials)

Visit: www.projecta.com.au



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Image: Peter Anderson

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Membership application form

New member's no. (office use only): _____

Name of referring member: _____ Membership no: _____

PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK LETTERS

Based upon the information supplied in this application, persons who own a qualifying vehicle may be granted ordinary membership and those who do not own a qualifying vehicle may be granted associate membership.

SECTION A

Applicant's name: (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other) _____

Preferred name: (to be printed on membership card) _____ D.O.B: ____ / ____ / ____

Mobile: _____ Email: _____

Partner's name: (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other) _____

Preferred name: (to be printed on membership card) _____ D.O.B: ____ / ____ / ____

Mobile: _____ Email: _____

Postal address: _____ Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Residential address: _____ Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone home () _____

SECTION B

YES, I would like to be listed in the Fellowship Directory (contact details of members willing to assist other members in times of need)

How did you hear about the club? Web Member Dealer Advertisement Show

Do you own* a qualifying vehicle (campervan / motorhome / fifth wheeler)? Yes No

Year: _____ Base vehicle make: _____ Model: _____ Reg no: _____

Conversion: completed by (e.g. factory name, DIY, etc) _____

Year: _____ Length: _____ (m) Height: _____ (m) Fully loaded weight: _____ (kg)

Do you own a caravan? Yes No

I/we declare that the information I/we have supplied in this application is true and correct. If this application sets out the particulars of a qualifying vehicle, I/we declare the accuracy of these particulars and that I am/we are the owner(s) of the vehicle described. I/we agree that if this membership application contains any false or misleading information, my/our membership of the club may be cancelled. I/we agree to abide by the constitution[†] of the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia Limited.

Applicant's signature: _____ Partner's signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

MEMBERSHIP COST:

Full and associate members – TOTAL \$60.50 (incl. \$16.50 joining fee and \$44.00 annual subscription)

Overseas members – TOTAL \$75.50 (incl. \$15.00 for overseas postage). (Prices include GST)

I enclose: cheque money order or credit card details payable to CMCA Limited for AU\$ _____

Credit card details: Visa Mastercard

Card number: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiry date: ____ / ____

Card holder's name: _____ Signature: _____

All information provided to CMCA will be used and maintained in accordance with the CMCA privacy policy[†].

[†]CMCA constitution and privacy policy may be viewed on our website www.cmca.net.au or a copy obtained from National Headquarters.

*Note: I/we own a qualifying vehicle where: (a) the qualifying vehicle is registered in my own name alone or jointly with another; or (b) I/we are lessees, hirers under a hire purchase agreement or parties to a financing agreement for the acquisition of the qualifying vehicle; or (c) the qualifying vehicle is owned by an entity which is related to me/us as defined in clause 9.1A(2) of the constitution.

Return application to: CMCA, PO Box 254, HRMC NSW 2310, Australia

CMCA Self Contained Vehicle (SCV) Application



Please view the full Self Contained Vehicle Policy on the CMCA website cmca.net.au/services/scvpolicy

The vehicle must have installed the necessary fit for purpose manufactured equipment to be considered as self-contained.

Water Supply

- The vehicle shall have a fresh water tank or bladder specifically manufactured for the storage of potable water. This tank may be on-board (fitted) or external (non-fitted).
- The fresh water tank should be of rigid construction with appropriate valves to prevent foreign matter or contaminants entering the tank.
- When travelling, any portable water container shall be securely fastened within the confines of the vehicle so as not to cause any hazard.

Sink/shower

- The vehicle shall be fitted with an installed and plumbed sink. Additional sinks, hand basins and shower are optional. Every sink, hand basin or shower fitted shall be supplied with water from the fresh water tank, and shall be drained to a grey water tank.
- External showers that are used for ablutionary purposes and in so doing create grey water would not comply. External water outlets used for rinsing or filling purposes are not seen as a grey water issue within the context of this policy.

Grey Water

- No grey water is to be discharged from a self-contained vehicle unless allowable by local authorities or access to a dump point is impractical.
- Sinks, and where fitted hand basins and showers, shall be drained to either an on-board (fitted) grey water tank or an external (non-fitted) grey water tank (tote).
- A tote shall be connected to the vehicle by a drainage pipe with a water tight seal and have a working shut off valve to avoid overflow.
- A tote may be used for discharging and transporting of grey water from any vehicle to a disposal point, providing the vehicle discharge point has a permanently installed shut off valve and the drainage pipe to the tote is connected by a water tight seal.
- When travelling, a portable grey water tote shall be securely fastened within the confines of the vehicle so as not to cause any hazard.
- Liquid waste is not to be collected or removed in open buckets or containers.

Toilet

- All black water is to be contained in holding tanks or cassettes to be disposed of in a dump point, or if no appropriate facility is available in accordance with the CMCA Bush Camping Code (www.cmca.net.au/cmca-documents/leave-no-trace/65-cmca-bush-camping-code-1).
- The vehicle shall be equipped with a toilet, installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Portable toilets: These must be a proprietary brand portable toilet manufactured for the specific purpose.
- When travelling, a portable toilet shall be securely fastened within the confines of the vehicle so as not to cause any hazard.

Rubbish

- A sealable refuse container to hold rubbish for disposal of a permanent or disposable type into an authorised disposal receptacle.

To qualify as a CMCA self-contained vehicle, the member vehicle shall meet the requirements of the SCV Policy.

Members who are satisfied their vehicles meet the SCV Policy may nominate their vehicle as self-contained on the CMCA website. Any nominated vehicle accessing a CMCA RV Park or other RV accommodation site limited to self-contained vehicles, will be required from time to time by the CMCA RV Park Custodian or other authorised person to demonstrate its ability to meet the SCV Policy.

DECLARATION

I/we hereby declare that our vehicle as described below, complies with the above regulations to be considered as self-contained and I/we have read the SCV Policy and adhere to the LNT Code of Conduct.

Name Member no. Signature Date

Name Member no. Signature Date

Vehicle/unit rego # Make Model

Manufacturer Year of manufacture

Please forward completed and signed document to: CMCA, PO Box 254, HRMC, NSW, 2310. Email: enquiries@cmca.net.au

The Regulating Authority of the Leave No Trace® (LNT) Code of Conduct and the CMCA Self Contained Vehicle (SCV) Policy is the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia Ltd. ABN 16 095 568 157. 49 The Avenue, Wickham NSW 2293. Ph: 02 4978 8788.

Leave No Trace® (LNT) Code of Conduct

As an environmentally conscious recreational vehicle owner, I/we hereby agree to the following:

- To have my vehicle comply with the CMCA Self Contained Vehicle (SCV) Policy cmca.net.au/services/scvpolicy and to display the SCV accreditation on my vehicle at all times.
- To stay in any approved rest area for the period that the accommodation vehicle can be self-contained or as designated by the relevant signage. This includes obtaining any necessary permission from controlling authorities and or payment of fees where applicable. When camping in other locations please observe the CMCA Bush Camping Code.
- To always take care of the natural environment and respect community facilities to ensure future generations of RV travellers can continue to enjoy what local authorities have provided.
- To park my vehicle so as not to obstruct reasonable passage, exit or access to other vehicles or property. To be courteous and do not park in a manner that impedes the movement of other vehicles especially in rest areas used by heavy transport.
- To dispose of all rubbish, and grey and black water in an appropriate manner.
- Where time and means permit, support local communities and businesses as an appreciation for the facilities that have been provided.

LETTER

of the month

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

I would like to thank all the motorhome travellers who gave way and moved off the highways or pulled up to let us pass during our journeys.

Even without UHF radios, we have been able to take 52 eight-and-half-metre wide dump truck bodies to Newman, WA, in the past 24 months from Newcastle, NSW.

Dave Hibbert N30642



TRUSTING YOUR INSTINCTS

My friend and I recently returned from a trip to Far North Queensland up to Cooktown and the Tablelands with my reliable old Mercedes-Benz Sprinter, called *Sprinting Frog* (the same as in the July 2017 edition of *The Wanderer*, page 77). On the way from visiting the caves near Chillagoe back to Mareeba, I noticed suddenly a funny noise when turning the steering wheel. On recommendation we went to Cairns to a special power steering business. All the mechanics listened to the noise, they had no idea what it could be and recommended avoiding the more remote inland route we had planned just in case something more serious happened.

At Balgal Beach a fellow traveller whom I told the story to, recommended a helpful diesel mechanic, who would surely find out what it could be.

What a shock to hear there that we could have had an accident at any time and we needed a new steering rack. It was ordered; we spent the night at a free-parking spot 25km away and then most of the waiting time at a nearby takeaway shop till the new rack was flown in. On the next day late afternoon (a Friday) the vehicle was ready to go - we thought.

While a mechanic went on a quick test drive, we wanted to leave as soon as the vehicle comes back, and went in the office to fix up the bill. The sum of \$2,900 was surely above my expectation. Asking for a discount as I had to pay cash (my reserve), I saved \$300 but did not receive a receipt when I asked for it. Happy that we would be able to continue our trip, I didn't bother. What a mistake. We were told the vehicle was safe to drive but we have to come back on Monday as it was still not performing to satisfaction. We found a caravan park only 5km away and spent the weekend there. After another six hours waiting on Monday, I had to pay another \$400 for other mechanical repairs - with no idea what for, really, and again got a discount of \$100. Again, I didn't get a receipt. But we got green light to go wherever we wanted to, everything should be just fine now.

Trusting that we had avoided a major accident and a bill like this belongs to a trip, we drove off with destination Julia Creek, before turning south and eventually home.

Towards Charters Towers on a straight road and less noise of traffic we realised that the wheels pulled to the right, the steering wheel (with

straight wheels) pointed to 11 o'clock and the noise was still there, only a bit softer. We did not drive back.

A helpful mechanic in Blackall aligned the wheels and fixed the steering wheel. I paid another \$75, no further problems and we enjoyed the rest of our trip.

At home I booked the Sprinter in for an oil change and told my trustworthy mechanic of six years the whole story. When I picked up the vehicle, he looked at me and shook his head: they had really ripped you off. He said the steering rack was not new, the mechanics forgot to put back brackets, screws were loose, a part touched the brake hose (we were lucky that it didn't start leaking) and the noise came from a pipe, which must have hit a rock and touched the motor block. The noise travelled up the steering rack like on a telephone line, starting the whole story. Replacing the steering rack was unnecessary. My mechanic even took photos just in case I needed proof. Apart from the oil change, I had to pay another \$250 to get the mess fixed.

Warning to all Grey Nomads in a situation like mine: trust your instinct and not all mechanics, pay a bit more and make sure you get a receipt.

Hedi Holtkamp V76232



CONTACT

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The Wanderer

✉ 125 Hawthorn Rd
Caulfield North, VIC 3166

Letters to be 250 words or less.

We reserve the right to edit all correspondence published at the editor's discretion.

Please include your contact details.

WIN!



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Congratulations to this issue's Letter of the Month winner. They receive a voucher (worth \$500*) from TR Telecom to rent the Iridium 9575 satellite phone for one month, free of charge!

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AROUND THE ROUNDABOUT

In Australia, unlike their counterparts in France and Spain where the landscaping can be almost a work of art, roundabouts are generally utilitarian.



One of the more interesting examples is in Norseman WA.

Corrugated iron has been used to create a camel train around the circle.

The town of about 900 people is at the end of Eyre Highway.

It began life as a camp for gold miners after Lawrence Sinclair in 1894 discovered a rich reef who named the area after his horse, Hardy Norseman.

The mine is Australia's longest continuously running operation and was at one time second only to Golden Mile Kalgoorlie in value. A huge tailings dump dominates the town.

John Geeves Q10648

FINAL JOURNEYS

DAVID WESTCOTT N72008

The members of the Golden West Wanderers, NSW, are saddened by the passing of David Westcott after a long battle with illness. All our thoughts are with Alicia and family.

Sue Henry
Publicity Officer, N51315

ANNE VICKARY Q30105

It is with great sadness The Suncoasters advises that member Anne Vickary passed away on July 5, 2017, after a long illness. Anne put up a great fight to the end. She was a committee member of our chapter for almost three years and her contribution is greatly appreciated. We will miss her bubbly, smiling personality, and her morning teas will always be remembered. Our sincere condolences to Merv, Rachel and Liam.

Sue Denham
Secretary, The Suncoasters, Q44702

DAVID "PETE" PEDERSEN Q 72385

The Barron River Ramblers were deeply saddened by the passing of our friend and club member David "Pete" Pedersen. Pete fought bravely for well over a year before passing away on the 11th July. As we gathered in Atherton to pay our final respects, we were reminded once again of Pete's life. An Army Cadet for six years in his early years, it was a natural progression to the New Zealand regular army during which time he met his lifelong partner Margaret, a member of the Australian Army Signal Corp. Married in New Zealand, Pete and Marg returned to Australia and Pete began a long career with Immigration based in Canberra. Pete was also a member of the Police Force.

Pete gave many years of voluntary service to the community, 25 years in the scouting movement and both he and Margaret dedicated their retirement years to the local SES in Atherton. A Deputy Controller of the SES, Pete was at the forefront in fund raising for vital equipment such as a Ferno Traverse Mule, a rescue stretcher, necessary for the local unit to assist the community in times of need.

A true friend and a very fine gentleman, Pete will be dearly missed by Margaret, his family and all his friends.

Meg Leavis
Secretary, Barron River Ramblers, Q44914

3 Regions Winery Safari

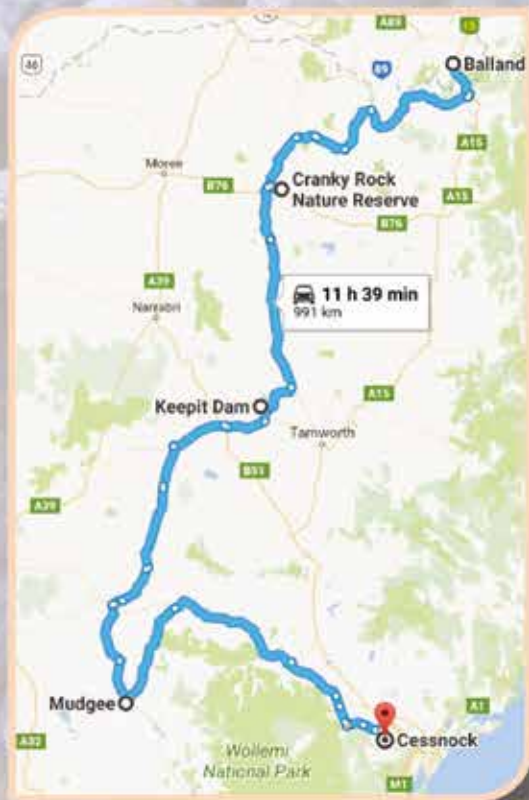


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- **9 February** – A coach will collect you from the winery for a half day winery coach tour, returning to Ballandean at lunch time
- **10 February** – Depart Ballandean this morning for Cranky Rock Nature Reserve, where you can enjoy bush walking or dip in the rockpool (happy hour provided)
- **11 February** – Lake Keepit, camp on the lake and enjoy a BBQ dinner
- **12 February** – Head to Mudgee today where you'll stay at a winery
- **13 February** – Coach tour of Mudgee wineries and lunch at a winery
- **14 February** – Head to the Hunter Valley and stay at Nightingale Wines in Broke, where you'll enjoy wine tasting and a delicious evening meal in the restaurant
- **15 February** – Coach tour of some of the Hunter Valley wineries, the Smelly Cheese Shop and more. Enjoy lunch along the way at a winery
- **16 February** – Today's a free day, sit back and relax, or discover more of the area. Enjoy a farewell dinner together



\$1700 couple
\$1370 solo

This is a short getaway, giving you the opportunity to enjoy the food and wine of several regions, staying on-site where possible.

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RV Friendly Town: Rosewood, QLD

Sitting 20km west of Ipswich, Rosewood offers a unique and vibrant township infused with country hospitality, heritage beauty, and village charm. With a small population of 2,834, the town's border is marked by the Bremer River to the south and the decommissioned Marburg Branch railway line to the north.

Parking is available at Rosewood Showgrounds, where unpowered sites are offered at a rate of \$12 per vehicle per night. To have access to power, a rate of \$15 per vehicle per night applies. A maximum stay of seven days exists, and the rates include access to showers, toilets, and water. Conveniently, a dump point is also located at the showgrounds, as is potable water.

Explore this quaint little town with visits to the popular Cobb & Co display, St Brigid's Church, and the Rosewood Heritage Trail. Be sure to also check out the intricate arts and crafts that line the main street. Rosewood is a beautiful town, offering visitors plenty to see and do.

Tourist/visitor information centre	Ipswich Visitor Information Centre Queens Park, 14 Queen Victoria Pde, Ipswich Ph: 07 3281 0555 www.discoveripswich.com.au
Casual parking (near retail centre)	Railway St, Albert St, and Matthew St
Short term parking	Rosewood Showgrounds, corner Railway St and Showground Ln, Rosewood. Maximum seven consecutive nights, \$12pvpn unpowered, \$15pvpn powered, mobile coverage, showers, bins, toilets, water
Dump point	Rosewood Showgrounds, corner Railway St and Showground Ln, Rosewood Lat Long: -27.640203, 152.599264
Potable water	Rosewood Showgrounds, corner Railway St and Showground Ln, Rosewood



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RV Friendly Town: Bigga, NSW

Bigga is a lovely little village in the Southern Tablelands of New South Wales, and is the gateway to Lake Wyangala and the Grabine Lakeside Inland Waters Holiday Park. Being the closest town to the lake, Bigga makes for an excellent base to explore both the surrounding waterways and Keeverstone National Park.

