

# Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners Inc.



## **NEWSLETTER No 39 – NOVEMBER 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

**2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**  
Members at the AGM will be responsible for appointing our next management committee. Currently we have eight (8) positions on the Committee of Management. At the closing date we had received nominations for five (5) positions. We will need to nominate from the floor for the positions of:

**Treasurer, Tour Director, Welfare Officer**

**Narrabeen Marquee Update:** The October general meeting was advised that AVA's hire marquee we have been using at Narrabeen had been destroyed in a recent windstorm. Efforts had been made to obtain another marquee from many different sources but all were very expensive. The only one we can secure for this year will cost \$2100 for eight days (This will include the cost of a gas BBQ). The C of M will look at other possible options for 2010 November Rally

**Manly Dinner Payment:** We have 91 names on the attendance list for the Manly

Dinner. At the time of writing 70 people have paid their \$30. The money must be paid to the Treasurer by or at the November AGM.



***The President & Committee  
Wish all members a Happy Xmas  
& Prosperous New Year***

**Raffle Tickets:** As you are aware members were being requested to participate in the selling of raffle tickets at monthly meetings. **But the really good news is that Cecily Ranse has now volunteered to be our club raffle ticket**

**seller.** So please remember to support and encourage Cecily

**Caravan & Motorhome Update;** Just received information from the company that they will attend Narrabeen on the Thursday and Friday. They are going to provide us with a "Handy cam" and we will do a home type video. Ken Cooper has been asked to do the "shooting". So if you see Kenny lurking around just keep smiling

**Club Auditors:** The October meeting was briefed that we need to reintroduce our own auditors to check our account books. These two positions will be included in the list at the November AGM. The procedure then will be the Treasurer will complete all book entries these will be checked by two auditors and then at the end of the financial year the account books will be audited by The firm M Crocker and Associates - Chartered Accountant. This will make our books very transparent.

**Template for Sheppard Hooks:** Laurie Luthje has organized a template of the design for the Sheppard Hook bars slider thinggy. This stops the grating noise of the bars sliding on metal when turning corners He made his by cutting up Joan's nylon food cutting board Mmmmmm I'm not sure this is a good idea Laurie, what did Joan say. If you wish a copy of the template give Laurie a ring on 4390 3105

**Favorite Caravan Park/Camp Site;** At the October meeting we discussed the trend of Caravan Parks upgrading their parks with all the bells and whistles including games rooms, playrooms, jumping castles etc and this of course has caused a massive jump in park fee's. Members named quite a few that are over \$40 per night. We discussed Berry Showground and the Gundagi River park as very good parks with costs \$15 - \$20 per night. It has been suggested that our club compile a list of our club member's favorite showground's locations also your special free camps that you have actually stopped at. So to start it off we need you to name the park/location and just a few brief words about it. (a phone call will do and I will write it up). This will be an ongoing project and it will be one of the pages in our clubs Web-page. Ed

**Free Camps:** On our recent trip we checked out free camps at -Currabubula (just Nth Werris Creek)– in a park on the side of the road, no facilities however a toilet is available in the adjacent showground Split Rock Dam (Manilla) Not real well maintained in camping area Power \$15 per night unpowered \$8 good hot showers, water and toilets although we were told we could camp down near the boat ramp for free. Texas- In the pastoral reserve along the river nice and quiet and beautiful scenery overlooking the clear slow flowing river – no facilities however

hot showers and toilets are available in the main street of Texas 1klm away. (Around 12 vans were camped along the banks. Dalby – At Bowenville Reserve on the side of Oakey Creek quiet –toilets only – half a dozen vans on site. (Careful if you park down on the flat near the creek as it is black soil and if it rains you will not get out) Lake Dyer at Laidley (half way between Toowoomba and Ipswich) well maintained council site with on site caretaker first night \$22 second night free and then all subsequent nights \$22. Full facilities showers, toilets, washing machines, power. There is another site in Camps 4 Book near Laidley, Thornton Centenary, this is now subject to the same fees as Lake Dyer and the key to the facilities needs to be collected at Lake Dyer before the 20klm drive out. (Not as good as Lake Dyer according to the other Nomads) *Cheers Tom/Bernice Fuller*

