



NEWSLETTER No. 234 September 2026

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NEXT MEETING – Sunday, 18th October, 2026

General Meeting held 20th September, 2026

Members: Attended 65 Apologies as per book 2 visitors Kim and Bruce Freeman

Raffle Winners

1st prize \$50.00 Gaianne Wilcox

2nd prize \$30.00 Cecily Ranse

3rd prize \$20.00 Jenny Matts

Winners of Lucky Door Prize supplied by Creighton

\$30 Fran Lindsay

\$20 Janis Treacy

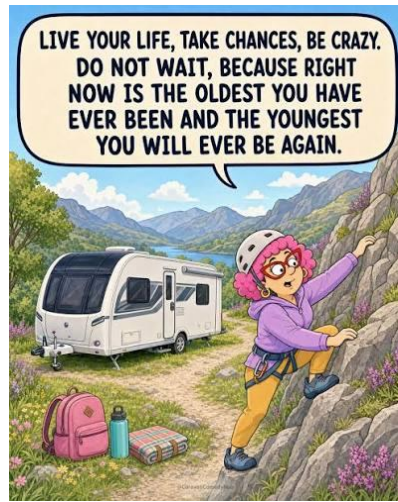
Winners of Doyalson cards

Graham Williamson and Robert Wenning

Birthdays for October



Sherwood Christine	2 nd October	Byrce John	2 nd October
Olesen Carole	12 th October		
Ranse Cecily	14 th October		
Holmes Lorraine	15 th October		
Cornwell Joan	21 st October		
Treacy Janis	22 nd October		
Bartlett Lindsey	29 th October		
Cooper Alice	30 th October		
Rohwer Pat	30 th October		



Congratulations 20 year Membership badges

Beryl and Alan Howard



Len Field



Welcome to our New Member

Tony and Kerrie Lewis



WELFARE REPORT

By Janis



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

Anne Frazer is now weight bearing, which is fantastic. A slow but steady recovery being made. Jan Ryan has had the flu, Peter Olson is having another brain surgery and we are hoping for a positive result. Megan has had bad tendonitis and has had to have her wedding ring cut off and needed injections, (apparently a few choice words were said) Richard is having both cataracts done. Des has been in intensive care but is much better now, John Howard is in a nursing home and doing as well as can be expected and Max Eddie is in hospital due to his diabetes.

To anyone else that is feeling unwell we are thinking of you.

Welfare Drive

October will be the last month to donate.

Don't forget to bring along your donations.



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

PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO THE OCTOBER MEETING:

Darling River Run

Ten caravans/RVs started the Darling River Run from Bourke in late September with entire group finishing the three weeks adventure at Wentworth on 12 September 2026.

Eight caravans/RVs met at FC Alex Trevallion Park at Walgett on 25 August for two nights stay. It's a lovely FC (showers, toilets and drinking water available) for a short stay. The other two caravans met up with us in Bourke.

In Bourke I issued the final itinerary for our adventure detailing towns and sites to see along the way.

Due to heavy rain in Bourke Shire and Broken Hill Shire many of the roads were closed, so a decision was made to proceed onto Bourke and check the road open/closures on arrival.



All 10 caravans/RV arrived in Bourke on 27th August 2026 for two nights stay. On arrival I phoned Bourke Shire Council about road conditions and was informed the road from Bourke to Louth was now open with a Caution warning.

Day two in Bourke we visited the Back O Bourke Information/Exhibition Centre in the morning and in afternoon caught Jandra Paddle boat from Kidman's Camp for one hour

cruise on the Darling River.

On the 29th August we left Bourke for Louth and with luck on our side the dirt road was fully open and in really good condition and easy to travel on.

At Louth we crossed the Darling River from East side to West side to camp by the Darling River in the Common Area. A short walk across the road bridge there are showers and toilets available opposite Shindy's Inn. Shindy's Inn is a lovely stop for a drink and lunch.

30th August we travelled down west side of Darling to Tilpa Pub and camped across the road behind levelly bank. Patricia the pub pet goat was wandering around the street. Another lovely stop on the river for a drink and lunch. Showers and toilets are available here (small donation to Flying Doctors service).