Short term parking is located at Bigga Recreation Ground on Mulgowrie Street, and parking is only available to those travelling in self-contained vehicles. At no charge, vehicles can stay on site for up to 72 hours, and access to bins, showers, toilets, and water is available. Both a dump point and potable water are located at the grounds.

Bigga sits high on the Great Dividing Range, near the junction of the Lachlan and Abercrombie Rivers. The town's elevation provides magnificent views of the surrounding countryside, so don't forget to keep your camera handy on your visit to Bigga. The Grabine Lakeside Development draws thousands of visitors to the area annually, where they enjoy boating, water skiing, fishing, hiking, and four-wheel driving.

Tourist/visitor information centre	Crookwell Visitor Information Centre 36 Goulburn St, Crookwell Ph: 02 4832 1988 www.visitupperlachlan.com.au
Casual parking (near retail centre)	Bigga Recreation Ground, Mulgowrie St, Bigga
Short term parking	Bigga Recreation Ground, Mulgowrie St, Bigga. Nil charge, self-contained vehicles only, 72 hours, pets on lead, no mobile coverage, showers, bins, toilets, water
Dump point	Bigga Recreation Ground, Mulgowrie St, Bigga Lat Long: -34.082748, 149.153057
Potable water	Bigga Recreation Ground, Mulgowrie St, Bigga, near the shower block



RV Friendly Town: Macarthur, VIC

Macarthur is a small rural township, located 311km west of Melbourne. The town was named after General Edward Macarthur in 1857; however, prior to this it was known as Eumeralla, an aboriginal term thought to mean 'Valley of Plenty'. The town offers a small service centre including a pub, post office, chemist, rural supply store, and milk bar.

Macarthur Recreation Reserve, located along the Port Fairy-Hamilton Road, allows parking for up to 72 hours. Donations are requested for unpowered sites, and for those requiring power, a fee of \$10 per vehicle per night applies. A dump point is located at the site, along with toilets and barbecues, and a limited water supply is also available. Pets are permitted on leads.

Macarthur serves as a gateway to Mount Eccles National Park, popular for its long dormant volcano Mount Eccles, also known as Budj Bim. Within its crater lies the tranquil Lake Surprise, as well as a variety of walking trails including the Natural Bridge and Lava Canal.

Tourist/visitor information centre	Mooney's General Store, High St, Macarthur VIC
Casual parking (near retail centre)	High St, Macarthur
Short & long term parking	Macarthur Recreation Reserve, 5158 Port Fairy-Hamilton Rd, 72 hours, \$10 pvpn power, donation for unpowered, pets on lead, toilets, limited water, BBQ
Dump point	Macarthur Recreation Reserve, 5158 Port Fairy-Hamilton Rd Lat Long: -38.0387, 142.0061
Potable water	Macarthur Recreation Reserve, 5158 Port Fairy-Hamilton Rd





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RV FRIENDLY TOWNS

NSW (76)

- Aberdeen
- Adelong
- Armidale
- Ashford
- Balranald
- Barraba
- Bathurst
- Bega
- Bigga
- Bingara
- Boggabri
- Branxton
- Bulahdelah
- Canowindra
- Cobar
- Cobargo
- Coleambally
- Collarenebri
- Condobolin
- Coonamble
- Cowra
- Darlington Point
- Deniliquin
- Dorrigo
- Dungog
- Euston
- Finley
- Forbes
- Grafton
- Grenfell
- Griffith
- Gundagai
- Gunnedah
- Gunning
- Guyra
- Hay
- Inverell
- Junee
- Kempsey
- Kendall
- Kyogle
- Lake Cargelligo
- Leeton
- Lockhart
- Lyndhurst
- Maclean
- Manildra
- Manilla
- Merriwa
- Molong
- Moree
- Moulamein
- Murrurundi
- Narrabri
- Narrandera
- Nyngan
- Orange
- Parkes
- Peak Hill
- Portland
- Scone
- Temora
- The Rock
- Tullamore
- Tumbarumba

Ungarie

- Uralla
- Walgett
- Wallerawang
- Warialda
- Warren
- Wauchope
- Wee Waa
- Wingham
- Yass
- Young

QLD (66)

- Atherton
- Babinda
- Baralaba
- Barcaldine
- Bedourie
- Beenleigh
- Biggenden
- Birdsville
- Blackall
- Boonah
- Bundaberg
- Charleville
- Childers
- Chillagoe
- Chinchilla
- Clifton
- Collinsville
- Cooktown
- Eidsvold
- Eumundi
- Fernvale
- Gatton
- Gayndah
- Goomeri
- Gympie
- Herberton
- Home Hill
- Hughenden
- Ingham
- Inglewood
- Isisford
- Jandowae Julia Creek Kilcoy
- Kuranda
- Laidley
- Longreach
- Lowood
- Mareeba
- Maryborough
- Miles
- Millmerran
- Mirani
- Monto
- Morven
- Mt Perry
- Mundubbera
- Murgon
- Nanango
- Quilpie
- Ravenshoe
- Richmond
- Rosewood
- Sapphire

-Springsure

- Tambo
- Tara
- Taroom
- Texas
- Thallon
- Theodore
- Townsville
- Wandoan
- Winton
- Wondai
- Yowa

SA (46)

- Andamooka
- Ardrossan
- Balaklava
- Barmera
- Beachport
- Berri
- Blanchetown
- Bordertown
- Ceduna
- Cleve
- Cowell
- Crystal Brook
- Cummins
- Elliston
- Hamley Bridge
- Jamestown
- Kadina
- Kapunda
- Karoonda
- Keith
- Kimba
- Kingston SE
- Lock
- Loxton
- Lucindale
- Mannum
- Millicent
- Moonta
- Morgan
- Murray Bridge
- Penola
- Peterborough
- Port Augusta
- Port Lincoln
- Port Pirie
- Port Victoria
- Roxby Downs
- Snowtown
- Streaky Bay
- Swan Reach
- Tailem Bend
- Tantanoola
- Tumby Bay
- Waikerie
- Walleroo
- Whyalla

-Deloraine

- Devonport
- East Devonport
- Evandale
- Fingal
- Franklin
- George Town
- Glenorchy
- Latrobe
- Launceston
- New Norfolk
- Nubeena
- Oatlands
- Penguin
- Port Huon
- Queenstown
- Railton
- Rosebery
- Scottsdale
- Sheffield
- Smithton
- Sorell
- Stanley
- St Helens
- St Mary's
- Strahan
- Ulverstone
- Wynyard
- Zeehan

-Robinvale

- Rosedale
- Sale
- Sea Lake
- St Arnaud
- Stawell
- Tallangatta
- Warracknabeal
- Wedderburn
- Wycheproof
- Yarram
- Yarrowonga

WA (51)

- Beverley
- Boddington
- Boyup Brook
- Bruce Rock
- Capel
- Coolgardie
- Cranbrook
- Dongara
- Dowerin
- Dumbleyung
- Geraldton
- Goomalling
- Hopetoun
- Jarrahdale
- Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Kambalda
- Karratha
- Katanning
- Kojonup
- Kondinin
- Koorde
- Kulin
- Lake Grace
- Leonora
- Meekatharra
- Merredin
- Moora
- Morawa
- Mount Barker
- Mukinbudin
- Narembeen
- Narrogin
- Newman
- Norseman
- Nungarin
- Perenjori
- Pingelly
- Pinjarra
- Quairading
- Ravensthorpe
- Southern Cross
- Three Springs
- Trayning
- Wagin
- Waroona
- Westonia
- Wickepin
- Wongan Hills
- Woodanilling
- York

VIC (45)

- Ararat
- Avoca
- Beechworth
- Birchip
- Boort
- Bridgewater

on Loddon

- Casterton
- Charlton
- Cobram
- Cohuna
- Corryong
- Dimboola
- Donald
- Heathcote
- Heyfield
- Heywood
- Hopetoun
- Jeparit
- Kerang
- Kyabram
- Kyneton
- Leitchville
- Lockington
- Macarthur
- Maffra
- Murrabit
- Nathalia
- Nhill
- Nyah/Nyah West
- Ouyen
- Portland
- Pyramid Hill
- Rainbow

TAS (32)

- Brighton/Pontville
- Burnie
- Campbell Town



RV Friendly Destination: Tailem Bend Football Club Oval, Tailem Bend SA

Tailem Bend is situated on the cliffs of the Murray River, 99km east of Adelaide. The town was first established with the arrival of the railway line in 1887, and now thrives on the area’s pig farming, dairying, and grain growing industries.

The Tailem Bend Football Club Oval is located on Trevena Rd, and offers sites for \$10 per vehicle per night. Please call the caretaker, Brian, to pay your fees and advise your length of stay (this is negotiable). Brian will also provide access to toilets, showers, and power, and a barbecue is available on request. Potable water is provided, and pets are permitted on leads. During the football season meals are available for purchase on Thursday and Saturday evenings.

For a glimpse into the pioneer era, ‘Old Tailem Town’ is a theme park displaying the life of the settlers from 1860 to 1960. The park also offers nightly Ghost Tours for the more adventurous visitor.

Contact information	Brian (caretaker) Tailem Bend Football Club Trevena Rd, Tailem Bend P: 0419 187 446
Cost	\$10pvpn
Parking	Water, pets on leads, access to toilets, showers, power, BBQ (contact Brian), time limit negotiable. Keep left when entering towards netball courts, camping area is under trees. Meals available Thursday and Saturday during football season
Opening hours	24/7

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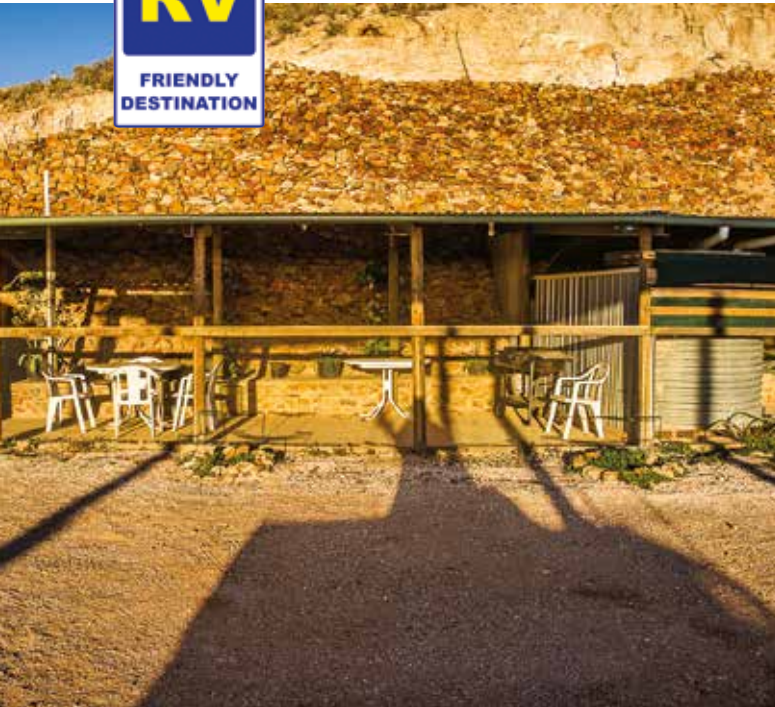
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RV Friendly Destination: Venushill B&B, Coober Pedy SA

Coober Pedy, often referred to as the opal capital of the world, is found in the heart of outback South Australia, approximately 847km north-west of Adelaide. The town is iconic for its underground residences, or 'dugouts', built to avoid the harsh summertime heat. Coober Pedy has attracted thousands of fortune seekers from around the world since the early 1900s, and still remains a largely multi-cultural community with over 45 different nationalities residing in the area.

Venushill B&B is a unique underground property, accessed via an impressive semicircular tunnel. Sites are available on the grounds for \$10 per vehicle per night unpowered, or \$20 per vehicle per night powered. Toilets, covered seating, and water are provided, and pets are permitted on leads. There is also an opal shop at Venushill where the owner, Michael, trims and polishes his own opal stones.

Coober Pedy has many interesting attractions, including the underground Catacomb Church and Umoona Opal Museum. Visitors can also explore one of the working opal mines, and even try their own hand at fossicking for opals.

Contact information	Michael Venus Venushill B&B 1528 Amorosi Dr, Coober Pedy Ph: 08 8672 3060 E: venusopal@live.com.au www.venushill.com.au
Cost	\$20 pvpn power, \$10 pvpn unpowered
Parking	Please call prior to arrival. Negotiable time limit, pets on lead, toilets, covered seating, power, water
Opening hours	Noon till late, 7 days

RV Friendly Destination: Glenreagh Public Recreation Ground, Glenreagh NSW

Glenreagh is a small town in the Northern Rivers region of New South Wales, approximately 568km north-east of Sydney. The village sits at the gateway to the Clarence Valley and is surrounded by an abundance of flora and fauna, with colourful wildflowers and wattle on display from late winter into spring.

The Glenreagh Public Recreation Ground offers unpowered sites for \$10 per vehicle per night. Powered sites are also available for \$20 per vehicle per night. Stays of up to 72 hours are permitted, and showers, toilets, bins, and water are available on the grounds. Pets are also welcome on leads.

Shannon Park offers a lovely spot to enjoy a picnic by the river, with tables and barbecues provided. If visiting on a Saturday be sure to stop by the museum to learn about Glenreagh's history, and if you're lucky to be in town on the first Saturday of the month, Glenreagh Markets are a great place to sample the local produce and chat with the locals.

Contact information	Wayne Tac (caretaker) Glenreagh Public Recreation Ground Bridge St, Glenreagh Ph: 0427 183 553
Cost	\$10pvpn unpowered, \$20pvpn powered (paid to the caretaker)
Parking	Showers, toilets, pets on lead, power, water (72hrs)
Opening hours	7 days



RV FRIENDLY DESTINATIONS

NSW 33

- Abermain, Abermain Bowling & Recreation Club
- Albury, SS & A Club
- Armatree, Armatree Hotel
- Baerami, James Estate Wines
- Boorooban, Boorooban Royal Mail Hotel
- Burren Junction, Burren Junction Bore Baths
- Cobargo, Cobargo Hotel/Motel
- Conargo, Conargo Recreation Reserve
- Coonamble, Nakadoo
- Cooperook, Cooperook Hotel
- Collingullie, Cross Roads Hotel
- Cullendore, Cullendore High Country
- Daysdale, Exchange Hotel
- Deepwater, Deepwater Inn & Leisure Park
- Glencoe, Red Lion Tavern (Glencoe Tavern)
- Glenreagh, Glenreagh Public Rec Ground
- Grafton, Hotel Motel 5
- Jingellic, Bridge Hotel
- Junee, Junee Golf Club
- Lawrence, Lawrence Tavern
- Liston, Aloomba Lavender
- Mathoura, Mathoura Bowling Club
- Moama, Rich River Golf Club Resort
- Nabcac, National Motorcycle Museum
- Pinnacle, Ochre Arch Farm
- Pooncarie, Pooncarie Port Pitstop
- Premer, Premer Lions Park Freedom Camping Area
- Taree, Taree Showgrounds
- The Rock, The King's Own
- Urbenville, Urbenville Forest Park
- Wallabadah, Wallabadah Freedom Camping Area
- Weethalle, Yarran Park Farmstay
- Willow Tree, Willow Tree Recreation Ground Freedom Camping Area

QLD 22

- Allora, Allora Showground
- Aratula, Aratula Hotel/Motel
- Bajool, Bajool Country Hotel
- Bollon, Wallam Creek Rest Area

- Brandon, Burdekin Farmstay
- Childers, Bierley Wines
- Cooroy, Cooroy No Worries RV Stop
- Duaringa, Mackenzie Park
- Flaggy Rock, Flaggy Rock Café
- Goomburra, Gordon Country
- Harrisville, Normanby Winery
- Long Pocket, Ashton Hotel
- Mareeba, Ringers Rest
- Minden, Minden Retreat
- Mulgrave, Catch a Barra
- Nanango, Nanango RSL Club
- Nindigully, Nindigully Tourist & Visitor Area
- Mackay, Pinnacle Family Hotel
- Ramsay, Shammah Park
- Theebine, Theebine Hotel
- Tiaro, Royal Hotel
- Wyandra, Wyandra Post & General Store

