



NEWSLETTER No. 232 July 2026

PO BOX 4028 Lake Haven 2263

Web address: Tuggerahlakescaravanners.net

Facebook Group: Newsletter Caravanners TLC

President:			
	Joan Cornwell	0438 891 381	joan_cornwell@hotmail.com
Vice President:			
	Sandra Lee-Sing	0428 470 012	willandra21@hotmail.com
Secretary:			
	Leonie Collins	0419 763 107	coleonie46@gmail.com
Treasurer:			
	Mike Collins	0407 280 018	collinsmele59@gmail.com
Editor:			
	Gaianne Wilcox	0414 566 502	caravannerstuggeraheditor@gmail.com gaianne60@bigpond.com
Social			
Director:	Kerry Jeffs	0408 826 945	Tojeffs10@gmail.com
Assistant Social Director:			
	Robyn Rogers	0432 764 377	robyn.rogers222@gmail.com
Welfare:			
	Janis Treacy	0411 288 815	janandrobert@bigpond.com
Members Representative:			
	Jan Ryan	0421 886 059	jjryan@bigpond.com
State Representative:			
	David Curtis	0418 493 822	dlmdc111@gmail.com

Disclaimer: The news items, written reports and/or comments expressed in Newsletters are by individuals and do not necessarily express the views of Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners Inc., the Editor or Members.

NEXT MEETING – Sunday, 16th August, 2026

General Meeting held 19th July, 2026

Members: Attended 32 Apologies 31 as per book and 2 Visitors John and Vanessa Dawson and Kylie from Coast Shelter.

Raffle Winners

1st prize \$50.00 Graham Lewis

2nd prize \$30.00 John Bryce

3rd prize \$20.00 Debbie Latham

Winners of Lucky Door Prize supplied by Creighton

\$30 Peter Davidson

\$20 Jan Ryan

Winners of Doyalson cards

Fran Lindsay and Susan Edwards

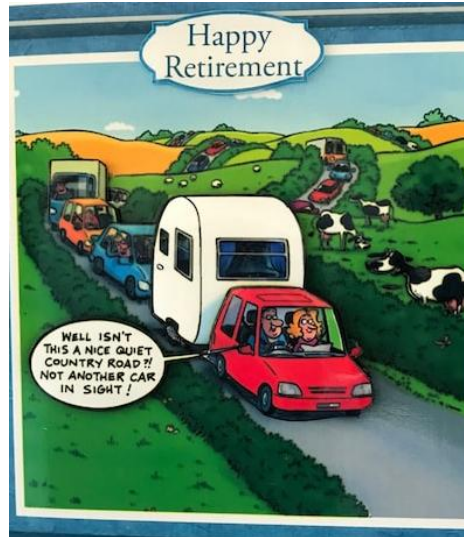
Birthdays for August



Strachan Kim	2 nd August	Lee Sing William	3 rd August
Moore Joy	5 th August	Strachan Norm	19 th August
Kane Coral	10 th August	McConville Bill	21 st August
Carolyn	28 th August	Wells John	25 th August
		Maranik Aado	28 th August
		O'Brien Bill	31 st August

Nominations:

All those that are interested on taking on a position for next year. Please see Leonie for a nomination form.



WELFARE REPORT

EMERGENCY MEDICAL BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE - COST \$3.00 should carry with you or put it in the van, you never know when it may be needed.



**To all members who have been unwell or facing health dramas
We wish them a speedy recovery.**

Especially Jimmy Richardson after his skin graft, Lenny Field is on the improve after heart surgery, Ann Fraser who fell out of bed and fractured her neck, she is in Royal North Shore hospital. Dorothy who has dementia, Alan Howard who had a fall and any others that are not acknowledged here.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY RAFFLE FOR John Hunter Children's Hospital.



Last minute tickets will be available at the start of the meeting for anyone who hasn't had the chance to support the provision of activities for children who are in hospital at John Hunter Children's Hospital.

Raffle will be drawn at the August Meeting.

Welfare Drive



TLC are holding a 3 month Welfare Drive to support the Central Coast Coastal Shelter who provide services for victims of domestic violence, homeless persons, drug and alcohol affected, street sleepers and anyone in need.



Donations will be welcomed at our meetings in August, September and October. As explained by Coastal Shelter donated items need to be easily usable canned goods need to have a ring pull, cup or bowl noodles, clothing adult and children, underwear, female hygiene products, blankets, beanies, toothpaste, toilet rolls and so on.



