

Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners Inc.



NEWSLETTER No 35 – July 2009

PO BOX 4028 Lake Haven 2263

Committee of Management:

PRESIDENT Des Cooper 43933383,
Vice President Mike Wildman 43973111,
Social Director Coral Kane 43339738,

SECRETARY Katie Patterson 43905658,
Editor Alice Cooper 43933383,
Welfare Laurel Curnow 43695954,

TREASURER Bill Patterson 4390 5658
Tour Director Clarrie Stevens 43692759

NEWS FLASH: Caravan & Motor home Magazine: The June meeting discussed a letter the club had received from the Caravan & Motor home Magazine. The letter proposed that a journalist from the magazine would attend/visit on one of our trips, take photos and talk to members then prepare a six page spread. Members were enthused and in total agreement with the proposal and suggested Narrabeen Rally would be an excellent trip. *PS It looks like Kylie may also go to Grafton*

Wow What a Meeting: We had (128) of our members and nine (9) visitors in attendance. The day was so busy and went so fast. How about one of our visitors winning the June monthly raffle. The previous month (May) it was a member who joined on that day.

2009 Annual General Meeting: Our AGM is approaching very quickly. We have sent out Nomination Forms with the July Newsletter. So please give serious consideration to your nominating for a position in your club.

Planned talk on Electric Blankets: The planned talk on electric bed blankets and fire safety was postponed until the July meeting. This was due to the meeting going a little too long and we would have needed to cut the safety talk short

Monthly Reminder Box: At the June meeting a member suggest that we place a reminder box in the Newsletter and each month provide a reminder. So that in future you will be reminded of the little checks you should do annually or sooner. It all starts here

MONTHLY CHECK BOX
Fire Extinguisher
(Turn it upside down and shake vigorously)

Speaking at Meetings: Members have raised the problem of hearing all discussions at meetings. They have requested that we increase the volume of the loud speaker system and also members speaking volume at meetings. It

is very hard to judge the volume of sound from our position in front but Des said he will make arrangement to ensure all members hear all discussions in future.

Narrabeen Booking: Just a reminder that the normal charges for Narrabeen are \$39 per night less 10% if you are a Big 4 member. We as TLC members receive a large discount and only pay approx. \$26 or \$27 a night (2009 charges will be confirmed shortly) The Committee of Management also charges each person \$15 for the week and that provides for the cost of the large Marquee, lights, hired B-B_Q and gas, tea/coffee and milk for 7 days, also a dinner on one evening. So to book a site just pay your \$15 deposit to the Treasurer and the Tour Director will confirm your site.

Hayman Reese CD Loan: The playing of the CD from Hayman Reese prior to the meeting starting was not a success due to sound/hearing. But at least it started people thinking about the subject and we think it is a CD that all members should

look at in their home. Our club has five (5) copies of the CD available for loan and Philip McDonald has agreed to co-ordinate the lending to members. Please ring Philip on 4328 3435 to book a CD

Fire Extinguishers: The subject of fire extinguishers was raised at the June meeting by a member who had spoken to Fire Brigade officers at a caravan show. The Firefighter stressed the need to turnover or shake the extinguisher monthly to keep the contents free. Members should inspect their fire extinguisher on a regular basis; check that the pressure needle is located in the green position. Then vigorously shake the extinguisher to help keep the contents (powder substance) free and loose. The main problem with powder type extinguishers is that the constant vibration of travelling causes the powder to compact. Then they may not operate correctly when required.

Fire Blankets: The need to have a fire blanket in your home and caravan was raised and discussed briefly at the June meeting. We will have a demonstration of the correct use of a fire blanket at the July meeting. Des suggests this is an excellent method of dealing with most small (safe) fires. We have fire blankets in our kitchen and garage also one in our caravan. We have **no** fire extinguisher in our house

Lubrication- Tow Equipment: Lots of discussion on the need to lubricate fittings in relation to tow gear. The suggestions put forward included the need to use ordinary grease, water resistant grease, bee's wax, WD40 and a number of other lubricants. The most important point is that it is necessary to use a lubricant. If you have doubt check with your caravan service person or your van supplier and use it each time you hook up.

New Inspection Arrangements: From 1 July 2008 the period for vehicle safety inspection exemption for new light vehicles is extended from three to five years. Most light vehicles, including passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, motor cycles, panel vans, **caravans**, trailers and heavier four-wheel drive vehicles, with a compliance date of July 2003 onwards can be renewed without an inspection report for the first five years. Your renewal notice will indicate if an inspection is required.