SA 53

- Alford, Alford Recreation Park
- Angaston, Angaston Hotel
- Arno Bay, Arno Bay Hotel/Motel
- Blinman, Alpina Station
- Blyth, Blyth Town Oval Grounds
- Bower, Bower Reserve Camping Area
- Brinkworth, Brinkworth Stockyard Reserve
- Burdett, Mulga Sanctuary
- Cadell, Cadell Recreation & Camping Ground
- Cadell, Caudo Vineyards
- Carpenter Rocks, Carpenter Rocks Recreation Reserve
- Cleve, Cleve Hotel Motel
- Coober Pedy, Venus Hill B & B
- Crystal Brook, Bowman Park
- Farrell Flat, Farrell Flat Oval
- Georgetown, Georgetown Memorial Playground Overnight Camping Area
- Geranium, Geranium Oval
- Gulnare, Ossies Homestead Farmstay
- Hallett, Hallett Recreation Area
- Iron Knob, Iron Knob Campground
- Koolunga, Bunyip Park
- Kyancutta, Polkinnery Park
- Lamerook, Lamerook RV Park

- Lochiel, Lochiel Memorial Hall
- Manna Hill, Manna Hill Hotel
- Manoora, Manoora Hotel
- Melrose, Melrose Showgrounds
- Minnipa, Apex Park
- Mount Bryan, Mount Bryan Hotel
- Mount Mary, Mount Mary Hotel
- Mount Torrens, Mount Torrens Hotel
- Naracoorte, Black Cockatoo Bush Camp
- Narrung, Narrung Ferry Campsite
- Nelshaby, Lawrie Park
- Overland Corner, Overland Corner Hotel
- Owen, Owen Oval
- Parilla, Parilla Parking Bay
- Pinnaroo, Pinnaroo RV Stop
- Port MacDonnell, Cape Northumberland Camp Site
- Redhill, Ellis Street Reserve
- Robertstown, Robertstown Oval
- Sedan, Sedan Hotel
- Spalding, Barbed Wire Pub
- St Kilda, St Kilda Adventure Park
- Taillem Bend, Old Taillem Town Pioneer Village
- Taillem Bend, Taillem Bend Football Club Oval
- Tarlee, Tarlee Recreation Ground
- Tarpeena, Tarpeena Sports Ground
- Terowie, Terowie Rail Station Yard
- Tumbay Bay, Modra's Apartments
- Wangary, Nyroca Camp & Function Centre
- Wudinna, Wudinna Showgrounds
- Yongala, Yongala Recreation Park

TAS 12

- Bicheno, The Pondering Frog Tearoom & RV Stop Over
- Bruny Island, Hotel Bruny
- Bruny Island, Bruny Island Landscape Supplies
- Elizabeth Town, Christmas Hills Raspberry Farm
- Geeveston, Geeveston Ex Servicemen & Women's Club
- Hamilton, Hamilton Inn Hotel
- Mole Creek, Mole Creek Hotel
- Pipers Brook, Pipers Brook Vineyard

- Pyengana, Pyengana Recreation Ground
- Rocky Cape, Rocky Cape Tavern
- Launceston, Old Mac's Caravan & Motorhome Farm Stay
- Smithton, Tall Timbers Hotel

VIC 21

- Balmoral, Balmoral Mural Square
- Boort, Simply Tomatoes & Aussie Wool Quilts
- Dadswells Bridge, Dadswells Bridge Motel/Hotel
- Echuca, Rotary Community Park
- Kinglake, Kinglake Pub
- Koondrook, Koondrook Wetland Reserve
- Koonoomoo, The Big Strawberry
- Lascelles, Lascelles Camping Ground
- Merrigum, Merrigum Recreation Ground
- Milawa, Brown Brothers Milawa Vineyard
- Mirboo North, Café Escargot
- Moora, Moora Racecourse & Recreation Reserve
- Newstead, Newstead Racecourse & Recreation Reserve
- Nhill, Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre
- Thoona, Thoona Pub
- Toolleen, Toolleen Hotel
- Tostaree, Tostaree Cottages & Tavern
- Tungamah, Tungamah Lions Park
- Woomelang, Cronomby Tanks
- Yaapeet, Yaapeet Camping Ground
- Yarragon, Gippsland Food & Wine

WA 8

- Cranbrook, Trevelen Farm
- Donnybrook, Thomson Brook Wines
- Greenbushes, Wattle Ridge Vineyard
- Mingenew, Enanty Barn
- Nungarin, Mangowine Homestead
- Tammin, Tammin Hotel
- Varley, Varley Chicken Ranch
- Yandanooka, Yandanooka Town Hall



THIS MONTH'S CMCA DOLLAR WISE PARKS

CMCA's Dollar Wise Park Network are parks that partner with CMCA to offer members an affordable accommodation option of just \$10 or less per vehicle per night (terms and conditions

vary, and may include self-contained requirements). These caravan parks are identifiable in GeoWiki with a unique icon and are also listed on the CMCA website. CMCA encourages members

to notify NHQ of potential Dollar Wise Parks that you come across in your travels. Take a look at just some of the CMCA Dollar Wise Parks around Australia.

Cunnamulla Cabins and Caravan Park, QLD

The Cunnamulla Cabins and Caravan Park is located in Cunnamulla, a small town situated along the Warrego River, in South West Queensland. The park offers travellers a wide selection of accommodation options, including a fantastic bush camp.

CMCA members wishing to stay at Cunnamulla Cabins and Caravan Park have access to a discounted rate of \$10 per vehicle per night. Vehicles must be self-contained; however, access to the barbecue, laundry facilities, and dump point is available.

WiFi is also included with this rate, and pets on a lead are permitted.

Although a work in progress, the park is more than comfortable enough to meet the needs of travellers.

T: 0407 785 785



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WAIN-TH-5209950-CS-70-XCC

Stirling North Caravan Park, SA

Stirling North Caravan Park is located in Port Augusta, a small city in South Australia. Now under new management, this park offers travellers a secure location under constant camera surveillance and has plenty of space available to accommodate vehicles of all sizes.

Members of CMCA that wish to stay off the beaten track can do so for a Dollar Wise rate of \$10 per vehicle per night. Vehicles must be self-contained; however, this includes access to laundry facilities and toilets.

Just 6km south of the Port Augusta township, Stirling North Caravan Park

makes for a great place to explore the area. During a visit, be sure to stop by the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden with 250-hectares of magnificent gardens, an interpretive centre, cafe, and a shop.

T: (08) 8643 6357



CMCA DOLLAR WISE PARK NETWORK

NSW

- Bendemeer Tourist Park, Bendemeer
- Beachcomber Holiday Park, Potato Point
- Colonial Holiday Park & Leisure Village, Harrington
- Coolah Caravan Park, Coolah
- Kookaburra Caravan & Camping Park, Tenterfield/Deepwater
- Merimbula Caravan & Motorhome Park, Millingandi
- Murrurundi Caravan Park (Kui Parks), Murrurundi
- The Old School Caravan Park, Merriwagga
- Tingha Gems Caravan Park (Kui Parks), Tinga
- Tooraweenah Caravan Park, Tooraweenah
- Trangie Caravan Park, Trangie

QLD

- Bedourie Simpson Desert Oasis Caravan Park, Bedourie
- Charleville Bush Camp & Caravan Park, Charleville
- Cheery Nomad RV Park & Farm Stay (Kui Park), Maryborough
- Coconut Glen Van Village, Townsville
- Columboola Country, Miles
- Crows Nest Caravan Park (Kui Park), Crows Nest
- Cunnamulla Cabins and Caravan Park
- Digger Creek Motel & Van Park, El Arish
- Evening Star Tourist Park, Charleville
- Hebel Caravan Park, Hebel
- Jundah Caravan Park, Jundah
- Lake Redbrook Holiday Retreat (Kui Park), North Isis via Childers
- Mirani Caravan Park and Swimming Pool, Mirani
- Mount Morgans Silver Wattle CP, Mount Morgan
- Nanango Caravan & Motorhome Park, Nanango
- Nanango RV Park, Nanango
- Spring Creek Caravan Park (Kui Park), Spring Creek
- Stonehenge Caravan Park, Stonehenge
- Windorah Caravan Park, Windorah

TAS

- East Beach Tourist Park, Low Head
- Mersey Bluff Caravan Park, Devonport
- Somerset Beachside Cabin and Caravan Park, Somerset

VIC

- Charlton Travellers Rest Caravan Park, Charlton
- Colac Central Caravan Park, Colac East
- Ibis Caravan Park (Kui Park), Kerang
- Lakes Bushland Caravan Park, Nicholson
- Lake Sambell Caravan Park, Beechworth
- Minyip Wetlands Caravan Park, Minyip
- Ouyen Caravan Park, Ouyen
- Pyramid Hill Caravan Park, Kerang
- Sale Motor Village, Sale
- Stawell Grampians Gate Caravan Park, Stawell

SA

- Coonalpyn (Soliders Memorial) Caravan Park, Coonalpyn
- Coonawarra Bush Holiday Park, Coonawarra
- Lake Albert Caravan Park, Meningie
- Loxton Riverfront Holiday Park, Loxton
- Lucindale Caravan Park, Lucindale
- Milang Lakeside Caravan Park (Kui Park), Milang
- Millicent Hillview Caravan Park, Millicent
- Shelly Beach Caravan Park, Ceduna
- Stirling North Caravan Park, Port Augusta

WA

- Ayr Sailean (Kui Parks), Bow Bridge via Denmark
- Harrismith Caravan Park, Harrismith
- Kulin Caravan Park, Kulin
- Lake Navarino Holiday Park, Waroona
- Trayning Caravan Park, Trayning
- Wickiepin Caravan Park, Wickiepin
- Yealering Caravan Park, Yealering

A TOTAL RE-BERTH



We spell out the pros and cons of buying an ex-rental

BY MALCOLM STREET

When choosing a pre-loved motorhome, you may wish to consider an ex-rental, particularly if you're on a tight budget. Like any purchase, there are always going to be pluses and minuses, so I thought I'd share what to weigh up when it's time to buy.

THE PROS

Let's look at the pluses first. Generally speaking, most rental motorhomes are built for rugged use and often for first-time travellers. Apart from anything else, the latter objective makes them fairly easy to use. For the most part,

they are designed for people who stay in caravan parks, saving on weight for extra batteries, chargers, solar panels, and inverters. There are exceptions, with a few operators offering purpose-built rentals or a fleet similar to what's available on the retail market.

Having talked to a few rental operators in the business, I know they often use cab-chassis and or vans either known for their reliability and/or readily-available with a cheaper range of spare parts. The Ford Transit was a classic example, often chosen for those very reasons. When the Transit

disappeared from the Ford range, the operators had to look elsewhere.

Often rental motorhomes and vans are built to a budget, and therefore are quite simple in design, particularly in their interior cabinetry. For the handyworker who likes to tinker but doesn't have the capability for a full-blown rebuild, refurbishing an ex-rental to suit personal tastes can be a lot of fun, without the fear of devaluing a brand-new motorhome. One tip here is to make sure you use the motorhome a few times with the existing facilities before trying any changes. Another is to use a qualified tradersperson for any LP gas or 240V mains electrical changes required. Twelve-volt wiring isn't regulated to the same extent, but it's still a good idea to know what you are doing, especially with extra batteries and solar panels.

This might sound a bit odd but any vehicle can have inherent weaknesses surface after a few years' use. An advantage of buying any used motorhome, not just a rental one, is that known problems can either be researched, recognised, repair-costed or discarded as appropriate. An example of this is the AMT gearboxes used in older Mercedes-Benz Sprinter and VW Crafter motorhomes. They have always been hesitant in lower range gear changes and whilst it's a problem, it's always been there.

THE CONS

For the most part, rental motorhomes will have a high number of kilometres on the tacometre, normally between 250,000 and 300,000km. Occasionally, though, rental motorhomes are sold much earlier than that. Across the Tasman, KEA's NZ operation sells motorhomes used for less than a year, providing sufficient millage to allow any technical/mechanical/functional problems to show without having too many kilometres on the clock.

Almost certainly a rental motorhome



will have had plenty of use, often with inexperienced drivers who come from overseas. Similarly, the users often have had minimal experience with the appliances, which can suffer accordingly. That said, most experienced rental companies will have a good back-up facility, knowing all the tricks and techniques for a quick repair.

Another recognised problem is that rental motorhome layouts are often built for a purpose. So a base vehicle normally used in a two-berth retail model can be fitted out with four- or six-berth configurations. As a result, they rarely have fixed beds, and are more likely to offer day/night lounges, so the beds have to be made up every night. For a couple that can be annoying but there are ways around that. For instance, a six-berth motorhome can be set so the Luton-peak bed or rear club lounge remains made, leaving what is usually the four-seat dinette in the middle for sitting and eating.

KEA has taken a different approach with its Beach motorhome by fully removing the club lounge in the rear



and replacing it with a fixed island bed. An interesting idea that offers potential elsewhere.

Lack of external bin storage is often an issue for some rental motorhomes and there's no real way around that, except by learning to travel more lightly. Not that there is anything wrong with that I should point out.

FINAL CHECKS

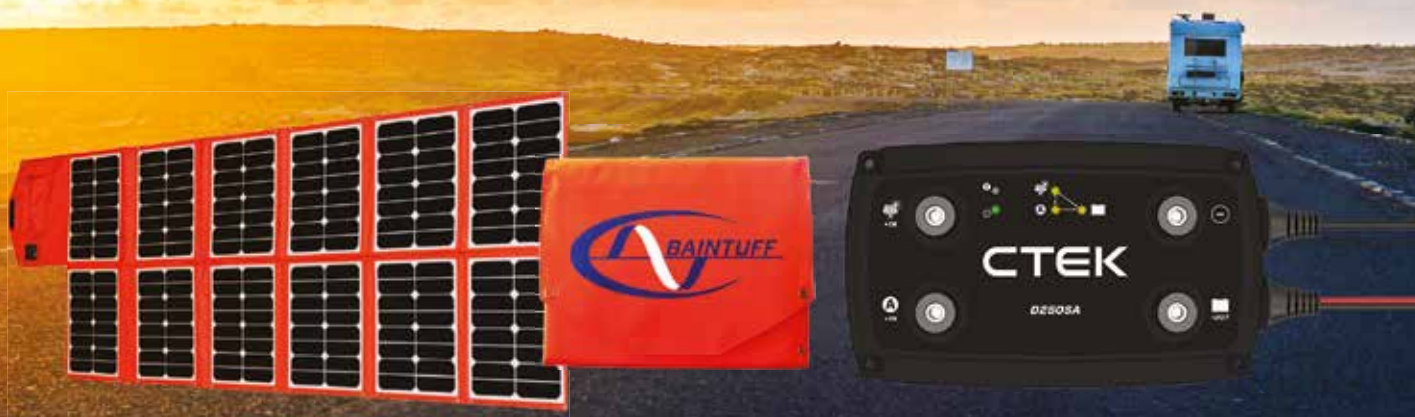
There are a few other considerations, of course, but they are the major ones. As with any second-hand motorhome

purchase, mechanical and functional checks by qualified personnel are recommended. In the case of the 'house' area that's less of an issue and can be done mostly by opening and closing everything, checking obvious leak marks and noting obvious damage marks. An extended test drive is mandatory. One final benefit of buying an ex-rental is my favourite. It's very easy to try before you buy and so get an understanding of both the motorhome lifestyle and the particular motorhome under consideration. 🚐

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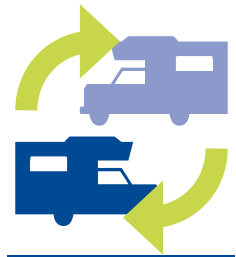
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February issue - 1st January, March issue - 1st February, April issue - 1st March, May issue - 1st April

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



YEAR 2008 MAKE IVECO MODEL 50 c18 DESCRIPTION Winnebago Leisure Seeker 84000 kms with electric drop down bed. 3 litre Iveco turbo diesel engine. 300 watt roof mounted solar panels diesel heater towbar generator separate shower and toilet Air Conditioning. All the usual Winnebago luxury extras. Price Neg. PRICE \$85,000 CONTACT 0414 409 842 robynrofe@gmail.com A71844

NEW SOUTH WALES



YEAR 1986 MAKE HINO MODEL Rainbow RB145a DESCRIPTION 5 speed manual & 1994 Suzuki Sierra 2 door manual & hitch and go. Sierra has recent full motor recon with receipts. Rego 300118. Hino has rear Double bed Potty shower vanity Gas hot water 1500w inverter C.B LED lights Bull bar driving lights 110L fridge freezer microwave 130L fresh water tank + grey 2 rear view cameras new rooftop aircon tv dvd 3 burner gas cooker smart charger 24v 2x100amp house batteries 2 new start up batteries 2 x 85w solar rego 130118. PRICE \$68,500 CONTACT 02 9639 2846 0412 707 852 linda-shelley@hotmail.com N52473



YEAR 2014 MAKE JAYCO MODEL & Ute package DESCRIPTION 24.5ft fifth wheeler with Holden turbo diesel dual cab Colorado 4x4 ute with Hayman Reece hitch, CB Radio & reversing camera, 67,000 kms. Lge slide out club lounge, 2 king single beds, Dometic 90 litre fridge freezer with 120w solar panel, 4 burner gas cooktop, microwave, full ensuite with toilet, 3 kg washer, fusion sound system (internal & external speakers), sat dish, 2 house batts, 3 x fresh water tanks & grey water tank, 2 x TVs, LED lighting, rc aircon & diesel heating. PRICE \$105,000 CONTACT 0425 251 354 balizagift@gmail.com N86036