LET'S GIVE SOMEONE A HELPING HAND
PLEASE SUPPORT THIS GREAT CAUSE

Christmas in July Report



Monday 20th July and Tuesday 21st July



We arrived at Cassilis Rest Stop just on dark which always makes setting up an interesting experience but we succeeded and settled in for a chilly night.

Some of the others had a beautiful big fire going but we decided it was too late to join them by the time we set up and had dinner.

It was extremely cold during the night and I rose several times to add layers of clothes over my PJs and extra blankets to the bed. On rising it was a brisk 2°C and I had become the

Michelin woman overnight. 🥵🥵🥵

As we left Cassilis we were confronted with the biggest wide load taking up the whole road. We were fortunate to meet them where we could pull over into a turning lane but others were not as fortunate and were at more precarious places when the load passed them. As the sun set and temperature dropped



we gathered around the fire for a sausage sizzle supplied by the club. It was so nice to get away and just rest, forget about the last few months and enjoy ourselves.

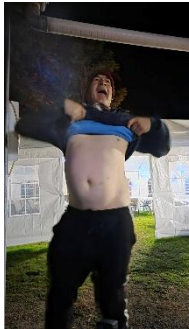
Wednesday 22nd July



Today was a slow start tucked in our vans until the temperature reached above 5°C for although the sun was shining the crisp air outside indicated that inside was the place to be.

As the morning warmed many of us gathered outside for a chat, went for a walk, and collected coffee from the Cafe just in time for morning tea gathering. It was lovely in the warmth of the sun in the tent with one of our members able to close his eyes to enjoy it.

In late afternoon we gathered for happy hour and the owners Wayne and Kathy ran a raffle to raise money for Royal Flying Doctor service. They also supplied a great afternoon tea of scones, cream and jam and apparently everyone said they were very yummy. The



entertainer was on tonight. Not expecting too much we turned up, rugged up with our, jumpers, jackets beanies to be pleasantly surprised. His name was Terry Leonard and he was an Elvis tribute artist but he was so much more. The owner Wayne also got totally involved. 🤔🤔 Loved the bare chest.

Terry involved his audience, corny jokes and the works and then after a change of costume he continued on with various other artist songs. He just kept on going unfortunately by 10pm I had lost feeling in parts of

my body and could no longer cope with the cold.

Yes I know I am a sook 🤔🤔 but I could hear him from the

warmth of the van. I missed the atmosphere but at least I was defrosting. It was a great day.



Thursday 23rd July



Today saw us up early for a 9.30 am start for disc bowls.

Gulargambone has been so accommodating. Not only the caravan park, which has been amazing helping us, providing afternoon teas and organising an entertainer.

The local bowling club came to our rescue, letting us use their

old bowling green to use for disc bowls, opened their club for drinks, provided coffee, cake and sandwiches for a small donation. Got to love the country spirit!

The Chinese Restaurant also opened up and the food was just amazing for those who ordered from there. Disc bowls went extremely smoothly due to the organisation by John and Will. A big thank you to our announcer, scorers



and referees as the games couldn't go on without their support.(Sorry for not naming you all but I would hate to have missed someone out.)

Ladies singles saw 20 entries

Winner Jan Ryan

Runner Up Joan Collins

Men's single saw 13 entries

Winner John Smyth

Runner Up Adrian Schultz

Mixed Pairs saw 15 entries

Winner Helen Smyth/Adrian Schultz

Runner Up Barbara Schultz/Mike Collins

Very long, exhausting but satisfying day.



Friday 24th July



Nice brisk 1°C when we arose this morning. Most members set out for lunch at the club but as Jimmy wasn't well we decided to stay at the van. While Jimmy had a rest after lunch I set out to grab some photos of the area and take a walk near the river. (No water at the moment but the area is nice



and green)



I have it on good authority that the meal at the bowling club was yummy, good value, 3 varieties plus fried rice and delicious spring rolls.

Kerry did a lovely thank you to the cooks and the club manager for opening up for the club.

The temperature didn't get very high today and the wind was bitter this afternoon so many of us gathered in the communal area and played some games. Happy hour arrived but as it was bitterly cold many of us didn't stay out

very late but some brave souls did stay to watch the movie Top Gun.



Another fabulous day even if it was somewhat cold. ❄️❄️❄️

Saturday 25th July



Well the start to the day was freezing, -1°C feeling like -4°C. Yes I know some of you will say that isn't cold but there was a bitter wind and I don't like the cold and when you walk on the grass it shouldn't crunch below your feet.

We had the morning to ourselves, where we filled Gas bottles, some of us doing small repairs, some doing washing and then catching up for morning tea.