<u>WHERE ARE THEY</u>		
<u>No2</u>	<u>First Aid Kit</u>	Curnow R/L
<u>No1</u>	<u>First Aid Kit</u>	Cooper D/A
<u>No1</u>	<u>Disc Bowls</u>	Stevens C/
<u>No2</u>	<u>Disc Bowls</u>	Curnow R/L

<u>MONTHLY RAFFLE LIST</u>	
<u>Johnson Gai/Peter</u>	<u>January</u>
<u>Johnson Gary/Leonie</u>	<u>February</u>
<u>Jones David/Beverly</u>	<u>March</u>
<u>Would you please supply the \$20 direct to Treasurer Bill Patterson</u>	

**Solar Panels:** At our October meeting we discussed Solar Panels in general and members were advised that if you are going to install solar power always go to the next level that is put in a larger size

that you actually need. The correct level of batteries and solar panels will allow you to use a microwave and air-conditioners. You firstly need to determine what equipment you want to use in the van. It really is a choice of bush camping with power available at all times or you carry and use a good capacity generator which has noise, time limitation and is not allowed in National Parks.

**Solar Panels Information:** We are at Coffs Harbour returning from a trip up through Quirindi, Werris Creek, Tamworth, Manilla, Barraba, Bingara, Inverell, Texas, Dalby, Ipswich, Brisbane, Coffs Harbour. The purpose of our trip was to have caravan repairs carried out in Brisbane and meet up with other TLC club members at Split Solitary Beach (Coffs Harbour). Along the way we checked out some free camping sites ALSO see how long we could bush camp off road without 240v power. I like at least 3 hrs of TV per night and Bernie enjoys a hot shower before bed. Our van has a full en-suite and a 12v TV through a transformer from 240v. We also carry 140 ltrs of water under the van with a deep cell battery supplying the 12 volt power with 2 x 9kg gas bottles for our three (3) way fridge. We found that by stopping at free camping sites as opposed to caravan parks makes a trip very reasonable in costs. We found there are a lot of caravanners and motorhomers out there that live in free camping sites and have only been in a caravan park once or twice a year. They freely talk about their experiences and their power systems – **Solar V's Generator.**

We found we could do what we wanted – 4hrs TV also a hot shower for both each night with hot meals. The fridge, stove and the hot water system were turned to gas – It will last out two (2) days before the

battery required a recharge (it would not run the TV) maybe 3 days with limited TV. Most of those we spoke to opted for solar, but all carried a generator just in case so their outlay was about \$2500 to \$3000 plus a generator (2kva) \$2200. There were a few who had generators only but these were not the permanent caravanner's. So still not sure which way to go – maybe buy the generator and then build the solar system as time and \$'s permit (solar is getting cheaper and more reliable as new technology is developed). *Tom Fuller*

### **Received Monday 9 as Print Started**

**Split Solitary Early Report:** Our schedule brought us to Split Solitary Beach Coffs Harbour on the Thursday before the other club members were due to arrive (on Sunday and Monday). It poured rain on the Thursday night but settled down to a few showers on Friday (about lunch time) so we did a little retail therapy arriving back at the van at about 4.30pm at which time it started to pour rain again which very soon became torrential. We kept an eye on the creek to the back of the van which continued to rise. At about 7pm panic set in so I phoned the office and left a message on the answering machine, about 10 minutes later they came around and told us to evacuate to the visitors car park. 15minutes went by and we were packed up hooked up and ready to go, but our next door neighbour was in trouble his wife was on the phone trying to get some relatives to come and help( they were never going to be there before the van went under water) and he was trying to pack up himself- he wasn't sure how the awning came down (so in the dark didn't have a chance), his tap and hose fittings were brass needed to be screwed on and off with a pair of multi grips (these were somewhere in a toolbox on the rear floor of the car). By the time we got his awning down and the van on the