Stamp Duty: We understand that from the 1st July 2009 the NSW Government has removed the Stamp Duty payment from new Caravans. This will bring us in line with other States and should be a reduction of around \$1000. This will save a lot of us the trip to Victoria

Transport Changes for Seniors: From the 1st January 2009 people holding a Seniors Card have been entitled to concession fares in all states. This matter had been under discussion for about 10 years. The Federal Government has offered almost \$50 million to assist the states and territories in providing this concession. We actually experienced this great scheme last month in Adelaide and in Darwin. In Adelaide we paid less than \$2 to travel all over Adelaide for the day on tram/bus we were very surprised and pleased. In Adelaide we caught a bus from the Airport to the City for a \$1.20 each and cab fare was somewhere between \$15 to \$40. In Darwin we paid \$1.20 each for a bus ticket for the day. Further to this, Senior's Card holders can receive 25% off standard adult fares on any of Great Southern Rail's services.

LPG V Petrol: LPG is cheaper than petrol due partly to Federal excise applied to ULP of 38.143 cents per litre which currently is

not applied to LPG. Average metropolitan fuel prices at Feb '09 were ULP \$1.22/litre, LPG 59.6 cents/litre. LPG price is usually around half that of petrol, although the prices move independently of each other. As LPG has a lower energy content rating than petrol, fuel consumption can increase by up to 30%. For a family 6-cylinder sedan the increase in LPG consumption over petrol should be around 20%, i.e. more stops to fill up. Consider a trip in a *Fal-den* of 5 000 kms using petrol at, say 14 litres/100 kms. Petrol used is $5000 \times 14/100 = 700$ litres, @ \$1.22/litre, total cost = \$854.00 Consider the same trip using LPG at $(14/100 \times 120\%) = 16.8$ litres/100kms, LPG used is $5000/16.8/100 = 840$ litres, @ 59.6 c/litre, total cost = \$500.64. These figures are only estimates as both the cost of fuel and actual consumption will fluctuate. In considering these costs, no allowance has been made for the cost of converting to LPG. **Note** that LPG will attract excise of 2.5 cents per litre from July 2011 progressing to 12.5 cents/litre by July 2015. More information is available at www.lpgaaustralia.com.au

UHF Radios: Whilst travelling to destinations with other vans its great to be able to talk by UHF radio. Also when you are on a trip and the members decide to go somewhere in a car pool it's really helpful for all members to hear what is happening. To purchase a set for your vehicle can be expensive so before you do you should check out the idea of purchasing hand held types. They are not very expensive and operate OK. Just ask around among club members there are a number already in the club who have handhelds.

Power Lead 15Amp to 10Amp. We understand that a number of members carry a short lead i.e. about one meter long

that has a 15Amp female plug with a 10 Amp male plug on the other end. This allows you to plug into any ordinary 10Amp outlet. We understand a few people used these to obtain power at the Meet & Greet at Cessnock. We have been advised these are illegal and it may affect your Insurance should an incident occur.

15Amp Power Lead Alterations: We have heard that on occasions members have had to file the large Earth pin on the 15amp lead down to fit into a power outlet. Again this would possibly be illegal. So be aware

Stockton Weekend Trip: On the Friday it was still rainy, dark and gloomy. Phone calls were made to Jan & Rod who advised they were still going. So we packed our van and along with 4 other vans braved the conditions and went to Stockton. It rained most of the way but stopped just long enough for us to set up. We met with Fred & Doreen who had been there for a while. Dinner on the Friday night was at the bowling club where Jan & Rod managed to win a seafood tray in the raffle. Saturday dawned and it was windy but sunny with the rain gone thank goodness. We walked on the beach and along the break wall with waves crashing around. We saw the coal tankers coming into the harbour and wind surfers enjoying the huge waves. We also took the ferry trip across to Newcastle, walked around the shops and had lunch there. Then ferry back to Stockton. We all had a BBQ dinner in the shed in the caravan park. The facilities were good. Sunday arrived bright and sunny so we had breakfast in shed and a walk around. Took our time packing up and then left for home. It was only a short break but thanks to Jan & Rod for organising a great weekend. *John & Val Maslem*

A Hair Raising Holiday: In April/May Garry & Leonie Johnson headed North to Chinderah Village Caravan Park for their sons wedding at Tweed Heads. They were accompanied by Phil & Beth McDonald. All went well except for a bit of sickness. Then the fun started in the form of torrential rain and gale force winds which battered their vans for a couple of days. One night at 9pm during a blackout they had to pull down annexes and awnings. The storm severely damaged about six vans and they were told it was a Category 2 to 3 cyclone. (To get a graphic description just talk to Garry but watch out for his arms) Then the Tweed River broke its banks about 100m meters away and water poured across the road. The SES (from Central Coast area) then placed them on standby for evacuation. They say they thoroughly enjoyed the WINTERSUN Festival and an excellent Elvis impersonator also the Hot Rod and restored cars. This is a fantastic time to be in the area with parades, rock & roll bands and dancers all along the streets of Coolangatta and the beachfront. On the way home they stopped at the Park Beach Caravan Park at Coffs Harbor and have given a big wrap to the magnificent camp kitchen. They are now preparing to return again next year. *(Extract from a written tear-stained report Ed)*