We had lunch at the van but others headed off to Armatree hotel pub for their lunch. Armatree is a small town with a pub and about 6 houses.

The rest of us headed out there after lunch for their small markets. Not sure the town knew what hit them. With at least 30 of our group turning up to the very small markets which were at the pub. Many of us made small, others large purchases, buying snacks and drinks and contributing to this small community. They had a great performer to entertain us.

This evening saw our Christmas in July dinner. This was put on by the caravan park for a very reasonable cost. There was lamb, beef, roast potato, pumpkin and vegies. Dessert was chocolate cake, fruit salad and cream. It was



yummy.

Another amazing day even though the temperature never rose above 13°C all day but fortunately the wind had dropped by the evening.



Sunday 26th July



Some of our group decided to head out to the Warrumbungles for a look around. The drive out is so beautiful. Sometimes we forget what a wonderful country we live in.

We stopped in at the observatory which is high on a hill giving a good view of the surrounding area. The observatory opened in 1964 and in 2016 the surrounding area was officially certified as Australia's 1st Dark Sky Park. In 2013 the observatory was threatened by fire and although three out buildings were destroyed all telescopes survived the inferno. Morning tea then off to White gum lookout which again gives a good view of the surrounding area and great photo opportunities.



Lunch was at Mountain View Hotel and even though they had warning, when faced with an extra 40 people plus their normal Sunday clientele they were a little overwhelmed but food was tremendous and well worth the wait.

At happy hour there were chips and mini spring roll and



one of our members thought chocolate cake should also be part of the snack. No accounting for taste. 🤪

Monday 27th July



Today we went to the Emu farm which opened especially for our club and we made it worth their while. We did a great tour which was so informative.

WARNING a whole lot of information below which I thought was great but pass it over if not interested. 🌈🌈🌈

Emus are mainly farmed for oil as it is good for joint pain and dry skin. They trim the fat of the meat which is used in the oil making and the meat of an emu is high in protein, iron and vitamin B12.

On the farm they hatch the eggs in an incubator as it makes for a quieter emu. This means during laying season they need to go out every morning and find the eggs.

The wild males wait until there are 10 to 12 eggs but this can take a little while to accumulate as eggs are only laid 1 every 2 days. Males hide the eggs until he has the right number. Incubation only starts when he has enough eggs and sits on all the eggs and only then does incubation start. This means the 1st egg may be a month old but hatch at the same time.

The male sits for 56 days on the nest no food or drink and will normally not move for any reason. The guide showed us how placid they are by lifting them up.

The females will kill the chicks until they are over 12 months of age so the males stay with their chicks for at least 18 months in the wild.

Emu eggs are very easy to hatch and, on the farm, they are moved from the incubator (where they are constantly turned). When there is about 1 week to go before they are due to hatch, they are moved from the incubator into the hatcher.

The emus are given salt bush for a treat. It tastes very salty but mainly flavour from the stem. They will need more water if they eat too much.



They use a Maremma Sheep Dog as it bonds with whatever stock it is given and protects them. The farm uses these dogs for the protection of their chicks.

The emus are now slaughtered on the farm around February and March and the oil that comes from the fat is processed here also.

Emus live in the wild for about 20 years but they have one that is 35 years and has an Albino head.

The aboriginals say an egg is fresh if you make 3 eggs held in a pile and the one in the middle spins it is fresh.

Eggs are laid between April to September and females can lay enough



eggs for 3 males.



An interesting fact is that an emu's wing has Muscular dystrophy but it spreads nowhere else. Lots of research has been done to find out why this happens but have no answers as yet. What a great morning!

The afternoon was trivia run by John Smyth and of course everyone was a winner. We finished off with afternoon tea of a sausage roll provided by the park.

What a great holiday. 😊😊😊

The Joy of Belonging to TLC



Report by Christine Knight

Our Christmas in July rally to Gulargambone has been a huge success. From Day 1 the laughter began but it has not only been fun times. Kindness has been evident all week.

- Wes had a flat battery on his car soon after we arrived and it was Ross to the rescue with his Aldi trickle charger and several brains trust offering advice.
- Graeme and Caroline's water pump in their van broke – luckily one was available from another traveller in the park and with Mike's advice they made attempts to repair.
- John K's brake light wiring was "touch & go" (or no go) so with Ian's expertise it was promptly repaired.
- Gulargambone's 2828 volunteer run coffee shop – their coffee machine was on the blink. What's a coffee shop without coffee? Adrian & Will to the rescue! Toolbox in hand, off they went and saved the day with their expertise and the coffee was on again!