YEAR 2007 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL Sprinter 315 CDI LWB DESCRIPTION Twin turbo LWB 5 speed auto. Regularly serviced and all round in as new condition. Walk thru from front cabin. 2 x solar panels charging system. 2 x 125A house batteries. 3000W inverter. Large 221L fridgefreezer. Fiamma F65 awning. 2 x long single or queen bed. H & C water. Dometic sanipottie external shower. Sat nav antenna. Spacious functional design. PRICE \$59,000 CONTACT 02 9498 8747 jdscott4@bigpond.com N56367



YEAR 2009 MAKE TRAVELHOME MODEL Macquarie 29 DESCRIPTION Fifth Wheeler & Nissan Navara STX 550 Package. Both Ex. Con New Queen Bed Rear Leather Lounge NEW 3-way 186l Fridge NEW AGM house batteries NEW 40amp intelligent battery charger NEW tyres Diesel Heater 3 burner gas Cooktop Gas Oven Grill Microwave 22 TV DVD Radio CD. Nissan 2012 V6 Turbo Diesel 7 speed auto 4WD only 24800km. Sat Nav Leather seats Climate Control AC. Travelhome Hitch & wiring Electric Brake Controller. \$99,000 for both Neg. Bruce 0406 957 977 PRICE \$99,000 CONTACT 02 9534 1796 0406 957 977 brucekerry@bigpond.com N61090



YEAR 2009 MAKE TOYOTA MODEL Land Cruiser v8 D40 turbo GX DESCRIPTION Diesel custom alm tray with drop sides under tray slid in boot custom made duel Batterys in Land Cruiser and in camper warn winch 9 5 Engel 60 litre fridge freezer 120watt solar panel on roof water filter not connected to water tank Queen size bed driving light cb radio camper has full annex that fit on camper made by outback campers PRICE \$65,000 CONTACT 0400381096 gordon007jones@gmail.com N69905



YEAR 2016 MAKE FRONTLINE MODEL T6 Transporter 'Adventurer' DESCRIPTION I am selling this vehicle on behalf of my mother who has decided to part with this lovely camper due to family commitments as she can no longer be on the road for long stretches of time. First registered December 2016 - 6236km - As new and in showroom condition. Full information online - If you have any questions wish to clarify anything or would like to view the vehicle please feel free to contact James via mobile or email anytime. PRICE \$76,990 CONTACT 0438 983 877 carolyn.bradbury1@gmail.com N101044



YEAR 1994 MAKE TOYOTA MODEL Hiace LWB DESCRIPTION Van 229000km in immaculate condition. NSW rego till 28 Aug 18 service & maint records available seats 5 sleeps 2 good tyres 2 new 52L LPG & 28L Unleaded Petrol Autom. Con Engel Fridge Freezer Microwave 120w Solar Panel 120w solar panel on roof Fiamma F65 awning 2 x long single beds 2 x 125A house batteries Bull Bar 2 x water tanks shower service maintenance. papers available (bike carrier not included) Fits normal car parks garage. PRICE \$20,000 CONTACT 0416 179 321 hampek@gmail.com N19853



YEAR 2008 MAKE FOREST RIVER MODEL Puma DESCRIPTION 27ft fifth-wheeler and 2010 Isuzu 4X4 Dmax 148000 kms. Sale due to husbands stroke. Fitted out for extended freedom camping 4X100ah AGM batteries 2X200w solar panels LED lighting 2.6kw generator 1kw 240v inverter 2X9kg gas bottles satellite tv 1 slide-out Waco 175L 12v fridgefreezer queen bed toilet and shower gas stove with oven microwave gas hot water service ducted air con and ducted gas heating. 190L fresh 145L grey and 145L black water. Located Port Macquarie NSW. PRICE \$85,000 CONTACT 0425300068 rhicksnomads@gmail.com N72213



YEAR 2017 MAKE SUNLINER MODEL Fiat Ducato 180 DESCRIPTION 3L diesel automan solar 2 house batteries reverse camera Fiamma awning toiletshower diesel heater cooktop & 20L hws Waeco 110L fridge Mwave TV antenna & TV arm roof mounted air con single bedsdouble bed flip flop table elec step under warranty rego April 2018 3175 klms on speedo. PRICE \$97,000 CONTACT 02 4333 8989 freber@bigpond.com N101482



YEAR 2011 MAKE KEA MODEL Ford Transit VM DESCRIPTION 140350T 2.4L Turbo Diesel manual. Easy to park & drive sleeps 2 singlesdouble. Showertoilet hot water diesel heater aircon TV gas cooker 4kg gas bottle fresh and grey water tanks fridgefreezer microwave Fiamma awning solar on roof & Andersen plug setup for portable solar blanket new 210AH Full River batteries new OEM dual mass clutch kit. road. Rego to 29 April 2018 odometer 137500km Selling due to illness. PRICE \$67,000 CONTACT 0426912370 Pennejane@gmail.com N97509



YEAR 2012 MAKE SUZUKI MODEL Grand Vitara DESCRIPTION Registered until 14 July 2018. 3 door auto. 4x4. Low kms. 2.4 ltr engine. Set up for towing with Ready Brute tow system included. Override brakes power windows cruise control remote control power door locks. 12 volt power outlets. Colour is white pearl. Service history well maintained very good condition. PRICE \$19,950 CONTACT 0419462707 timothyhall58@gmail.com N88588



YEAR 2012 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Ceduna DESCRIPTION Low k's (27k) high comfort bargain price. Auto standard licence seats sleeps 6 electric drop double bed plus overcab double (cargo room) 2 two singles in rear solar 2 x 100ah house batteries 1.1kw with medical antenna 3000mah camera solar panel bike rack outside shower UHF external fold-down table 3 way 150 litre fridge microwave rangehood 2 way stove. Self-contained. PRICE \$99,995 CONTACT 0249594285 avrat10@bigpond.com N99312



YEAR 1998 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Alpine DESCRIPTION 1998 21' Winnebago Alpine Mazda T4000 10 Speed 146570 kms \$85000 Rego AQ 40 QQ till 2082018 Seat belts for 5 sleeps 6 including low level double bed with innerspring mattress. Separate shower & toilet 3 way 150 ltr fridge gas stove with grill & oven microwave oven. AC cab and house and diesel heater with extra outlet into shower extra drinking water tank with filter. Upgraded electrics with Ctek charger 1400w inverter & solar. PRICE \$85,000 CONTACT 0448 944 946 rrrhore1@bigpond.com N18013



YEAR 2008 MAKE PLAY MOR MODEL Drifter DESCRIPTION 25 (7.6mt) 2008 Playmor Drifter & 2011 Holden Colorado 4x4 Diesel. Drifter is built to Australian Specs and compliance. Fully self-contained. PRICE \$74,900 CONTACT 0412782411 nella_b@hotmail.com N35742



YEAR 1978 MAKE LEYLAND MODEL Super Comet DESCRIPTION Volvo motor automatic gearbox QB Shower toilet washing machine 2 x AC satellite dish 3 way fridge gaselectric hot water solar hydraulic levelling jacks reversing camera. Much more. VIC Rego till April 2018. Price is negotiable. Trailer not included but will sell separately. PRICE \$45,000 CONTACT 0427715501 glen-ro@hotmail.com N35187



YEAR 1997 MAKE Passenger Vehicle MODEL Suzuki Vitara JLX DESCRIPTION 3 door soft top, 4x4 5 sp manual, 270,000kms, great cond, can be flat towed, ideal for small motorhome. PRICE \$5,000 CONTACT 0423 322 121 avinago@optusnet.com.au N54061



YEAR 2016 MAKE JAYCO MODEL Optimum DESCRIPTION Mercedes 519cdi v6 7 speed auto. Mercedes v6 7 speed auto 33000klms. All Optimum accessories including Hydraulic red foot levellers automatic. Bike rack tow bar bar light cb radio. PRICE \$155,000 CONTACT 0412533504 Dwilzig57@gmail.com N101975



YEAR 2014 MAKE JAYCO MODEL Conquest DESCRIPTION 3Ltr turbo diesel 6 spd auto NSW rego Jan 2018 solar panels tow bar aircon 150 ltr frig 1 elect 3 gas stove double bed shower toilet o-side shower Winegard antenna elect rollout awning elect step 2100 watt house batteries travelled only 11000 kms serv hist avail. Hunter valley area contact John 0417492117. PRICE \$97,000 CONTACT 0417492117 holdencalias@bigpond.com N96931



YEAR 2007 MAKE ISUZU MODEL NQR 450 DESCRIPTION WINNEBAGO ALPINE Manual 5sp WA registration rego to 0918. Ready to go with everything you need for free camping 2 door fridge freezer plus portable fridge freezer under. Solar panels gel batteries generator. Good rubber all round many many more extras too many to list. Plus car trailer and Suzi Jimmy. \$190000 THE LOT. PRICE \$190,000 CONTACT 0419 734 404 or 0427 270 089 davstelcr88@icloud.com N28182



YEAR 2010 MAKE SUNLINER MODEL Iveco 50C18 DESCRIPTION Holiday G34 auto diesel 79000Ks excellent condition. Custom build with extra storage large kitchen drawers 2door Waeco compressor fridge and generator slide in hatch. Recent new domestic windows new 3 x 110 amp batteries new auto awning new gas cooktop oven. 320 watts Solar Vansat satellite with Vast box and 22 LED TV. Full dry bathroom. Rear tyre pressure monitors. Many more extras. Vehicle serviced only by Iveco. Drive on car licence. Qld Rego May 2018 PRICE \$105,000 CONTACT 0414 809 371 binskins2@gmail.com N54881



YEAR 2003 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Alpine DESCRIPTION ISUZU NQR 450 Turbo Diesel 117000Ks serviced every 10000Ks STANDARD ACCESSORIES EXTRA fridge TV shower Sovereign BBQ 460W solar power 3x120ah batt Onan 3.6kv gen Smartsat dish Satking Vast set box CB radio 2 awnings sun shade exterior floor mats diesel heat air con rear camera 4 burner gas cook top oven elect gas hot water black grey waste tanks 220lt fresh water extra storage renovate lazy boy chairs Rego to Sept 18 ALSO 2010 Toyota V6 Hilux ute 1x150w solar panel dual batteries. PRICE \$130,000 CONTACT 0418 275 588 hanspat@bigpond.com.au N26129



YEAR 2009 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Longreach DESCRIPTION Motorhome with 2009 Suzuki Grand Vitara Auto Immaculate condition. Owners non smokers & no pets. Oodles of extras inc self levellers Low kilometres of approx 65000 on Winnebago & approx 135000 on Suzuki. Coffs Harbour region PRICE \$200,000 CONTACT 0414 740 326 kim-larry@hotmail.com N47904



YEAR 2009 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL 518 Outback DESCRIPTION Turbo diesel. Automatic. Excellent condition. 91,000 klms. One owner since new. Always garaged. Rear bathroom. Awnings both sides. Reversing camera. GPS in dash. Diesel heater. 240W solar and batteries. Gas hot water. 3 gas 1 electric hot plate. Microwave. Television. Tow bar and bull bar. Tyres 90 per cent. Rego July 2018. Nothing to spend. First to inspect with LR licence will buy. Selling due to age and health. PRICE \$95,000 CONTACT 0409 842 456 02 6618 9425 brucenelson1935@hotmail.com N2191



YEAR 2009 MAKE JAYCO MODEL Optimum DESCRIPTION 18,000 km. Ducati 3L auto diesel Features include rear reversing cameras, towbar, nudge bar, Alden Satellite, 2 solar panels, aircon, diesel heater, Remi blinds, passenger swivel seat, cream leather seats, electric slideout to bed area, electric entrance step, inverter, Dometic 3-way refrigerator, washing machine, full oven, grill and stovetop, microwave, 2 x digital televisions, Alpine GPS. Price is negotiable. PRICE \$132,000 CONTACT 0417 461 492 liz@seymac.com.au N78307



YEAR 2015 MAKE AVIDA MODEL ESPERANCE DESCRIPTION Sold new in 2016 Iveco Avida Esperance. 50 Anniversary series. 26". Front electric bed rear bathroom travelled just 36000 kilometres. Fitted with an aluminium bullbar 2500 Kg towbar 2000 Watt inverter wired to every power point security screen door 160 watt solar system as new. Loaded with gear that comes standard in an Esperance. May look at cheaper trade. Replacement cost \$185000 selling for \$149500. PRICE \$149,500 CONTACT 02 6681 1983 0408 664 545 portadowns@bigpond.com N4443



YEAR 2008 MAKE WINNEBAGO (AVIDA) MODEL Longreach 31 DESCRIPTION 68000km, all Longreach features plus Ultra Leather throughout, washing machine, bull bar, Oyster TV dish, plus 2 A4 pages detailing many extras and upgrades eg Suspension etc. Fully serviced truck, well maintained throughout, regularly polished, non-smokers, no pets. Rego to June 2018, separate sale of 2003 Daihatsu Terios and HitchnGo A frame. PRICE \$179,000 CONTACT 0414 897 473 triptruckers@bigpond.com N27107



YEAR 1987 MAKE MITSUBISHI MODEL FUSO BUS CONVERSION DESCRIPTION 6 SP Man Bull bar 2 x Awnings Onan 3.5KVA generator 3x80 w Solar Panels 1100W Inverter Island DB Rev Cycle Air Con 2x gas bottles 3 way fridge freezer 4 burner gas stove & oven Microwave Cassette Toilet Gas HWS & shower leather lounge & dining plenty storage TV DVD 300L freshwater & 60L greywater. PRICE \$85,000 CONTACT 02 4948 5690 vicki@xceltek.net.au N39305



YEAR 2008 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Leisure Seeker DESCRIPTION Iveco 50C18 base vehicle 3L turbo inter cooled diesel with 6 spd automated manual transmission 135000 km. Standard luxury fit out including electric drop down queen bed over lounge separate toilet and shower queen Luton bed 3 burner stove and oven 3 way Dometic auto fridge microwave gas electric HWS AC and Webasto heater 12v TV solar panels with 2 100ah house batteries. Also 2004 Suzuki Vitara 3 door 4wd and Hitch and Go tow bar 159000km. Winnebago \$93000 Suzuki \$6500. PRICE \$99,500 CONTACT 02 4476 3909 0429 855 503 lynneanddarryl@icloud.com N24954



YEAR 2009 MAKE FIAT MODEL Ducato DESCRIPTION Avan 23ft Ovation, 3L Turbo Diesel Fiat Ducato 6 SPD manual only 78050km Shower Toilet 175L Two Door 3 Way Fridge & Freezer 2 Solar Panels TV DVD CD Player Stove Oven Mwave Led lights Reversing Camera Towbar Good Condition Service Log Book Medical issues stopped our travel. PRICE \$86,000 CONTACT 02 9602 7393 0408 027 393 gracejank@yahoo.com.au N87720



YEAR 2011 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Eyre DESCRIPTION Immaculate 4 seater Eyre upgraded front suspension automatic cruise control rear camera 130 watt solar panel automatic satellite dish both fixed to roof 124L fresh water tank and 124L grey water tank external shower and power point privacy curtain attached to awning fitted solar screens for cabin windows island bed shower separate toilet ample under bed storage 3 way fridge swivel seats air conditioner 3x duct diesel heater 2 televisions microwave dual filter water filtration PRICE \$110,000 CONTACT 0439115954 jane.ladbury@bigpond.com N87263

NORTHERN TERRITORY



YEAR 1986 MAKE MITSUBISHI MODEL Fuso DESCRIPTION 6.5Lt turbo diesel 6 speed syncro airhyd brakes. air bag susp 290000kms 24ft new awning 350lt fresh water 100lt grey. 150lt black 8x64w solar 4x12v house batt 24v system 40ah batt charger split system air-con gas stove oven 3x9kg gas bottles 220lt fridge freezer. 80lt engel 2 tv's sat dish UHF stereo shower toilet. 3.5t dual axle car trailer. 8.1mtrs length lockable storage lights power points winch. PRICE \$110,000 CONTACT 0417 024 111 mariajefrey@hotmail.com N18256

QUEENSLAND



YEAR 2006 MAKE AVON MODEL Ovation DESCRIPTION 7 metre Fiat Ducato 2.8 Lt.turbo 5 speed manual. 149,627 km rego Oct 2018. Very good condition, sleeps 6. Licensed to carry 4. Sep toilet & shower. Oven, microwave, gas cook top, TV, DVD, 100lt 3 way fridge, 2 solar

panels, 2x100ah house batteries, large inverter, led lighting ,elect gas hot water, large roll out awning with many more extras. Plenty of inside & outside storage. This motor home is ready for your new adventure. Location SE QLD. **PRICE** \$68,000 **CONTACT** 0428 664 746 janettemaher14@gmail.com Q90207



YEAR 2004 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL 308CDI DESCRIPTION Manual diesel - 4cyl 2.2 Turbo 5 sp 239000 km Hi top Solar Cb Radio Rev camera 2x120v new house batteries Redarc charger iPhone Ports etc - Lg fridgefreezer 240 12v - 2x single beds(or queen bed) Fiamma Awning - plenty storage. **PRICE** \$37,900 **CONTACT** 0497 088 209 nanettezart@gmail.com Q78053