ball the water was up to our knees it was about 8 to 8.30. We pulled up into the visitors car park (which was a few feet above the water level) through water a foot deep and running quit swiftly down to the area which we were `camped. On arrival at the visitors car park the managers were instructing us to cram into this little area which to my way of thinking was ridiculous as the road out of the park was still not covered in water and the road out went quiet steeply to high ground so I kept going up to a vacant block of land at the top of the hill. Next morning we were surrounded with vans as the water in the car park started to come up to the floors of the vans at about 9.30 so they headed out – I understand that by this time the water was over the wheels of the 4WD's and the Commodore (the van I helped pack up) was up to the headlights, one petrol 4WD just struggled through breaking down just above the water line. The next morning we went back onto site as all the water that went through the place 4to 5ft deep (1200/1500mm) was gone and the creek was just a trickle. What we learnt from the experience was that when caravanning you should have a practiced routine for packing up your site and you should be able to do this in the dark and both occupants of the van should have their assigned duties and as well be able to assist each other or take over the others duties. There were two vans almost lost because neither of them were able to get their awnings down and their wives had never helped to pack up the outside of the van (Don't know what happens if he has a heart attack in the middle of no where). There are other things – quick snap or click on fittings, tools with quick organized access (leg winders and remember a battery drill does not work real well under water). Its Sunday and we have (4) four more vans pull in, Terry/Jean, Gary/Jeanette, Ralph, Bob/Margaret, its

been raining all day but not real heavy. As at 5pm (happy hour) the creek has had a small rise but nothing to be concerned about at this stage. Hope we do not have the excitement (???) of Friday night again.  
*Regards Tom /Bernie Fuller*

**Lawns Bowls- Indoor Bowls Day:** Our Social Director is in the process of organizing a Lawns/Indoor Bowls Day for Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010. We are also sending letters to other clubs inviting them to attend. So please assist Coral by putting your name on the attendance list ASAP.

**Grandparents Day/Picnic:** Folks if you intend to come along to this great day of fun please assist Lyn Purcell by supplying your name and the names and ages of any children coming with you. [Please act on this as soon as you finish reading this newsletter.](#) **Ring Lyn now on 43963154**

**Xmas Dinner:** Our Xmas Dinner will be held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December (second Sunday) This year we have booked and been guaranteed the day in our normal meeting room. We have also spoken with management and the Chef about the standard of last year's dinner and this year we expect a quantum leap forward. This is our club member's day to socialize, eat, drink, dance and be happy. So please come along support your committee efforts and have a fun day. The committee has subsidized the dinner by \$5. Please arrive between 11-11.30 am. PS we have some really good dance music lined up.

**Download Items onto Desktop:** Sometimes members have trouble opening documents and newsletters after they have been downloaded onto their computer. We have found that by downloading to our Desktop makes it easy to open and work

on documents. Give it a try lets know what happens

**Last Newsletter for 2009:** As we do not hold a meeting in December this will be the last newsletter until next January 2010. So please continue to assist me by sending in stories on trips and events. All the best for Chrissie and a Happy New Year to all members. *Ed.*

**Accounting System:** For the past three years we have used a manual accounting method for our clubs books. Due to the large volume of transactions the committee have now confirmed the need for our club to use an electronic accounting system. We have input all financial information since 1<sup>st</sup> July to date and it has proven to be a very easy, fast and effective method of keeping our books. We will also continue to keep the manual system in operation.

**L G Apparel:** Graham and his wife attend most of our club meetings with their wide range of apparel for sale. At the next meeting (AGM) they will have an interesting new article on display. It is a very nice tracksuit in our club colors. They have offered to give our club a tracksuit to raffle. A notice board/stand will be placed on the table with a colored display listing all their products and prices. We will also send out an email to all members with the colored display listing document attached.