- Geoff's diesel heater needed attention; once again the jolly lads were on the spot.
- Lindsay & Colin's aging power cords fused in the frosty weather; Ian's skills were needed.
- Will & Sandra's diesel heater – Mike renewed the heater seals with Will's assistance.
- Diane's hydraulic jockey wheel needed adjustment to suit the caravan level – Mike again was on the scene.
- Bill's demonstration of a new roof lifting device for pop-tops attracted an interested crowd.
- Graeme Lewis's aluminium step was a great help for Jimmy (who has a dodgy foot) to move in and out of their van.
- Jimmy's dodgy foot required several dressings and nurse Chrissy happily attended.

- Christine provided a GF cake option for Gaianne (PS added by Gaianne.)
- Our social director Kerry, managed to bake and ice a birthday cake for Kath, the park owner, who instead of celebrating her 60th birthday was busy baking scones for all of us and serving them with homemade jam & cream. Kerry & friends also managed to gather a gift for her on our behalf.



So travelling with our club is more than just fun times exploring our beautiful country we are a travelling maintenance team. With our collective talents and shared expertise there are not many problems that can't be solved by our amazing and willing members.

Our week in Gulargambone was fabulous! Thanks must go to Kerry and Robyn for facilitating such a relaxed, friendly and fun week. Mike reported it was the best attended rally, percentage wise, from his club records with well over half the members attending. The little town of Gulargambone, with a population of 528, was very appreciative of our business. The caravan park provided us with a brand new marquee and enough new tables and chairs to accommodate us alongside their bush camp kitchen where every night there was a magnificent fire set. Every afternoon there were complimentary snacks served at happy hour – sausage rolls, scones jam & cream, party pies, spring rolls and chips. Of course, the Christmas campfire dinner was another highlight cooked by park owners Wayne & Kath. The local bowling club only opens Fri, Sat & Sunday but they opened especially for us to hold the disc bowls competition on their greens, providing us with morning tea for just a donation. The kitchen opened for lunch even though we did overwhelm them with our numbers. A big night for them was between 40 and 50 people and there were nearly 70 of us! They also opened for a Chinese buffet lunch! Big thank you to John Smyth for organising the disc bowls competition and the trivia afternoon. It was well supported by competitive players and enthusiastic spectators. The caravan park also provided us with an amazing Elvis/ Roy Orbison tribute artist who entertained us well into the night. Thanks also to Ian & John K's movie nights even though it was chilly the choc tops went down well.



The Post Office store was very happy to sell a few knitted items which were proudly paraded by our ladies and the nice man at the supermarket was all smiles after a very profitable week from our support!

Many members enjoyed card sessions and Rummy Kup in the camp kitchen as well as the impromptu karaoke evening around the campfire.

There was a car drive to the Warrumbungles with lunch at the Tooraweenah pub and an excursion to an emu farm which was fascinating. Many purchases of emu oil were made so it will be interesting to hear of the miracles of no aches and pains. On the Saturday many supported a local Christmas in July market day at Armatree pub where we discovered you could free camp at the rear in a quiet, grassy paddock (keep in mind for future trips). Chris Knight

STOPOVERS ON THE WAY HOME

Just in case you thought it was a long way to Gulargambone, it was interesting the variety of ways that members travelled home.

- Clive and Helen stayed in Gilgandra for an extra couple of days to explore the Coo-ee Heritage centre, the rural museum and the town of windmills.
- Jill and Pam detoured to stay in Dubbo for two nights and visit the zoo with Chris and Carol.

- Carolyn and Graeme stayed at Coonabarabran but after their pipes were frozen in the morning decided to push on home via Merriwa and of course, a stop at the bakery for the best pies.
- Fay and Ian spent two nights at Wellington Caves – what a fabulous place to explore and a peaceful caravan park, with power!
- Adrian and Barbara headed to Moree for the artesian pools.
- John and Chris had a three night stopover in Orange to catch up with relatives and were surprised to meet up with Chris and Carol and Fay & Ian so were able to explore Lake Canobolas, Mount Canobolas and the small village of Millthorpe all worth a visit.
- Mike and Leonie went east to the Warrumbungles, onto Coonabarabran then to Gunnedah across the Breeza Plains to Jerry's Plains then home.
- Another group were off to Lightning Ridge.
- Janis and Robert and Gaianne and Jimmy set off early and made it home in a day!

Perhaps you went a different way and would like to describe your route in the next Newsletter?

“Good Old Days experience”.