YEAR 1997 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Alpine DESCRIPTION Winnebago Alpine with Suzuki 4WD. Mazda T4600 Manual Diesel Turbo. Long range fuel tanks 700w solar 300 AH batteries Diesel generator Diesel Heater 320L fresh water Registered to carry 5 Walk thru to cab Numerous 240v 12v12V USB points 2 tub chairs and 4 person diner. Suzuki soft top with tow hitch mag wheels light bar etc. Set up for extended freedom camping & Leave No Trace. All mechanically A1 ready to head out. Eye catching and well maintained. **PRICE** \$93,000 **CONTACT** 0428255410 dismith@flexi.net.au Q95474



YEAR 2007 MAKE OKA MODEL NT002 Special build DESCRIPTION This a purpose built motor home and not a converted bus. A full list of the vehicle is available on request by email. **PRICE** \$175,000 **CONTACT** 0408 117 750 john.menzies@bigpond.com Q37027



YEAR 2017 MAKE SUNLINER MODEL SWITCH 442 DESCRIPTION Over cab Queen bed. Build Aug 16 purchased brand new Feb 2017. In caravan park in Port Douglas sell by Nov 22nd. 10500 KS on the clock like brand new still with 2 years and 4 months warrant left. Added extras done pre delivery are extra battery and solar panel plus extra 12v point in the kitchen. \$3000.00 tow bar fitted and CB radio. Stove rangehood sink microwave shower and toilet not used still brand new. **PRICE** \$115,000 **CONTACT** 0418392031 andy_104@bigpond.com Q101881



YEAR 1999 MAKE FORD MODEL Transit LWB 2.5L turbo diesel DESCRIPTION Auto 2003 Safari conversion, vg condition, must be seen to be believed. 180000kms. New tyres. Sole owner retired teacher. Used as every day vehicle. Serviced-registered 1.12.2017. MW, gas cooker, 3way fridge freezer, storage, rear camera, sat nav, tow bar. **PRICE** \$38,750 **CONTACT** 0407 126 750 irenekrajewska@gmail.com Q106350



YEAR 2009 MAKE FIAT MODEL Ducato Maxi DESCRIPTION Fiat Ducato Maxi 160 Multi-jet. 4 cylinder 3 litre turbo diesel. 6 speed manual with cruise control. Front wheel drive. Average fuel consumption 11.5 litres per 100 km. GVM 4005 kg so car licence only required. Electric windows and mirrors. The house is the usual 4 seat 4 berth with showertoilet gas hot water 12240 fridge gas240 cooker. Over \$12000 in receipts. More pics and info on line or just phone. \$69,900 or offer. **PRICE** \$69,900 **CONTACT** 61753301447 new.start@optusnet.com.au Q87786



YEAR 2004 MAKE CHEVROLET MODEL Dutchmen Express DESCRIPTION Chevrolet Dutchmen Express. 64000km. Well Maintained. Little ready to go. Bees available. Contact Daniel of Occasions 07 5531 9341 or prefer email for further information. **PRICE** \$20,000 **CONTACT** 0418746176 bukashaus@gmail.com Q106187



YEAR 2008 MAKE CROSSROADS RV MODEL CF29CK DESCRIPTION 2008 Crossroads Cruiser and Iveco tow vehicle. 3 slides. Great condition. Travelled a mere 60000kms. See Website for full details and more pics. **PRICE** \$105,000 **CONTACT** 0408 774 887 richardsjoe270@gmail.com Q67465



YEAR 2014 MAKE JAYCO MODEL Fiat Ducato DESCRIPTION Jayco Conquest 25.1 model. Slide out queen bed air con diesel heater washing machine 3 solar panels 2 house batteries external shower bike rack electric awning electric step seats 4. Fiat Ducato current model 6 speed AM 57000km factory Tom Tom sat nav electric mirrors. **PRICE** \$120,000 **CONTACT** 0427 534 540 chappy0@telstra.com Q69951



YEAR 2001 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Freewind 2.4L Transit DESCRIPTION 134000km manual turbo diesel Shower Toilet Aircon 3 burner gas cook top and oven microwave 2 solar panels 90l fresh and grey water tanks reversing sensors electric step passenger swivel seat TV DVD duel back

wheels 3 way fridge 2 way water heater cocktail cabinet heaps of storage inside and under. **PRICE** \$53,000 **CONTACT** 07 5433 9327 dougdes@beachmeresands.com.au Q29568



YEAR 2013 MAKE WINNEBAGO (AVIDA) MODEL Esperance C7994SL DESCRIPTION 100Kkm immaculate condition slide-out rear island bed and double over cabin. Iveco 3l turbo diesel. Normal features: C class licence. EXTRAS: Towed 2003 Suzuki Vitar 4WD on Ready Brute tow frame, fully equipped, Solar, BBQ, 3 TVs, security door, generator, Vent fan, table chairs, ground matting, privacy screen, UHF radio etc. Sell with or without Vitar. **PRICE** \$145,000 **CONTACT** 07 5477 7245 0408 063454 dwoodrow@bigpond.net.au Q59645



YEAR 2003 MAKE TOYOTA MODEL Hiace Poptop DESCRIPTION 3 litre Diesel Gas. 165000km manual 5 speed. Full service history. 'Escape' Factory Fitout. Scooter Carrier on rear with a Honda 50cc 'Today' Scooter. **PRICE** \$29,500 **CONTACT** 0477 286 471 debbi@doughan@hotmail.com Q65715



YEAR 1999 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL Sprinter DESCRIPTION Mercedes 312D 2.9L turbo diesel 5 sp man reg April 2018 6 seat belts Trakka fitout good tyres swivel seats tables front rear outside 4 bur gas stove grill & oven TV & BlueRay lounge convert to 2 single or queen bed 2 child bunks air con 2 awnings annex 3 way fridge freezer mwave rev camera shower toilet vanity 120ltr fresh 105ltr grey lots of storage great to free camp 2 solar panels 2 deep cycle batt LED lighting 2 gas bottles tinted screened windows 6 stack CD. **PRICE** \$52,000 **CONTACT** 07 3285 6990 dougsandra@hotmail.com Q47162



YEAR 1988 MAKE MITSUBISHI MODEL Fuso MK527J DESCRIPTION Mitsubishi Fuso MK527J 30' motorhome in excellent condition. This unit has been set up for long term travel and has all the necessary equipment and comforts. The gleaming two-pack duco stands out in the crowd with a certain WOW! factor. Recently completed a round Australia trip towing a Suzuki Grand Vitara. Amazing comfort combined with safety and reliability. It is ready to take off again. **PRICE \$149,500 CONTACT** 0403 383 033 alan.schilling@gmail.com Q80562



YEAR 2002 MAKE WINNEBAGO (AVIDA) MODEL Alpine DESCRIPTION Newly refurbished 2002 Winnebago Alpine on MazdaT4600 Turbo, reg 9.05.18 131614km, & 2009 Suzuki Jimny Sierra Reg 28.12.17, new upholstery, blinds, carpet, Aeroflow vents, Therm... paint, Ext shower, 5... (A) Ge... chairs, to... 4, 108, aircon, Lge kitchen 4 burner stove & gas oven, 186L Fridge/Freezer, micro, Sep tlt, shwr & basin, awning & sides, solar, Sinwave invert, 4DC batt, too many extra's to list, details online. **PRICE \$89,900 CONTACT** 0423207618 sharonjudd@hotmail.com Q102071



YEAR 2013 MAKE JAYCO MODEL Conquest DESCRIPTION Conquest in great condition. Fiat Ducato auto 3.0 ltr turbo diesel runs like a dream. Economic 10.5 L100kms. 63000 Kms. Power Windows. Fully equipped with 120L fresh & 90L grey water tanks. Elect Awning Air Con rev camera 4 burner gas electric cooktop & grill. Lots of storage space incl wardrobe. Screens Elect Step. TVDVD. 2 double seats & table. Spacious shower & toilet. Solar panels Many extras 2nd 100Ah Battery Safe Nudge Bar Tow Bar 180L 3 way Fridge CB Security door **PRICE \$95,000 CONTACT** 0434 721 722 eamonn910@gmail.com Q90947



YEAR 2012 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Longreach DESCRIPTION Immac garaged when not in use Last model with Solid Timber Cabinetry Auto Levelling 3TVs Full Annexe w flooring 3.6kva Gen upgraded Susp 9.5m Twin Slideouts CB Radio towbar non smokers Sec Door Wash Mach Solar Panels Ducted AC Heating Inverter 65,000 Klms \$195,000 Tandem Trailer Mag Wheels carry 2750 Kg RHS Mudguard lifts up for easy vehicle access. Elect Brakes Breakaway syst 1 yr old \$9800. **PRICE \$195,000 CONTACT** 0408 712 971 p.ncutting@bigpond.com Q94109



YEAR 1984 MAKE HINO MODEL BX341 DESCRIPTION Double bed, small single bed, full size fridge, bar freezer 4 burner gas stove with grill & oven, aircon, awing, 180L fresh water, 24v pump, gas elect hot water, TV, DVD, microwave, new tyres, two 8.5 gas bottles, 7 mths rego, recon motor, tow bar, portable toilet, shower, including Gypsy trailer, located Townsville. **PRICE \$49,000 CONTACT** 0403 370 810 0407 349 793 Q59344



YEAR 1999 MAKE Passenger Vehicle MODEL Mazda 121 Metro Shades Hatch back DESCRIPTION Metro Shades Hatch back car with Hitch N Go Awning has... system, 4... 157000 km 157000 klm on clock. Mechanically sound fittings certified. **PRICE \$1,700 CONTACT** 07 3293 1390 jodenpat@GMAIL.COM Q10686



YEAR 2009 MAKE Passenger Vehicle MODEL Suzuki Grand Vitara Auto 4x4 DESCRIPTION 2.4L 4cyl Auto AC unleaded. Immaculate condition, low kms (76000kms), 8 months rego, many extras, complete with Ready Brute Elite Tow Hitch & Brake away system, located Gympie region, vehicle won't disappoint. **PRICE \$20,000 CONTACT** 0437 727 788 jensenselectricalpl@gmail.com Q73126



YEAR 1998 MAKE SWAGMAN MODEL Signature DESCRIPTION The 28ft Swagman Signature Series is popular for a reason! When the time comes and the adventure awaits you this is your best way out of town! Easy to drive easy to own and easy to enjoy all year round in any conditions. The Signature has everything you need to make the most of your adventure in style and comfort. **PRICE \$119,000 CONTACT** 0421 026 255 info@supdogoz.com.au Q106605

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YEAR 2006 MAKE CUSTOM BUILT MODEL 5th Wheeler DESCRIPTION 5th Wheeler only, ute not included could be negotiated. Steel frame fibreglass construction. 2000 tare wt. Length 22ft width 2.1m height 2.5m. Double bed at front+rear lounge converts to dble queen length. Dinette wardrobe plenty of storage. Kitchen-3 gas plates+grill 1 electric element. 90L 3 way fridge. 200L fresh water tank 80L grey water. Shower cubicle with porta potti. Truma hot water heater. Stereo. Tinted windows+screens. Fiamma awning. PRICE \$22,500 CONTACT 0427 934 992 jotrevjordan@gmail.com Q4672



YEAR 2010 MAKE FORD MODEL Talvor body DESCRIPTION 6 berth 2010 Ford Transit Manual 4cyl 2.4 Turbo Diesel Talvor Body 240000kms. New tyres. Regular services. GVM 4.25 Registered till 4/18 Solar air conditioned 2 fridges many extras. Ready for independent camping. More info on website. PRICE \$65,000 CONTACT 0414 656 277 gemini46@bigpond.com Q90283



YEAR 1999 MAKE FORD MODEL Fedak Gekko DESCRIPTION Ford Freda Gekko Campervan Ford Freda van professionally converted in 2016 to a 4 berth campervan. 4 seater AWD 4cyl Turbo Diesel Electric pop-top roof Fiamma side awning with full annexe Rear door annexe Solar Panel & 105amp house battery fridge sink etc.... all the bells and whistles. Come and have a look you wont be disappointed. A fun little family van. Awesome to travel in! PRICE \$37,000 CONTACT 0414 614 372 whitewave246@bigpond.com Q76237



YEAR 1990 MAKE MAZDA MODEL T3500 DESCRIPTION Modern Fit out 2010. One owner. Excellent mechanical. 10 gears. Log of all work. Sleeps 3. Solar, 3 batteries, 2.6 gen, aircon, 250L water tank, grey water, awning, toilet shower, hot water, 4 burner stove oven grill, 110L fridge freezer, TV, tinted screened windows. Many extras, recent rust proof thermo painted. Used 3 trips. Kept under shelter 5 years. Nothing to spend. Price reduced from 39000 to sell quickly at 29500. PRICE \$29,500 CONTACT 0411 489 472 terry.amold25@gmail.com Q64686



YEAR 2001 MAKE FORD MODEL Transit DESCRIPTION Diesel, manual, rego March 2018, recon motor, solar panels, new elect fridge, microwave, good cond. Located Gold Coast. PRICE \$25,000 CONTACT 0428 711 624 07 5532 8849, Q76430



YEAR 2007 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL Liberation Deluxe DESCRIPTION 519 CDI, 36,667 kms, 5 speed Auto Turbo Diesel, 4.3 metre slide out, 3 seat, GPS, Rev Cam, VHF, Auto Levelling Jacks, Auto Start Generator, Under Floor Heating, 32 Inch Sat TV, Vast Box, 3 Swivel Seats, 4 Sheep Skin Covers, 2 Air Conditioners, 2 Solar Panels, 26 Litre Microwave, 3 Gas Hot Plate 1 Electric, 3 Way 230 Litre Fridge, Large Kitchen Bench, Additional Dining Table, Built In BBQ, Queen Bed, Separate Shower, Toilet, Front Load Washing Machine, Very Good Condition, Full Service History. PRICE \$220,000 CONTACT 0407 688 546 juliedoyle6@bigpond.com Q57444



YEAR 2001 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL Sprinter DESCRIPTION 108000kms 2001 only 2 owners up to date log books. 6 speed automatic. tow bar toilet shower. Annual pest control. 120lt fresh 105lt grey Trauma 15lt Gas HWS. 3 way fridge AirCon 2 deep cycle house batteries under passenger swivel seat. Reversing camera Single or Double bed configuration Seating for 6 UHF TV with Winegard Antenna Microwave Gas oven griller and 4 hot plates. Caravan type door. Plenty of storage Bike Rack included. Very good condition. PRICE \$62,000 CONTACT 07 3368 3137 helenzapp@hotmail.com Q69343



YEAR 2002 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Alpine DESCRIPTION MAZDA T4600 5 speed Man 157000km Rev camera 2 double beds plus single make up 2 solar panels 2.5kw Gen DAKAR Combi battery charger inverter electric steps 3 way fridge freezer 140L Diesel 154L Freshwater 120L Grey 80L black Suburban hot water Thetford toilet Int Ext hot cold showers Suzuki SX4 with hitch-n-go. PRICE \$87,950 CONTACT 0419 266 206 penny-barry@bigpond.com Q49934

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YEAR 2007 MAKE TOYOTA MODEL Coaster
DESCRIPTION Best Luxury Coaster in Australia 4.1 Diesel Turbo - Man - AC 228L Inverter Fridge 3 Burner Gas Cook top 360W Solar System GHW 3x120Ah Deep Cycle Batteries 3000w Inverter Reverse Camera 160L Water Tank Dom Awning 4.2m TV DVD Pullout Pantry Single beds convert to Queen 2 Gas Bottles Grey Water Tank Microwave Gas Heating System Washing Machine DVD CD 2 Way - CB Radio L Lounge Bullbar Spotlights Full Service History Log Books
PRICE \$104,000 **CONTACT** 0490 069 753 theiracis@hotmail.com Q39336



YEAR 2007 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Nullarbor
DESCRIPTION Immaculate 32 Nullarbor 82000 km Duramax diesel 6 speed Allison automatic. All Nullarbor inclusions 5 kva genset washing machine 2kva Inverter plus tinted windows throughout block out covers to cab slide out fridge freezer downstairs Webber BBQ 3 cannisters for toilet slide out tools locker sat TV LED house lights 80 ch UHF Engine Guard Timbren enhanced suspension tow bar. Always stored in a shed when not in use. There is also a 65k Jimmy and Tilita trailer at extra cost. **PRICE** \$220,000 **CONTACT** 0414 755 785 ron@townprint.com.au Q86063



YEAR 2002 MAKE MAZDA MODEL T4600
DESCRIPTION Winnebago Alpine 4 cyl diesel 5 spd 106000 kms AC PS Eng immobilizer Bullbar LR fuel tanks HD tow bar New rear tyres Service history WA Rego Feb 2018 Fully insulated Ducted RC aircon Queen bed over cab Double bed at rear Four seat dinette converts to bed 3way fridge freezer Flush toilet Shower bath Gas 240V HWS TV DVD Microwave Gas stove and oven Two 9kg gas bottles Ext shower New EPDM roof

Dec 2014 Satellite TV dish 3.6 Kva gen Inverter battery charger Retractable awning Two 160W solar panels. **PRICE** \$69,000 **CONTACT** 0411 098 575 john.davison61@gmail.com Q75435