Our Australian Holiday 2009

Hi All We left on our Australian holiday on the **11/03/09**. We met up with the caravan club at Berry for the State Rally and had a great time. Mike Hazel & us then travelled down the south coast where they have been showing us the ropes on bush camping. Then Kevin & I went to Phillip Island to see the Penguins there were over 600.. We then travelled along The Great Ocean Road we could not believe how magnificent it was & the color

of the sea is something to see. We stopped at Anglesey, Lorne, Apollo Bay & Port Fairy they were all different but beautiful. We then travelled to Mount Gambier were they have the bluest of lakes they change color from ink blue to grey. I was so lucky I spent my birthday in Bunning's car park cake & all while Kevin & Mike did repairs on the van.. We moved on to Victor Harbor & spent 3 days there the weather has been beautiful no wet days. We are in the Barossa Valley at Nuriootpa then down to Adelaide for Easter. Hope you all have a great Easter until next time *The Happy Wanders Kevin & Lynda Steele.*

Continued From Adelaide

On Friday we went for a drive to Port Adelaide nothing open so we headed to Glenelg it is a holiday area just like Surfers Paradise & for good Friday every shop was open. On Saturday we had a day in town went on a tram down to the markets it was like china town. We went to Port Adelaide & went on a cruise for \$4.00 it was 2 hours couldn't get any cheaper;.

13/04/09 Left Semaphore & met up with Mike & Hazel to travel across the Nullarbor We bush camped at Kimba tiny town good camp & cleaned toilets there was a big Galah in front of a store which had Halfway across Australia sign over the top of the shop.

14/04.09 We stopped at Ceduna by the sea to have lunch. We travelled to a place called Penong the population was 200 and we stayed in a caravan park to do some washing & it was free & to fill our water tanks.

15/04/09 We saw 1 dingo & 1 kangaroo not many animals we did enjoy the scenery though, stopped at a few lookouts right on the coast where the Whales have there Babies at the Head of the Bight. We then made a bush camp & went for a long walk in the bush it is a wonderful feeling to be in

the middle of Australia with just the stars & the bush.

16/04/09 Stopped at Woerlba homestead rest area we cooked a damper it was the best one yet had a great night & woke up to the most beautiful sun rise over the Nullarbor

17/04/09 After we swept out the red dust we were on the road again stopped at Balladonia Roadhouse where they had a museum there were parts of a Spaceship that had fallen between Esperance & Norseman it was very interesting. We had our last bush camp with Mike & Hazel at Brockway Rest Area We will catch up when we return from Singapore they are heading down to Esperance & we are heading to Kalgoorlie.

19/04/09 The Markets were on at Boulder and we also drove to a couple of look outs over looking the Gold mining pits. Then we went to the Mining Hall of Fame which included going down a mine shaft & a man was melting the Gold he gave me a sample of silver & tin & a scraping of Gold We also drove down Hay St where the Brothels are but did not see any girls working.

20/04/09 Today is our 41st wedding anniversary and we are heading to Perth. We are leaving for Singapore on Thursday we will be coming back here when we come home. (*The Steels leave for Singapore story continued in August Ed*)

2010 State Rally: The 2010 State Rally progress payments of **\$30 must be paid before 31st July** and the final \$34 before Nov. 30th

New Adds: We have just received two new companies wishing to advertise in our Newsletter. I will write more about them in the August letter. But keep them in mind if you wish a quote.

FOR SALE

16Ft Roma Pop Top Single axle, single beds 16 x 7'6". Very Good condition (*Well loved*) Registered until September. Only used on 3 main trips, plus weekend excursions, always on bitumen roads. Complete with roll out awning, canvas annex, green open weave annex, soft touch Green Matting, steel pegs & ropes, storage for rods, Complete Hayman Reece system, tyres 2 years old, gas BBQ (unused), all hoses and electrical leads included plus external water tap. "It's a Beauty" – all ready to hook up and drive away. The lot for \$23000

Phone John Lusted 0409 079 770

Phone John Lusted 0409 079 770

2003, Jayco Freedom Pop Top Caravan

16'9". Single beds. Front kitchen. Gas cook top/grill. TV antenna. Tow hooks etc. Excellent condition. Good tyres. Reduced to \$20,000 for quick sale

Ring Mitchell – 0422 194222

MONTHLY RAFFLE LIST

Hogan John/Jacqui July
Holland John/Greta August
Holmes Jim/Lorraine September
Would you please supply the \$20 direct to Treasurer Bill Patterson

TLC BIRTHDAYS.