**TRIP TO NUNDLE:** Amidst the dust storm of all dust storms four (4) very brave (or foolish?) caravanners set off for Nundle. We all assembled at Freemans Waterhole for morning tea and then continuing on our way taking our Directions from our NAVMAN which caused us to turn off just South of Blandford. What an experience as it sent us on the "Farmgate Trail". The

scenery was very pretty which was more than could be said of the road. However we made it safe and sound to our destination. On arrival at the caravan park which was very good we were greeted by Riggers, Greens with Howards and Ralph arriving on Thursday and Ketley's on Saturday. Thursday morning was all males on deck to help our inaugural caravanners, Mac/ Vicki Henry, put up their awning....with the ladies supervising of course!!! Thursday afternoon saw a game of disc bowls which was won by Mac and Vicki. Thursday night Bill Rigger gave a lesson on camp cooking with everyone enjoying the result of dampers, stew and curry....very yummy!!! On Friday some went into Tamworth and visited the wax museum....well worth a visit. Friday night we enjoyed a meal at the local and watched the footy. On Saturday the girls went up to the town with one security conscious person (we won't mention who ) locking the van door inside, then going out and closing the door so that when hubby wanted to get back in he was stopped in his tracks.. Saturday night was BBQ night with all the girls providing potato bake, salads, etc and a good night was enjoyed all round. Sunday was freezing and windy so after a drive to Hanging Rock a hot bowl of soup at the Goldmine Museum went down well. Monday saw a heavy frost as did Tuesday when we headed home.....well fed and rested. *Gary/Leonie Johnson*

**SOCIAL DIRECTOR**

See newsletter for **Manly Dinner - Xmas Party and Picnic/Grandparents Day updates**

**FOR SALE:**

Four (4) Shepherd Hooks  
Phone Ron Belshaw 9587 3632

**TLC BIRTHDAYS**  
**December-----+----- January**

Curnow Laurel	3-Dec
Smith Leona	5-Dec
Smith Trevor	5-Dec
Holmes Jim	10-Dec
Lewis Doug	12-Dec
Easter Lindsay	14-Dec
Fletcher Owen	14-Dec
Courts Pat	15-Dec
Curnow Roy	17-Dec
Delaforce Sue	18-Dec
Wallace Gladys	21-Dec
Lanci Ricky	22-Jan
Sutton Ray	22-Dec
Lalor Margaret	27-Jan
Cooper Rhonda	31-Dec
Howard Allan	31-Dec
Lanci Margaret	1-Jan
Cooper Des	1-Jan
Steel Kevin	1-Jan
Wildman Michael	4-Jan
Johnson Leonie	5-Jan
Johnson Peter	6-Jan
Stewart Ron	12-Jan
Linfoot Russell	15-Jan
Murgatroyd Dawn	16-Jan
Carr Jim	17-Jan
Fabien John	19-Jan
Woolfe Pam	21-Jan
Palmer Janice	22-Jan
McCorriston Pam	23-Jan

**General Meeting & 2009 AGM –**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

**Halakulani Bowling Club**

***Merry Xmas & Happy New Year  
Alice the Editor XX***

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## CURRENT TRIPS -with - DEPOSITS PAID