YEAR 2014 MAKE AVIDA MODEL
DESCRIPTION Well cared for motorhome complete service records for Fiat and Avida registered until 918. Extras worth \$2500 (solar panel rev camera battery isolator switch upgraded TV aerial fitted solar blinds for front windows new house battery). EW bed full ensuite across the back lots of storage including floor to ceiling pantry. Could be walk in walk out. 6 sp auto 3L turbo diesel very economical to run. 43193km. **PRICE** \$122,000 **CONTACT** 0437 814 875 rayecoates@yahoo.com.au Q53933



YEAR 2006 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Free Spirit
DESCRIPTION Fiat Ducato, tow bar and bull bar, shower, toilet, bathroom 2 x 120w solar panels, 240fresh water, 70lt grey water battery charger inverter rev cam 2 ext outputs New awning with hook Sat king system with tripod and dish 3 way fridge Sleeps 5 Rev cyc Aircon Fresh water hose Blackwater hose 1 x 15amp pwr cord Roof ladder 4 burn gas stove Gas hot water Microwave DVD player 2 x 9kgs gas botts with regulator Cb radio stereo 69000kms incl 2006 Hyundai Getz. More info on website. **PRICE** \$75,000 **CONTACT** 0401 976 896 marianne_doughan@hotmail.com Q75958



YEAR 2011 MAKE WINNEBAGO (AVIDA) MODEL Esperance
DESCRIPTION SlideOut 38282k Iveco 50C18 4495 Kgs GVM Auto Man Cruise Climate Control Iveco Major Service \$1073 Bull Bar Tow Bar 3500Kg Central Locking

UHF. GPS. Camera Bluetooth DriverPass. Revere Seats Arm Rests Wind Deflectors Safety Air Bags Oyster Auto Satellite VAST Satking Wired FOXTEL 19 Inch TV Webasto diesel heater 2 Outlets Remote Control AC 150ltr fridge AES Microwave Gas Stove Oven 100 Drink.100 Holding 3 x 80 Solar Panels 2 x Batt Roadsafe door. **PRICE** \$127,500 **CONTACT** 0407522346 doc@airtrek.com.au Q44089

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



YEAR 2005 MAKE RENAULT MODEL Master
DESCRIPTION 2.8 litre diesel with a low 150000 kms. Reverse Cycle Air-conditioning in cabin Bathroom with toilet and shower 80 litre water tank UHF radio twin house batteries 2 x 9kg gas bottles and much more. **PRICE** \$50,000 **CONTACT** 04 2771 3010 Rietje7@gmail.com S85035



YEAR 1986 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL BUS
DESCRIPTION Sleeps 4 lots of storage professional fit out LG washing machine 220 litres Waeco fridge freezer Thetford gas stove & oven hot water system TV Satellite & receiver Split system Air con 4 x 120Ah AGM batteries 50 Amp battery charger portable solar panels 250L drinking & grey water tanks tow bar and many more. The bus might look 'old' from the outside but as the saying goes do not judge a book by its cover. You will be surprised what you'll find inside. **PRICE** \$64,990 **CONTACT** 0422 123 350 daniel.katz@activeops.com S90649



YEAR 1971 MAKE BEDFORD MODEL Comair Semi-Coach
DESCRIPTION Isuzu 6GB intercooled turbo diesel, 10 speed Roadranger gearbox, exhaust brakes, 5KVA generator, Beef Eater BBQ, 5.4m roll-out awning w- floor & walls, full

length shade blinds on opposite side, fully insulated, 2x rc aircons, sep shower, 3-way 240l fridge freezer, gas stove, dble island bed & loads of cupboards. Professionally fitted for comfortable, independent, permanent living. Tasteful decor & loads of features. Heavy duty car boat trailer available w- storage & washing machine \$10,000. **PRICE** \$28,000 **CONTACT** 0428 849 508 doinoz@hotmail.com S5500



YEAR 2012 MAKE Passenger Vehicle MODEL Grand Vitara
DESCRIPTION Suzuki Grand Vitara, 3 Door 2012, Red 5 speed manual. 1 Owner from new, full service history with interim services. Set-up for towing using Ready Brute Elite Towing System (A frame not included, but neg) 131,000 kms, in very good condition. Accessories include, Cruise Control, Quality alarm, Tinted Windows, Tow bar, and many genuine Suzuki accessories. **PRICE** \$14,750 **CONTACT** 0408 174 068 0438 120 749 rumba1@activ8.net.au S39395



YEAR 2013 MAKE IVECO MODEL Jayco Optimum
DESCRIPTION Auto Man 38000k reg 318 All Operator Manuals Cummins Onan Gen 3way Dometic Fridge Slideouts Setec Drifter 2 x DVD TV Ibis Air toilet shower microwave elec awning and steps rev cameras BBQ SMEV Hotplates. Never Used Diesel Heater Satking Satellite sys Wash Mach SMEV Grille & Oven. Extras Venom Spots Fiamma Carrier GME UHF & Aerial Bullbar Towbar Anderson Plug L & R front Side Steps Radio Booster Aerial. Genuine reason for sale. Price is negotiable. **PRICE** \$155,000 **CONTACT** 0428 461 620 diggersrestdorpers@hotmail.com S92936



YEAR 2000 MAKE TOYOTA MODEL Coaster
DESCRIPTION Rare 6 Cylinder-4.2L Turbo

(HZB 50R) Auto 155K km. Prof. conv by Motorhome Conversion QLD. Fully fitted Kitchen- Shower Toilet with Gas 240V water. Cap 120F 60G. 155L Waeco 2 dr ffreez -240V 12V 3 Way Microwave. 280W Solar 2x105 amprh bats LED lighting 240 V Rev cycle AC Diesel Heater. 7 double Rev camera 7 Audio sys AM FM Radio MP3 USB Bluetooth GPS Stereo. 4.8m Awning. Car licence op. Newly serviced. **PRICE** \$108,000 **CONTACT** 0418 836 920 aeh@huefner.com.au S88314

TASMANIA



YEAR 2002 MAKE WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES MODEL Alpine DESCRIPTION 2002 Winnebago Industries Alpine on Mitsubishi 3.5 Turbo Diesel 113k. Sep shower and Toilet 2 Door 3 way Fridge Freezer Gas Electric Hot water 4 Burner gas cook top and oven Reverse Cycle aircon Onan Petrol 3.6 kva Electric Start Generator 2 x 110ah deep cycle batteries 2 x 12v truck batteries 2 x roof top solar panels. TV DVD satelite box and dish. Also 2010 Suzuki Vitara and Ready Brute Tow Frame. **PRICE** \$95,000 **CONTACT** 04 0246 2929 pwebberley@gmail.com T84337



YEAR 2006 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL Sprinter 308 CDI DESCRIPTION Turbo diesel 47000 klms 5 speed manual. licensed to carry 5 passengers. Reg 12 2017. Shw toilet basin micro gas h water hot plates. TV DVD 600 watt inverter Swivel seat 2 removable tables. double twin beds. Bench space ++ ample storage. Venetian blinds. Pull out awning alloy bull bar and air rear suspension. **PRICE** \$61,500 **CONTACT** 0409 142 987 tb.steel@bigpond.com T46696



YEAR 2013 MAKE FIAT MODEL Ducato DESCRIPTION 2013 Avan Applause 500

(6m) turbo diesel automanual gearbox seats 4 sleeps 2 diesel heater 2 x 90w solar panels and 2 x 120amp AGM house batteries showertoilet new fridge microwave gas stove hot water tvdvd cb radio reversing camera air con nudge bar awning plus many more extras. 74000 km **PRICE** \$85,000 **CONTACT** 0487377450 Peteround49@gmail.com T89215



YEAR 2004 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL Sprinter DESCRIPTION 2010 designer built. 2004 Merc Sprinter. 2 solar panels 2 x 180 agm batts diesel heater domestic toilet ac. tv dvd gas oven & hotplates. Spacious interior loads of storage. Dometic windows awning. 2 carry bike rack bulbar 6 new tyres. 290000 total kms Regd July 2018. **PRICE** \$52,000 **CONTACT** 0407 141 565 bingleyg@yahoo.com T75291



YEAR 2012 MAKE JAYCO MODEL Conquest DESCRIPTION Only selling due to downsizing. Low KMs (36782) well kept & cared for by loving owners. Fully self-contained more than comfortable for free or off-grid camping. 2 Single beds and double 120 watt Solar panelregulator 2x100amp battery 3-way 150lt fridge Gas & electric cook tops Microwave Rear view camera & Reversing sensors 150lt fresh water tank 80lt Grey water tank Bathroom with Shower basin & Cassette toilet. See website for extras & more. **PRICE** \$105,000 **CONTACT** 0407295060 jeffconolan@gmail.com T70615

VICTORIA



YEAR 2013 MAKE HINO MODEL Rainbow DESCRIPTION 4 lt Turbo Diesel 5 spd Manual 7 mt 256000 ks rear motor flat floor 400 watts Solar 240 AH Batteries Diesel Heater 2 Air Cons 200 Lt Fresh Water 65 Lt Drinking Water Island Bed Shower Toilet Rev Camera 7 mt Awning Towbar Storage Bin Swivel Seat Slide-out Pantry. Ex Cond. **PRICE** \$55,000 **CONTACT** 0428 348 014 glendaian@virginbroadband.com.au V75134

service history 79500 kms all Avan options 3 way fridge 2 x tv's 2 x 100 amp house batteries picnic table bull bar tow bar gas bayonet awning strip light separate toilet shower & basin slide out shelf in kitchen silver titanium finish. **PRICE** \$115,000 Neg. **CONTACT** 0412 333 939 graeme.karen@gmail.com V65975



YEAR 1993 MAKE Passenger Vehicle MODEL SIERRA DESCRIPTION 1993 SUZUKI SIERRA with HITCH & GO A FRAME - Manual 4WD 2 door Hard top Midnight Blue colour tinted windows Tow Bar - 203000 kms - Registered till March 2018 all service records available. - Hitch & Go A Frame with Certificate provided - ALL INCLUSIVE **PRICE** \$7,500 **CONTACT** 0437177439 gdubczyk@yahoo.com V7535



YEAR 2014 MAKE JAYCO MODEL Conquest FD-1 DESCRIPTION 20 ft. As new. Turbo diesel auto trans 42000 klms, Vic reg Jul 2018, solar panel twin house batteries 800 watt inverter diesel heater twin elec step elec awning inbuilt safe tv & radio dvd new microwave reversing camera & parking sensors. Nudge bar near new tyres. Plus all usual Jayco features. **PRICE** \$91,000 **CONTACT** 0403212421 ja.fa@bigpond.com V102027



YEAR 1987 MAKE HINO MODEL Rainbow DESCRIPTION 4 lt Turbo Diesel 5 spd Manual 7 mt 256000 ks rear motor flat floor 400 watts Solar 240 AH Batteries Diesel Heater 2 Air Cons 200 Lt Fresh Water 65 Lt Drinking Water Island Bed Shower Toilet Rev Camera 7 mt Awning Towbar Storage Bin Swivel Seat Slide-out Pantry. Ex Cond. **PRICE** \$55,000 **CONTACT** 0428 348 014 glendaian@virginbroadband.com.au V75134



YEAR 2008 MAKE WINNEBAGO (AVIDA) MODEL Longreach DESCRIPTION Isuzu NQR450 auto 100k Klms owned for 5 years two slide outs all usual fittings and extras 3 solar panels sat dish and vast new tyres led lights 7kg wash machine six seat belts with engineer cert. Bull bar tow bar electric brake unit well looked after serviced and maintained great condition non smokers easy setup and go. Suzuki GV Sport 2014 Auto 45k kms with ready brute tow system to suit also available if required \$24k **PRICE** \$180,000 **CONTACT** 0418 335 160 taltanptyltd@bigpond.com V82469



YEAR 2014 MAKE FOREST RIVER MODEL Lexington DESCRIPTION Ford E450 Lexington Fully Imported 6 speed auto V10 petrolgas Conversion done by Lazy Dayz Motor Momes in Melbourne In as New condition only done 16000 Klms Sale due to ill health 3 Slide outs Elec awning Full Flushing toilet system with black tank Flush + all mod cons as you would expect in this american built unit. completely self contained First to see will buy. **PRICE** \$178,000 **CONTACT** 03566 22430 dennis@ryanbricks.com.au V49979



YEAR 2013 MAKE AVIDA MODEL Esperance DESCRIPTION Late 2013 Iveco 50C17 Auto excellent condition with upgraded electric Slideout & \$16,000 worth of extras, sleeps 5 (island double bed, overhead cabin double bed & wind down dinette bed), 4 safety belts, only traveled 33,000km, 2 x 100litre fresh water tank, Hayman Reece HD tow bar, roam safe security door, top load WM, double bike rack, 4 large solar panels. **PRICE** \$149,000 **CONTACT** 0418 310 060 tnah@robprojects.com.au V105316



YEAR 2009 MAKE AVAN MODEL Ovation M3 **DESCRIPTION** Fiat Ducato Auto Turbo Diesel. 58000 kms 3 way2 door fridge gas electric oven grill 3 hot plates micro oven TV DVD CD Shower toilet. Windout awning gas electric hot water.3 House batteries.2 x 9 kg gas .Diesel heater air con solar. Reversing camera. Bull Bar tow bar new tyres inverter. **PRICE** \$82,000 **CONTACT** 0448 974 112 03 9741 1209 denis.mcgrath@bigpond.com V41497

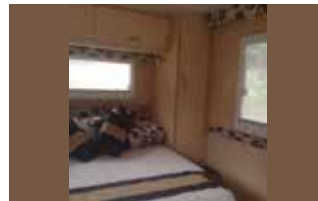


YEAR 1995 MAKE TOYOTA MODEL Hiace **DESCRIPTION** Prado 3L turbo diesel, auto, just had 146,000km service, excel cond, all outfitted in Japan, seats fold to dble bed, heating cooling units underneath, slideout bed up top,

windows up top, flyscreens, blinds, centre roof vent + fan & lights, Waeco 12v 240v fridge, gas stove sink 12v pump, 2 as new batts, battery isolator to charge while driving, 12v solar, 12v TV, multimetre, 60PSI tyre gauge, 12 mths rego, legs now cactus, with RWC. **PRICE** \$26,000 **CONTACT** 0490 385 392 V93759



YEAR 2014 MAKE MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL Sprinter **DESCRIPTION** 416 CDI, Auto, 52000 KM, Unfinished Project, fitted with Windows, Roof Rails, Fiamma F65L Awning, Reversing Camera and 100LT Long Range Fuel Tank, Included but NOT fitted. \$20500 of New Quality equipment including, Webasto Diesel Stove, Webasto Hot Water System and Cabin Heater, Waeco CR140 Compressor Fridge, Dometic 3KG Front Load Washing Machine, Fibre glass Moulded Shower Cubicle. Please contact me for details. Price reduced **PRICE** \$49,750 **CONTACT** 03 9337 8410 0414 378 410 billyt46@bigpond.com V96656



YEAR 2007 MAKE FIAT MODEL Eclipse 23 **DESCRIPTION** Manual 118000km 110L fuel. This van is well equipped and ready to go. Island bed leather upholstery convection microwave excellent storage solar panel ducted diesel heater, dual house batteries, 3 way fridge, rego to February 2018. **PRICE** \$75,500 **CONTACT** 0407 165 815 bet.devos@bigpond.com V44295



YEAR 2010 MAKE AVAN MODEL Ovation M3 **DESCRIPTION** Avan Ovation M3 4 berth excellent condition 97000kms Drive is a 3L turbo Fiat Ducato 6 speed auto and comes with full service history. This vehicle has been carefully maintained kept under cover and is in excellent condition. All

M3 features included and has been fully equipped for free camping including Diesel heating. Additional features include Bull bar Bike rack slide out Webber BBQ tripple rear view camera GPS Satellite TV forward view camera. **PRICE** \$84,500 **CONTACT** 0412 350 566 paynerh@bigpond.com V83930



YEAR 2007 MAKE CROSSROADS RV MODEL cruiser **DESCRIPTION** 1 owner 3 slide outs, kitchen w island bench, fullsize fridgefreezer, 3 Burner hotplate w oven, mwave, washing mach, recliner swivel chairs, 32in TV, Satellite decoder, lounge converts to dbed, Dining table and chairs, Queenbed, 2.4m wrobe, sep shwr & tlt, aircon, ducted gas heating, extra Engel freezer, airbag hitch 2 solar panels, IVECO vehicle has full service history, fitted with AIR RIDE seats, custom side steps & storage boxes, HONDA 3Kva Gen, airbag suspension. **PRICE** \$120,000 **CONTACT** 0408 702 021 gunnado69@bigpond.com V29687

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YEAR 2002 MAKE MAZDA MODEL
Winnebago Leisure Seeker **DESCRIPTION**
UJP745 134000 km Mazda T4600 diesel
with aux. gas all Winnebago features
plus 3 hPa Honda generator Vast sat. Nav.
90Cm dish system reversing camera multi
media dash unit sale due to health. **PRICE**
\$75,000 **CONTACT** 0458 149 324 03 9792
5153 beverleyaldous@icloud.com V29103