AUGUST

Marsh David	1-Aug
Lee Sing William	3-Aug
Davies Claudia	3-Aug
Grady Jo-Ann	3-Aug
Burrows Dennice	4-Aug
Moore Joy	5-Aug
Salmon Kerry	9-Aug
Kane Coral	10-Aug
Henry Vicki	12-Aug
Lusted John	12-Aug
Palmer Ashley	12-Aug
Evans David	16-Aug
Johnson Gai	17-Aug
Fabien Margery	18-Aug
Burns Bob	19-Aug
Smithers Lynne	25-Aug
Holland John	27-Aug
Maclean Garry	30-Aug

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Barefoot Bowls & Sausage Sissle

Lunch –

The Diggers Memorial Club at The Entrance

Friday 24th July. Arrive in time to start bowling 9.30am. Please wear your Name Badges. Also wear socks or thongs to play in.

Social Director Coral Kane 4333 9738

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CURRENT TRIPS -with - DEPOSITS PAID

July 23 – 29	Stockton Beach (49281393)	Pets/N	Dep/Y	Cards/Y	T/L - TBA	Ph .
ATTENDING:	Nil					
August:	Trip to Cape York (Nil.Ph)	Pets/N	Dep/N	Cards/N	T/L - D Gross	Ph 4325 0668
ATTENDING:	Gross – Sheehan/Ranse (2)					
August 23rd - 30th	Woody Head66466134	Pets/N	Dep/Y	Cards/Y	T/L R/R Stewart	Ph 43883414
ATTENDING	Stewarts, Lee Sing, Gross (3)					
Sept. 1 – 7	Blacksmiths Beach (4971 2858)	Pets/??	Dep/Y	Cards/Y	T/L - C of M	Ph C of M
ATTENDING:	Nil					
Oct 9 –Nov 1	New England Ramble (Nil,Ph)	Pets/N	Dep/N	Cards/?	T/L -TBA	Ph
ATTENDING:	Brown J&L, Stevens, Hunt/Holly, Payne, Webb, (5)					
Nov 1 -7	Norah Head (Melb. Cup)	Pets/Y	Dep/Y	Cards/Y	T/L K/R Cooper	Ph. 4397 2285
ATTENDING:	Cooper R&K, Clarke, Curnow, Ducker, Smith, Wallace (6)					
Nov 2 – 8	Grafton Jacaranda Festival (1800012019)	Pets/N	Dep/\$50	Cards/Y	T/L -TBA	Ph
ATTENDING:	Brown J&L, Hendy, Murgatroyd, Reynolds, Shawcross, Stevens, Thomas B&L, Woolfe, Bickley, Coltman, Fisher, Fletcher, Ketley, Williamson (14)					
Nov 23 – 30	Narrabeen Rally	Pets/N	Dep/\$15	Cards/Y	T/L C of M	Ph
ATTENDING:	Cooper D&A, Curnow, Dew, Easter, Field, Fisher, Grady, Hart/Hayes, Holland, Holmes, Howard, Johnson G&L, Luthje, McDonald P&E, Moore, Payne, Reynolds, Rigger, Smith, Stewart, Williamson (21)					
Feb 12 – 19	Tuncurry/Forster (6554 6440)	Pets/N	Dep/\$30	Cards/Y	T/L Tour Director	Ph
ATTENDING:	Bunnett, Clarke, Curnow, Davies, Easter, Howard, McNamara/Banck, Stevens (8)					
Feb 19 -26	Happy Halladays Point (1800 555 454)	Pets/N	Dep/\$50	Cards/Y	T/L C of M	Ph
ATTENDING:	Broadhurst/Hoye, Bunnett, Cooper D&A, Curnow, Davies, Easter, Johnson G&L, Lee Sing, McDonald P&E, Moore, Rigger, Smith, Stevens, Stewart, (14)					
Mar 12 – 14	State Rally-- Lennox Head	Pets/N	Dep/\$20	Cards/N	T/L K. Patterson	Ph. 4390 5658
ATTENDING:	Patterson, Holland, (2)					
Mar 29 –Apr 6	Hartwood	Pets/Y	Dep/\$5	Cards/Cash	T/L D Cooper	Ph. 4393 3383
ATTENDING:	Cooper D&A					

Apr 28 -2 May M & G Cessnock Pets/Y Dep/\$15 Card/Cash T/L **C of M.** Ph.
ATTENDING: Nil