For all those that are heading to Barellan, there is a group being organised to head to Lockhart Picnic Races while we are there. Chris will send an email out to find out who is interested. Chris & John

Dying To Know Day 2026

START THE CONVERSATION THAT MATTERS

We invite you to attend a Dying To Know Day event, at **Palmdale Lawn Cemetery and Memorial Park**
 57 Palmdale Road, Palmdale, NSW 2258

Saturday 15th August 2026
 Commencing at 10am - 2pm

Guest speakers | **Crematorium guided tours** | **Complimentary BBQ lunch for attendees** | **Bookings essential 1300 130 955**

Ask us for more details.

CREIGHTONS | **PALMDALE** | **GREENWAY** | **ST. PATRICKS**

creightonsfuneralservice.com.au *Guiding you with care, compassion and understanding*

CREIGHTONS FUNERAL SERVICE

100% Locally owned and operated

PRE-PAID FUNERALS AVAILABLE

LOCK IN THE PRICE TODAY!

DOCUMENT YOUR WISHES

Book an appointment at one of our offices or in the comfort of your own home with our mobile representatives.

Office Locations: 376 The Entrance Road, Erina Heights
 2 Viewpoint Drive, Toukley
 47 Palmdale Road, Palmdale
 460 Avoca Drive, Green Point
 1083 Pacific Hwy (cnr Telegraph Rd), Pymble

1300 130 955 creightonsfuneralservice.com.au



MOBILE
CARAVAN & TRAILER - REPAIRS & SERVICING

**Mention Tuggerah Lakes
Caravanners for a \$50.00 Discount
on a Full Service.**

**Brakes, Suspension, Wiring &
General Mechanical Repairs
Phone: Josh on 0412 236 236**

CATMECHANICAL.COM.AU



		<i>Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners TRIP SHEETS 2026</i>		
2026	DESTINATION	MEMBERS ATTENDING	CONTACT	PARK
25th AUG – Walgett or 27th Aug BOURKE to leaving Wentworth 14th Sept	Darling River Run	Barnes D, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Cousins D / Kennedy M, Davidson P, Field L, Jenkins N/L, Kirk W, Newall G/M, Pollard C , Ranse C, Rush W/L, Visitors Wilson M/D with Rush 13	Diane Barnes 0427 032 918	Bourke to Wentworth Approx. 14 days
30th Sept – 7th Oct	<i>Good Old Days Festival Barellan</i>	Barnes D, Baird D/Bickley C, Bradford G/R, Brennan S, Brill C/H, Cok W/A, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Curtis D/M, Delaney N/M, Dick M/ Moore T, Field L, Heal L/V, Jeffs S/K, Kirk W/B, Knight J/C, Latham B/D, Leotta A/L, Lewis G/C, Lindsay A/F, Matts J.J, Merrett J/ Wright P, Newall G/M, O'Brien B/D, Palmer I/Evernden F, Pollard C, Ranse C, Rogers R/R, Ryan R/J, Sherwood R/C, Strachan N/K, Treacy J/Wenning r, Wilcox G/ Richardson J 33	Christine & John Knight 0432 665 841 0402 2593 873	Lake Talbot Tourist Pk Narrandera 02 6959 1302 Or Barellan showground 0447 736 856
29th Oct – 5th Nov	Melbourne Cup	Barnes D, Bradford G/R, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Curtis D/M, Delaney N/M, Dick M/ Moore T, Field L, Insull B, Jeffs S/K, Kane P/C, Kirk W/B, Lee-Sing W/S, Lindsay A/F, Newall G/M, Pollard C, Rogers R/R, Smyth J/H, Strachan N/K, 19	CLUB ORGANISED Kerry Jeffs 0408 826 945	<i>Mylestom Reflections</i> 02 6655 4250 BOOKING NO <u>2055894</u>
Friday 4th Dec	<i>TLC XMAS LUNCH</i>	<i>Bookings in October, payment by November meeting</i>		

2027	DESTINATION	MEMBERS ATTENDING	CONTACT	PARK
4th – 14th Feb <u>2027</u>	<i>Lakeside Forster</i>	Barnes D, Brennan S, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Edwards S/ Williamson G, Insull B, Kane P/C, Lee- Sing W/S, Lindsay A/F, McConville B/D, Newall G/M, Pollard C, Rogers R/R, Schultz A/B, Sherwood R/C, Smyth J/H, Strachan N/K, Treacy J/Wenning R 18	<i>Joan Cornwell & Sandra Lee- Sing</i>	<i>Lakeside Forster Holiday Park 02 6555 5511</i>
		PLEASE UPDATE THE TRIP LISTS IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE TRIPS		