YEAR 1995 MAKE TOYOTA MODEL
Coaster **DESCRIPTION** Long Wheel Base
(7mtr) 5 speed man. 6 cyl. diesel. reg.
to May 2018. 265000 kms. Metallic
duco in exc. cond. Rebuilt motor 2017.
Coaster number plate. Tow bar Dometic
awning. Heater m'wave LED lighting

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portable gas stove twin beds & bedding
(double queen mattress compatible)
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PRICE \$27,000 **CONTACT** 0359425656
jkingman@bigpond.net.au V69801

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



YEAR 1988 MAKE MITSUBISHI MODEL
Fuso MK595J **DESCRIPTION** Popular
9m wide body coach with air susp,
183,403km, 6cyl 6.9L turbo engine,
6sp manual, cruise at 100kph with car
on trailer, too many luxury inclusions &
extras to list, auto sat dish, 2 decoders,
2 TV DVD combo, diesel air heater, 258L
2 door fridge freezer, 500w solar, 500w
AGM batts. 2011 Suzuki Jimny Sierra &
car trailer rated 1,999kg with elect brakes,
roofrack, will separate. See web for more
info **PRICE** \$145,000 **CONTACT** 0438 289
252 noemail50802@icloud.com W50802



YEAR 2004 MAKE K-Z MODEL Durango
DESCRIPTION This fabulous, strong 30ft
5th Wheeler with slide out totally fitted
out with everything (just add food),
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grand combination, both for just 85K.
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PRICE \$85,000 **CONTACT** 0439 357 042
clintsh30@gmail.com W43015



YEAR 2007 MAKE CUTLOOSE RV MODEL
Escape **DESCRIPTION** This 5 Th wheeler first
lic. in Queensland 2009 has everything
required for long term travel has solar
panels two 100amp batt, auto sat finder

on roof, ensuite, one slide out, air con,
stove with oven, t.v. Roll out awning,
two sun blinds, near new tyres, priced to
sell at \$39950. tow vehicle available if
required, 2010 Nissan Navara diesel duel
cab \$16,000 has long range fuel tank
electric brakes, everything ready to go.
PRICE \$39,950 **CONTACT** 0409 294 393
johnandtrishmeyer@hotmail.com W77825



YEAR 2008 MAKE K-Z MODEL Sportsman
DESCRIPTION 2008 Sportsman K-Z
+ Annex + 2005 F250. Superb 33ft
Sportsman K-Z with roll-out awning &
rare custom annex + equally fantastic
2005 F250 XLT 7.3L chipped 138000
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ducted in-floor heating leather recliners,
sofa, WC, shower & lots more. Please
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Alternate phone 0400 703 627. Price
negotiable. **PRICE** \$125,000 **CONTACT**
0438308002 ennis@wn.com.au W65028

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SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Please submit your chapter events online at www.cmca.net.au

Ensure you have uploaded your event to the website **BEFORE** the following dates to meet *The Wanderer* publishing deadlines:

January issue - 1st December, February issue - 1st January,

March issue - 1st February, April issue - 1st March.

For the full list of the Social Events Calendar go to the CMCA website.



ACT

28-3 Canberra & Region Wanderers

Robertson Showground. New Year's Eve communal dinner. \$20 per van per night powered site. Showers and toilets. Power and water avail. Dogs OK. Please advise hosts Geoff & Dot on dotgeoff@gmail.com

NSW

7-10 Clarence Valley Ramblers

Celebrate Christmas with a feast of fabulous food and entertainment, showers, toilets, and some power. Please bring sweets or salads to share, plus a present pp for Secret Santa valued approx. \$5. Decorate your table. Bookings essential Carol 0472 517 170. AGM Sunday 10.30am.

7-11 Sydney Wanderers

Celebrating Christmas dinner at the Royal Federal Hotel, Branxton Friday December 8, 2017 at 6pm. Sunday 10th December 2017 is our AGM. Further information from barclaygaye@gmail.com

7-10 Central Coast Wanderers

Gloucester Holiday Park, Denison Street, Gloucester. \$28pv/pn, dogs OK. Book with Dennis on 0427 536 670 or Alan on 0429 480 604 or Email: ajscw@gmail.com by 30 November.

7-10 Lower Blue Mountains Wanderers

Robertson Show Ground, Kangaloon Rd, Robertson. Showers, toilets, power, hall. Christmas Party, bookings essential by 12 Nov 2017.

7-11 Blue Wrens

New Berrima Sports Ground, Taylor Avenue, New Berrima. Christmas party. Camping fee per person - TBA, Christmas Dinner - Blue Wrens \$10 per head and guests are \$15 per head. Please bring a \$10 Christmas Gift for Secret Santa. Must book to attend this event.

7-11 Leisure Coast Wanderers

Milton Showground. Come and enjoy Milton with us. Powered sites, showers, toilets, and a hall. Club contact is Phil Zuber 0428 237 066. Dogs on leads as per CMCA rules.

8-10 The Summerlanders

Jeff and Dawn Halls' property, 188 Numulgi Road, Numulgi. Bush camping. Toilets no shower. Contact Dawn Hall 0414 284 101. AGM will be held at Jeff and Dawn Hall's property at Numulgi on Sunday 10 December.

8-10 Lakelanders

Tomago Bowling Club. A large area and free camping, chapter fees apply. Our Christmas dinner to be held on Saturday night, Sunday morning we hold our Annual General Meeting to be followed by the General Meeting and then concluded with our Chapter Birthday celebrations.

8-11 Port Macquarie Escapees

Thompson's property, Upper Rollands Plains. Shower, Toilet. Sausage Sizzle Saturday night - Numbers please. Contact Gayle 02 6585 6503 / 0439 856 503 Maree 02 6586 3244 / 0419 650 627 Carolyn 02 6559 7702 / 0407 466 036.

8-10 Hunter Coastal Wanderers

Behind Hinton Pub. 2 Paterson Street, Hinton. Note 2nd not 3rd weekend of month. No charge but need to eat a meal at the pub. Toilets, no showers. Disc bowls. Solos welcome. Advise President if coming on hwcwpresident@gmail.com or by phoning Cathie on 0415 631 833.

8-10 New Englanders

Inverell, Christmas Party Glenair 6104B Gwydir Hwy, Inverell (near RMS of head camera). Toilets, Shower. Dogs CMCA rules Ch. fee \$2 Friday night sausage sizzle (supplied). Bring salad OR dessert for feast Saturday night. Small fun gift to value \$10. AGM Sunday 10.00 a.m. Hosts: Joy Woods 0407 891 269.



Port Macquarie Escapees enjoy their Christmas feast

NSW CONT...

9-10 Manning Valley Wanderers
Change of venue from Kendall Showground. We will now be meeting at the Gloucester Caravan Park for a Christmas Dinner at the Gloucester Tennis Club. Members will need to book a site at the caravan park. Several sites have been reserved for our group.

15-18 Eagles
Christmas party. Gloucester Caravan Park. Toilets, showers, \$12.60 unpwd \$28.00 pwd, dinner Roundabout Inn. AGM Saturday arvo, bookings essential. Contact Lorraine 0429 458 409.

30-2 Wagga Wagga Wanderers
Wagga, Camp Kurrajong Reserve Wagga, New Years Eve Party. Toilets and showers, pets on leads OK, camp fees \$10 per night unpowered, powered site \$12 per night, chapter fee \$5 per van, raffle \$5 per van. Host Wayne Harmer 6925 3799 or 0402 013 914.

NT

9-10 Topenders
Come join us for a night of fun and frivolity. Powered sites and donga rooms available, book rooms direct with tavern. Christmas Dinner at the tavern. Contact Chris for details 0417 829 360.

QLD

4-8 Kingfishers
Bucca Rowing Club, Cnr Longs & Rowing Rd, approx. 30 mins from Bundaberg. Christmas dinner is on Wed night and AGM on Thurs am. We have access to the river for kayaking etc. \$12 pvpn for toilets and hot showers, no power. Dogs strictly under CMCA rules. Booking necessary. Ph Laurel on 0402 917 127.

7-11 The Suncoasters
Maleny Showgrounds, first left past shops, 1km to grounds on left. \$15 pvpn, toilets, showers, limited power, dogs CMCA rules. Christmas Dinner on Sat night. Bring goods for Hamper. Gen Meeting Sun 9am followed by AGM. Bookings essential. Costs may change. Visitors welcome. Ph: Leo 0418 771 271.

7-10 Wide Bay Wanderers
Gympie Showgrounds, 77 Exhibition Rd, Gympie. Showers, toilets, dogs on leash at all times as horses are training. Cost \$17pvpn powered, \$14pvpn unpowered, plus \$1pppn club levy. Contact Brenda on 0427133915 or email brendazillmann@bigpond.com

7-10 Gold Coast Drifters
Boonah Showground, 8 Melbourne St, Boonah. Short walk to town and pub. I wonder what mischief Santa and his Elf will get up to? Catered Christmas meal. Drifter AGM. Power, Shower, Toilet, Dump Pt. Please RSVP to Kerry 0408 754 317 by 4 Dec for catering.

7-10 Paradise Wanderers Gold Coast
Casino Gateway Lifestyle Park. \$22.50 powered. Swimming pool on site. Dogs as per CMCA rules. Ring Susie for numbers. 0417 719 441.

8-11 South East Kookaburras
Canungra Showgrounds, showers, toilets, dogs CMCA rules. Camping \$10pppn, extra for power. Christmas luncheon will be on Sunday at 12.30pm. Cost is \$25, bookings essential, payment no later than 4 December. Phone or SMS Gay on 0488 130 715 or email gaybanks@bigpond.com.

8-10 Logan & Moreton Ramblers
Kalbar Showgrounds. Toilets, showers, power, pets as per CMCA rules. Christmas dinner price TBA. Ring Lyn 0423 425 677 or John 0409 240 441 for booking. Payments by Nov at Rathdowney Sat Breakie for members. Visitors \$6.00.

8-10 Rum City Ramblers
Coalstoun Lakes Memorial Hall. 22km west of Biggenden, towards Ban Ban Springs. Hall is on the left, opposite the shop. Toilets, no power, dogs (CMCA rules), \$5 pvpn. Christmas function. Phone Wally on 0421 425 329.

8-10 Logan & Moreton Ramblers
Kalbar Showgrounds. Toilets, showers, power, pets on leads as per CMCA rules. Christmas Dinner.

8-10 Bribie Beachcombers
Beerwah Sports Grounds, Simpson St, Beerwah, \$20pvpn with power. We are planning a meal at the Beerwah Hotel for lunch on Sat. Bus to pick us up and drop us back to Sports Grounds. Bring a gift and we will do a Secret Santa.

8-10 Gin Gin Gypsies
Apple Tree Creek Hotel. Travel south from Gin Gin for approx 42kms, hotel will be on your right. \$2.50 pppn.

9-10 Mackay Sugarloafers
Gargett Rodeo Grounds. Travel towards Eungella and turn off at Gargett. The grounds are next to the hotel.

10-17 Rainbow Lorikeets
Maroochydore Primary School, enter off Maroochydore Rd into Amaroo St then right into Pikki St. \$12pvpn, limited power, toilets, showers, dogs CMCA rules. Unfortunately this venue does not permit caravans. Christmas dinner Wed night, please bring \$10 generic gift for fun exchange. Bookings essential by Wed 6 Dec. Please phone Sue 0407173406.

22-29 South East Kookaburras
Buddina State School, Iluka Ave. \$15 pvpn. Showers, toilets, next to shopping centre, buses, clubs, beaches. For bookings, phone or SMS Gay on 0488 130 715 or email gaybanks@bigpond.com.

29-7 Brisbane Sunshine Wanderers
Buddina State School, Iluka Ave. Toilets, showers, power, \$12pvpn, dogs as per CMCA rules, short walk to shops and beach, activities will be organised. Bookings essential, bswsecretary@gmail.com or Rod 0409 613 909.

SA

7-10 Festival Wanderers
Nuriootpa Caravan Park, Christmas celebration. Please contact President Faye or Secretary Leonie ASAP to book your site, or at least one week prior to event beginning. Watch out for chapter emails telling you what to bring. Dogs allowed on leash in non-food venues. Sense of humour essential.

8-10 Adelaide Wanderers
Beerwah Sports Grounds, Simpson St, Beerwah.

TAS

7-12 Blue Gum Rovers
Molesworth Recreation Reserve, 560 Molesworth Rd, Molesworth Our Christmas rally. Hosts Gaye and Gordon. Parking near hall and around oval but not on it. Warm hall, toilets, tank water. Please bring small gift for Santa's sack. Christmas meal catered by Chinooks mobile catering. For any queries phone Gaye or Gordon 6244 3294 or 0413 074 559.

7-10 Devil Wheelers
Christmas dinner and party at Devonfield, Devonport. Fun and games weekend with Christmas dinner and party on Saturday night. Price TBA. AGM Sunday 10th Dec at 10am. Toilets, showers available. \$5pvpn. Ph Veronica 0408 031 881. Visitors welcome.

TAS CONT...

- 8-10 Dalrymple Drifters**

Scottsdale Showground. AGM at 2pm Saturday. \$7.50 pvppn double. \$5.00 pvppn single. Christmas dinner Saturday night \$30 per head. Bookings for rally and dinner to Don and Sue Mackrill 0418 362 232 or donmackrill@bigpond.com

- 8-10 Overlanders**

Willow Court, New Norfolk Lion's Club Rooms. Christmas dinner on Saturday night. Doubles \$4pppn, Singles \$5pppn. Dogs as per CMCA rules. Contact Sec 0417 781 6899.

- 14-17 Huon Pine Pioneers**

We will be camping on the esplanade, and on Saturday night we will be holding our Christmas dinner at the New Norfolk Bowls Club. Dinner will be \$25pp. Please bring a gift to the value of \$5 for Santa's sack (boy bring for boy, girl for girl). Hosted by the Committee. Please phone Kaye on 0448 395 871.

- 15-17 Tassie Shearwaters**

Fingal Football Ground, \$10 ppnn, Christmas dinner \$22pp, AGM.

- 28-2 Van Demons**

New year, Devonfield, meal available, booking by 20 Dec, Maureen 0419 361 977

- 29-1 Island Wanderers**

Scottsdale, New Year rally at Scottsdale Rec. Ground. \$4pppn. Toilets, meal on New Years Eve (\$20). Nearby golf club, swimming pool. Hosts Christine & Brian 0438 575 903.

- 29-2 Tassie Shearwaters**

St Mary's New Year Races Meet. \$5 ppnn plus race day entry fee on New Year's Day. Evening meal at the golf club on Friday 29th at \$25 pp. Booking to Royce 0409 217 225.

- 30-2 Dalrymple Drifters**

CMCA RV Park at Railton. \$3 per person per night. You must go onto the CMCA website and click Member Services at the top. Click My CMCA RV Park Bookings, then Add Funds. Minimum of \$15 by credit card. Then create a new booking and fill in your details. The Custodians do not take cash but will have your credit status and booking on their CMCA tablet. Please also let Don and Sue know on 0418 362232 or donmackrill@bigpond.com

- 4-7 Eastern Rosellas**

Rich River Golf Club. Twenty Four Lane, Moama. 4 nights camping, Christmas dinner and band - cost \$65. No power, club facilities available. Sorry NO dogs. Compulsory RR club membership 2 yrs \$18 req. (1 year also avail). Kris Kringle \$10. Bookings by 16th November. Payment details to be advised at booking. AGM 11am 6 December. Contact Jan 0407 668 244 or Cathie 0408 205 172.

- 8-10 Shipwreck Coasters**

Christmas dinner Sat pm at Timboon Hotel. \$26ppnn. To be paid November. Camping \$5ppnn. Hall, toilets, dogs on lead. Visitors welcome, contact Marita 0438 622 863.

- 8-10 Southern Explorers**

Bungaree Recreation Reserve, Bungaree-Wallace Rd, Bungaree. Vic Rds 76 H2 GPS 37 33 26 S 143 59 49 E. No power/showers, flush toilets. Dogs OK CMCA rules. Christmas catered lunch. Bookings essential by November. Prizes for best Christmas decorated motorhome. AGM Sunday morning.

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WA

- 7-11 Western Willie Wagtails**
Gidgegannup Recreation Centre. Small hall and kitchen, internal wood fire and wood provided, \$12 per night powered (only 6 powered sites, first in first served), \$10 per night unpowered. Toilets, showers. BYO food community meal Sat night unless otherwise advised. GPS -31.793557, 116.192740.
- 8-10 Western Rovers**
Austria Club up to 3 days. A picnic for past members on Sat. 11am to 2pm. No BYO Booze. Bar and Cafe will be open. Meals available every evening. Dance band on Saturday night. The Wags will also be there that weekend. Contact thewesternrovers@gmail.com or Tom 0408 945 961.

- 8-10 West Coast Wags**
\$10 pvpn toilets only. Christmas weekend AGM. This is still under planning so please contact Sue closer to the date for full details and costs. Contact Sue on 042 192 8799 or email suegrenda@hotmail.com for registration & details.
- 15-17 Perth Wanderers**
Pickering Brook Sports Club. Camping on the oval with power \$12 PVPN. Toilets and showers, dogs per CMCA rules. Meal at the Clubhouse Friday evening. Saturday PM cut the cake for our 29th Birthday and Christmas, AGM and Christmas BBQ. Raffle draw. Please book by Monday 11 Dec with Lorraine on 9452 1176.