<u>Nov 23 – 30</u>	<u>Narrabeen Rally (DO NOT PHONE)</u>	Pets/ <b>No</b>	Dep/\$15	Cards/Y	T/L C of M	Ph Tour Director
<b>ATTENDING:</b>	Beesley, Belshaw, Bengier, Brady, Broadhurst, Brown J/L, Burrows, Cannard, Chambers, Cooper D/A, Cooper R/K, Curnow, Dew, Ducker, Eadie, Easter, Field, Fisher, Fletcher, Fuller, Hart/Hayes, Hendy, Hogan, Holland, Holmes, Howard, Johnson G/L, Kane, Lanci, Lewis, Lusted, Maclean, McDonald P/E, Moore, Morris, Murgatroyd, Pansini, Patterson, Payne, Pollard, Purcell, Reynolds, Rigger, Shawcross, Smith, Steele, Stevens, Stewart, Teesson, Thomas L/B, Thomas R/J, Wallace, Webb, Wildman, Williamson, Wood, Woolfe (Total 57)					
<u>Jan 5 – 10</u>	<u>Elvis Festival - Parkes Showground</u>	Pets/ <b>YES</b>	Dep/N	Cards/N	T/L R Webb	Phone: 4352 1403
<b>ATTENDING:</b>	Capps, Delaforce N/G, Delaforce R/S, Ducker, Grady, Howard, Payne, Webb (Total 8)					
<u>Jan 16 – 26</u>	<u>Tamworth Country Music Fest.</u>	Pets/ <b>YES</b>	(\$60 for 10 nights)		T/L L Purnell	Phone 4357 1022
<b>ATTENDING:</b>	Purnell/Filmer, Lalor (Total 2)					
<u>Jan 27- Feb 6</u>	<u>Temora Air Show See tear off Sheet</u>	Pets/ <b>No</b>	Dep/Y	Cards/Y	T/L	
<b>ATTENDING:</b>						
<u>Feb 12 – 19</u>	<u>Tuncurry/Forster (6554 6440)</u>	Pets/ <b>No</b>	Dep/\$30	Cards/Y	T/L Tour Director	Ph 4369 2759
<b>ATTENDING:</b>	Bickley, Bunnett, Clarke, Curnow, Davies, Dew Ducker, Easter, Fisher, Fletcher, Hayes/Hart, Howard, McNamara/Banck, Murgatroyd, Patterson, Reynolds, Shawcross, Stevens, L/B Thomas, Webster (Total 20)					
<u>Feb 19 -26</u>	<u>Happy Halladays Point (1800 555 454)</u>	Pets/ <b>Yes</b>	Dep/\$50	Cards/Y	T/L C of M	Ph C of M
<b>ATTENDING:</b>	Broadhurst/Hoye, Bunnett, T/S Capps, Cooper D/A, Curnow, Davies, Dew, Ducker, Easter, Evans, Fletcher, Grady, Howard, Johnson G/L, Kane, Lee Sing, McDonald P/E, Moore, Rigger, Shawcross, Smith, Stevens, Stewart, L/B Thomas, Wallace, Woolfe (Total 26)					
<u>Mar 12 – 14</u>	<u>State Rally-- Lennox Head</u>	Pets/ <b>No</b>	Dep/\$20	Cards/N	T/L K. Patterson	Ph. 4390 5658
<b>ATTENDING:</b>	Patterson, Holland, Roberts (Total 3)					
<u>Mar 29 –Apr 6</u>	<u>Hartwood</u>	Pets/ <b>YES</b>	Dep/\$5	Cards/Cash	T/L D Cooper	Ph. 4393 3383
<b>ATTENDING:</b>	Kane P/C, Cooper D/A, (Total 2)					
<u>Apr 28 -2 May</u>	<u>M &amp; G Cessnock</u>	Pets/ <b>YES</b>	Dep/\$15	Card/Cash	T/L C of M.	Ph.
<u>Apr</u>	<u>Beechworth</u>					
<u>May</u>	<u>Stocton Beach</u>					
<u>May/Jun</u>	<u>Longreach Tag-a-Long</u>					
<u>Aug</u>	<u>Western NSW Tour</u>					
<u>Sep</u>	<u>Murry river Tag-a-long</u>					
<u>Sep</u>	<u>Halifax Park Nelson Bay</u>					
<u>Oct 6 – 13</u>	<u>Forbes Country Music Festival</u>		Bush Camping \$50/ Van			
<u>Oct</u>	<u>Canberra Tulip Festival</u>					
<u>Oct</u>	<u>Grafton Jacaranda Festival</u>					
<u>Nov</u>	<u>Norah Head Melbourne Cup</u>					
<u>Nov 23 – 30</u>	<u>Narrabeen Rally</u>					