NSW

- 1-7 Golden West Wanderers**
Come and celebrate New Year with us at Lake Canobolas near Orange. Showers, toilets, potable water, no power, \$10 pvpn gates will be open on 31st Dec 2017. Ph Pat & Val 02 6366 5076.
- 11-14 Central Coast Wanderers**
Nabiac Showground. Cost \$18 PVPN power, dogs OK. Book with Dennis 0427 536 670 or Alan 0429 480 604 or Email ajsccw@gmail.com by 4 January 2018.
- 12-14 Coffs Coast Banana Benders**
Richard Townend Property, Warrell Creek, 73 Cockburns Lane, Warrell Creek, Lat-, 30 784, Long-152. 890. 9km from Macksville Caltex Servo, turn left between sawmill and Upper Warrell Creek bridge, travel 1km.
- 13-14 Manning Valley Wanderers**
Jennifers Place, Coopernook.
- 18-22 Leisure Coast Wanderers**
Robertson Showground. Hall, powered sites on nice flat grassy area, showers and toilets. Dogs CMCA rules. Meri 0434 832 325.
- 19-22 Port Macquarie Escapees**
Kendall Showground, Batar Road, Kendall. Facilities, power. Contact Gayle 02 6585 6503 / 0439 856 503 Maree 02 6586 3244 / 0419 650 627 Carolyn 02 6559 7702 / 0407 466 036.
- 25-29 The Highlanders**
New Berrima Recreation Center, Taylor Ave, New Berrima. Hall with heating/fans, kitchen, hot showers, pets OK. Australia Day celebrations in Berrima. Visitors always welcome.
- 26-28 New Englanders**
Lamb and Potato Festival, Guyra. Free camping at Mother of Ducks Lagoon (signposted in Guyra). Approved camping 48 hours. Dump point. Ch. fee \$2 pp. Activities on Highway (stalls and displays). Walk to Bowling Club for Saturday night meal. Host: Gary Woods 0407 323 006.

QLD

- 2-9 Albert Valley Rovers**
Maroochydore Primary School. Enter via Pikki Street. Toilets/showers, limited power (no aircon/microwaves), shops and restaurants near. 1.5 kms to beach. Fees \$12 pvpn. Visitors welcome, bookings required by Dec 1st, phone Christine 0447 314 727 or email tedandced@gmail.com. Pets as per CMCA Rules.
- 2-9 Tweed Gold Coast Wanderers**
Maroochydore Primary School. Enter grounds via Pikki St, \$12 pvpn, no aircon or microwaves, fridges OK.
- 3-9 Logan & Moreton Ramblers**
Murwillumbah, enter via Mooball St. Toilets, showers, power, pets as per CMCA Rules, dump point.
- 4-7 Gold Coast Drifters**
Evans Head. The 2018 theme is World War I. No Dogs. No Drones. This is a uniquely Australian aviation event and Australia's most friendly aviation gathering. Phone Kerry 0408 754 317 if you would like to come along and park beside one of the runways with the Drifters.
- 7-14 Darling Downs Drifters**
Buddina State School, Iluka Ave. Plenty of covered space, short walk to shops and beach. \$15 pvpn. Entry via Pt Cartwright Dr then Nanyima St into Iluka Ave. Limited power, showers, water, toilets, Visitors welcome, dogs per CMCA rules. Doug & Marcia 0427 130 745 or Ron & Cheryl 0438 349 329.
- 8-11 Rainbow Lorikeets**
Kandanga, behind Bowls/Country Club. Limited power and facilities, \$5 pvpn unpwr, \$15 pvpn pwr, \$4 shower, dogs CMCA rules. Undercover area, meal in Club Wed night, close to swimming pool. Ph Sue 0407 173 406.
- 9-16 Wide Bay Wanderers**
Maroochydore State School, 10 Amaroo St. Enter from Pikki St. Toilets, showers, limited power. Dogs as per CMCA rules. Cost \$12pvpn plus \$1pppn club levy. Bookings to Brenda on 0427 133 915 or email brendazillmann@bigpond.com by Jan 4 2018.
- 12-14 Rum City Ramblers**
Wyper Park Scout Camp about 12 km towards Childers from Bundaberg on Isis Hwy, turn right, then sharp right to entrance. Toilets, showers, use of large covered area. \$5 pppn. S 24.94514 E 152.25621 Ph Wally 0421 425 329.
- 16-21 The Suncoasters**
The Suncoasters January Chapter Meet.

NT

- 26-28 Topenders**
Join us to help celebrate Australia Day and all that we have to be thankful for, plus we will hold our AGM this weekend. Sat night dinner at the pub, great pool, pets OK, \$28 pvpn, Call Chris 0417 829 360 or Lorraine 0427 873 339.

QLD CONT...

- 24-29** **Thuringowa Drifters**
Crystal Creek Campus, Spieg hauler Rd, Mutarnee. Australia Day Weekend. In Wed, stay until Mon. Bring your flags, gear to celebrate our day. BBQ, camp oven cooking etc. \$15 PVPN unpwr, toilets, hot showers, camp shed, swim hole. GPS 18 58 09S 146 17 E. nos to BJ 0427 173 100 email kayandbj@gmail.com
- 25-28** **Darling Downs Drifters**
Clifton Showgrounds, \$10pvpn, Australia Day festivities on Friday. A short walk to town for a free Australia Day breakfast. Showers, toilets, power, dump point. Contact Peter & Marg 0428 611 757.

SA

- 19-21** **Blue Lake Wanderers**
Carpenter Rocks oval. Park away from rooms. BBQ, toilet and take away food available.
- 25-28** **Peninsula Yorkeys**
Weekend at Graham's, Moonta Bay.

TAS

- 4-7** **Blue Gum Rovers**
Level area for parking, warm club house, some power, bring own drinking water. Dogs as per CMCA rules. Meal at Community Club on Friday, hot dog lunch Saturday, New Year games and sports in afternoon. BBQ Saturday evening, bring salad to share please. Hosts Elaine and Philip, phone 6244 6366.
- 12-14** **Overlanders**
Oatlands Callington Mill. Spend the weekend close to Lake Dulverton, Oatlands. Walks around town, public toilets close by. \$4.00 pvpn double \$5.00 pvpn single. Dogs as per CMCA rules. Contact 0477 816 899.
- 18-21** **Huon Pine Pioneers**
Black Scrub, Bagdad. Private bush camp, toilets, BBQs, shelter, pets allowed, fires, water, level area. Hosted by Collene Newman, please phone 0427 500 470.
- 18-21** **Devil Wheelers**
WOW 2nd Birthday Celebrations at Cressy. Party, fun and games, treasure hunt, disc bowls comp. Saturday night Nick's Traditional Roast Meal. Price TBA. Toilet available. \$5 pvpn. Hosts Petrina and Nick 0407 825 570. Visitors welcome.
- 19-21** **Island Wanderers**
Bishopbourne. Fun and games, fundraiser for Relay for Life. \$4pppn. Toilets, shower. Small plate for IW birthday morning tea on Sat. Hosts Wendy & Peter 0400 819 891.



ACT

- 16-18** **Canberra & Region Wanderers**
Billy Grace Reserve, Wee Jasper. Showers, toilets, dump point. No power. \$12.00 per adult per night. Please advise host Coralie on coraliew@iinet.net.au

NSW

- 1-4** **Golden West Wanderers**
Trunkey Creek Recreation Ground. Power, showers, toilets, and shelter also meals available at hotel. \$10 pupn bookings Ph Ray & Bev 02 6331 7556.

- 25-28** **Tassie Shearwaters**
Kimberley Cottage Camping, \$10pppn. Come along and help us celebrate Australia Day. Bookings phone Suzie 0478 504 299. Meal Saturday night \$10pp.

- 25-28** **Van Demons**
Stanley Football Ground, our annual Australia Day disc bowls and golf competitions will be held plus other events to keep you entertained. Bookings contact Maureen phone or text on 0419 361 977 or email mkjones1946@gmail.com by 18-01-18.

VIC

- 5-7** **Portland Bay Rollers**
Portland Rifle Club. Travel towards Portland Aluminium Smelter on Madeira Packet Road, past the Golf Club. Turn left under the pipeline before the smelter onto the road signposted to The Gannets. Dogs CMCA rules.

- 12-14** **Southern Explorers**
Woodvale Community Hall, 34 Daly's Rd, Woodvale. Friday 12 to Sunday 14. Vic Roads 44 E4. GPS -36.6550741 144.2123991. Flush toilets, no power or showers, pets ok CMCA rules. Hall is historic State School in rural setting, air-cons, kitchen, shade, plenty of parking. Kath 0427 547 659.

- 19-21** **Shipwreck Coasters**
Mortlake Caravan Park. Room, toilets, showers. Power available. Short walk to shops. Dogs on lead. Visitors welcome, contact Marita 0438 622 863.

- 19-21** **Eastern Rosellas**
Tarnagulla Camping Ground. Hot showers \$1 on timer, toilets. \$5pn. TV, internet ph reception. Pets OK on leads as per CMCA rules. There is a pub, post office and Minimart. Redfin and yabbies in the nearby dam, bush walking trails. Dinner Sat at Golden Age Hotel. Host Carol 0400 907 969.

- 19-21** **Central Highlands Trekkers**
Inverleigh. Victoria Park, Pony Club Ground. VicRoads Ref.93 B3. From Hamilton Highway turn south into Winchelsea Road over railway line then turn west into Park Street. Plenty of open space and shaded areas. Kitchen available. Easy walk to interesting main street and suspension bridge.

- 19-21** **Gippslanders**
Korumburra Showgrounds. South Gippsland Highway, Korumburra VicRoads Ed 6 p 709 O-7. \$10 pupn (no pwr) \$12 pupn (pwr). BBQ Friday, catered meal Saturday. Host Kevin Moriarty 0417 552 207.

- 25-28** **Westernport Drifters**
The winery is located at 215 St Helier Rd, at the top of hill on left. Good views of Westport Bay, walks around winery, an open BBQ shelter is available, wine sales, toilets. Melways page 18 R 21.

- 8-11** **Central Coast Wanderers**
Canton Beach Caravan Park, Birthday Rally. Cost TBA, Dogs OK. Bookings essential with Dennis Ph 0427 536 670 or Alan 0429 480 604 or email ajscw@gmail.com by 1 February 2018.

- 16-18** **New Englanders**
Stonehenge Rec Reserve, South Glen Innes on New England Highway. Entry through stone gateway. Toilets. Huge granite boulders, large camping area, good shade. Ch. fee \$2 pp. Courtesy bus may be avail. to Red Lion Tavern, Glencoe if required. Host:- John Marr 0427 453 184.



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NSW CONT...

16-19 Port Macquarie Escapees

Thompson's property, Upper Rollands Plains. Shower, Toilet. Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning - numbers please. Contact Gayle 02 6585 6503 / 0439 856 503 Maree 02 6586 3244 / 0419 650 627 Carolyn 02 6559 7702 / 0407 466 036

16-19 Eagles

Ferndale Park via dungog camping by the river birthday bash. \$15 pn unpwd \$22 pn pwd, toilets, hot showers, bring wood. Dogs CMCA rules. Contact Lorraine 0439 458 409.

22-26 Leisure Coast Wanderers

Carriage Club, Bundanoon. Hall, powered sites available only with a 10AMP power lead, showers and toilets. Dogs CMCA rules. We're celebrating our 25th Birthday with a special dinner. Bookings are essential. Contact Meri by 20th Jan on 0434 832 325.

QLD

8-11 Wide Bay Wanderers

Biggenden Showgrounds, 13 Walsh St, Biggenden. Cost \$10pvpn powered \$5pvpn unpowered plus \$1pppn club levy. Showers, toilets, dogs as per CMCA rules. Contact Brenda on 0427 133 915 or email brendazillmann@bigpond.com by 4 Feb 2018.

9-11 Tweed Gold Coast Wanderers

Canungra Showgrounds AGM on Saturday 1pm. Sausage sizzle provided. \$25 for 2 persons pvpn with power. 1 person with power \$15. No power, toilets, showers \$1 coin operated. Dogs accepted CMCA rules.

11-17 Rainbow Lorikeets

Woodgate Sports Oval, behind Bowls Club on waterfront. Toilets, shower, \$15 pvpn, dogs CMCA rules, meals available at Club and use of Club for cards, barefoot bowls. Ph Sue 0407 173 406.

15-18 The Suncoasters

Widgee Showgrounds.

16-18 Logan & Moreton Ramblers

Eumundi Showgrounds. Black Stump Rd, Eumundi. Toilets, showers, limited power. Bring long leads, pets as per CMCA rules. Visit Eumundi Markets.

23-25 Darling Downs Drifters

Dalveen Hall. Friday night join the locals for BBQ. Toilets, no power, \$10 pvpn. Phone Esme 07 4681 2927 or 0429 920 353.

SA

1-4 Mount Lofty Bushies

Rapid Bay Campground. Grassed area and toilets, no fires, gen and dogs as per CMCA policy. Bookings essential. Contact Secretary.

16-18 Blue Lake Wanderers

Make own bookings at Port MacDonnell Foreshore Tourist Park 08 8738 2095. Takeaways and fresh seafood available in town. Bring everything including sunscreen.

TAS

1-4 Blue Gum Rovers

Level parking in car park. Meals every night at RSL Club. Toilets open RSL hours. Quiz and games Saturday night. Walks to local beach, shops. Pets allowed as per CMCA rules. Hosts Suzan and Ady, ph 6297 1486.

22-26 Overlanders

This is our State Rally for 2018. Morven Park, Evandale. Registration is required for the 5 nights. SC vehicles. Penny Farthing Event and Sunday Market worth a visit. Rally program run by organisers.

CALLING FOR SUBMISSIONS

We want to hear from you! We're on the lookout for stories about freedom camping and nature based experiences, and also your best family touring destinations. What are some of the best places you've taken the kids or grandkids while on the road, either in Australia, or abroad. Please send your 1200 word submissions and six high res images (2mb each) to editorial@cmca.net.au

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PHOTO CALL OUT

We want photos of you at your chapter meets. Send us your best group photos from past events to be included in the social event pages. Images need to be at least 1mb. Email: editorial@cmca.net.au

23-25 Tassie Shearwaters

Old Mac's Farm Stay. \$10 pppn, General Meeting on the Saturday, Bookings to Suzie 0478 504 299.

VIC

2-4 Portland Bay Rollers

Casterton Angling Club, 26 kms north of Casterton on the Glenelg River. From Casterton take the Dergholm Road to Warrock Road. Clearly marked signs off Warrock Road, \$15 per night for powered site or \$10 for unpowered site. Dogs CMCA rules.

3-5 Geelong Gladabouts

Mount Franklin is in Hepburn Regional Park, 11km north of Daylesford on the Castlemaine Rd. Contact Ken 0439 915 790 or Dave 0415 423 777.

9-11 Southern Explorers

Campbells Creek Community Centre, 52 Elizabeth St, off Cemetery Rd. Friday 9 to Sunday 11. VicRoads 59 E3 GPS -37.092572 144.201928 (Front gate). Large, well equipped hall, no power or showers, flush toilets. Pets ok CMCA rules. All welcome Kath 0427 547 659.

16-18 Shipwreck Coasters

Derrinallum Deep Lake Reserve, 4.5 kms from Derr. on the Chatsworth Road. Room, power available, toilets, shower, BBQ, fishing, dogs CMCA rules, contact Marita 0438 622 863.

16-18 Central Highlands Trekkers

Haddon Lion's Club Park. VicRoads 76 D3. Woody Yallock River Reserve, Racecourse Rd. Come along and help us celebrate. We are returning to the place of our inaugural meeting. The Saturday night dinner is being catered for by members which requires a booking and payment of \$15 per person.

IT'S A WRAP: SOLOS NETWORK 20TH BIRTHDAY BASH

The Solos Network has celebrated its 20th birthday in style at a rally in the South Burnett Region of Queensland.

Three hundred and thirty three members attended the event from across Australia, 68 of them first timers.

Held at the Nanango Showgrounds, the program included seminars, dancing classes, craft sessions, disc bowls and trivia, and as an added twist, each day had a theme including Crazy Tie Day, Odd Shoe Day and Apron Day.

Foundation members Marty Parkes, Marie Collison, Nita Johnson and honorary founding member Mel Fleming cut the birthday cake, iced in Solos colours of red, yellow, blue and green while simultaneously, masses of balloons dropped from the ceiling.

- Narelle Wockner, PR Media Officer, Solos Network



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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**HF Radio Users Network - Australia Wide**

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National Fifth Wheelers**- Australia Wide**

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NEXT ISSUE...

OUT IN JANUARY

RISE OF THE RESORT PARK

- We look at the rise of resort parks to meet the demands of a changing RV market
- Editor Kirstie Bedford visits the four shires in WA banding together to protect coastal parks
- We take you on a scenic journey through Australasia from wondrous waterfalls across Australia to some of the South Island of New Zealand's best sights



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