Care: Fuel delivery to Louth and Tilpa was delayed due to road closures.

From Tilpa travelled to White Cliffs stopping at Wilcannia for Fuel.

At White Cliffs eight of us camped at Potch Gully (a smelly drop toilet for anybody to use).

I highly recommend White Cliffs Bus Tour, our guide Rob knowledge of the area and town was very informative regarding the Solar Power Station, mining, White House -Dugout and other historical sites. Tour took 3.5hours.

<https://www.whitecliffsnsw.com.au>



Broken Hill took on sites of historical town, travel to Silverton for Mad Max Museum and a short drive to Mundi Mundi lookout. After all rain the land was lush and green, the desert flowers were blooming and very pretty. Also took another drive to Living Desert and Sculptures a must to see.

Menindee is known for its lakes, there are FC areas or NP areas near the Lakes for you to choose from. We decided to camp on the Darling River a short walk to town pub, it's a lovely spot sitting around camp-fire and discussing our adventure so far, especially near misses with Emus.

At Pooncarie we FC camped in multi-Purpose Park, very small pretty outback town. There was a motorbike and car rally in town which caught our interest. Lunch and drink at pub, two choices to choose from - Fish and Chips or Schnitzel.

Wentworth for two nights, some of us camp in Sports Complex car park, which was walking distance to town and around historic sites e.g Gaol. Took a drive and walk to junction point of where the Darling and Murray rivers meet and to view Lock 10 on the river.

Lenny managed to get bogged in Perry Sandhills, it was an experience digging out his car out of sand.

Saturday 12th September, we finished our Darling River adventure and headed for home.



Darling River Run I highly recommend doing as you see the way varies communities live and how beautiful fauna and flora is in Springtime plus changes in landscape as you travel down the river. Lots of Emus and Goats in the outback, it's a wonderful trip to take.

Diane Barnes

Darling River Run



The trip was organised by Diane Barnes, Bourke to Wentworth over 22 days. It was a trip that you couldn't miss but be prepared. Our travel would take us through real outback country, many towns were shocked to see 15 strangers, if you all wanted vanilla slice, only 3 will be lucky. Fuel? they might not have any, do you have sufficient to go back to the previous town? Will they have power at the caravan park? That's if there

is a caravan park.

There were 13 TLC members and 2 visitors, 5 doubles and 5 singles making 8 caravans and 2 motor homes. Most of us stayed together, but as Diane said it was up to us to take our own route. We were given plenty of maps and told what conditions we could expect ahead.



Two days prior to our arrival at Bourke, Bourke received the tail end of the storm that wiped out the Mundi Mundi Bash. Luckily, we were staying a couple of days because all roads we had plans to travel on were closed. Our second and last day in Bourke we boarded a paddle driven boat, at least we can say we have been on the Darling River not just following it.

Our departure from Bourke date, roads were opened with caution. Our first stop Louth about 98 km to the Southwest, the majority of the road surface was gravel or red dirt, it was recently graded, in remarkably good condition allowing 70 km/h but had to slow down every 5 or 10 km for cattle grids. Occasionally there is a stretch of sealed road, beware, sealed roads have potholes. A couple of vans booked in to the caravan park and met the rest of us at the pub for lunch. All the small towns we travelled through had camping areas enticing you to use the town's facilities. Our camp site was close to the bridge right on the riverbank.



Let's divert a little, the Darling River starts at Bourke and finishes by running into the Murray River at Wentworth. It is Australia's longest river of 2,700 km. I believe between the start and finish there are 5 towns, all have a bridge that joined the two roads that follow the river known as the Western or Eastern Roads.

Leaving Louth for Tilpa on the Western Road it was another 95 km gravel road. I think we had a quick mid-day drink to wash the dust down and a prewarned the pub that we would return for an evening meal. We camped across the road with another dozen campers.

From Tilpa we wanted to drive West to White Cliffs, the road was still closed, a detour via Wilcannia made a longer drive of 220 km, the last 100 was on sealed roads. White Cliffs was a lovely little community; I don't think you would call it a town. In the summer with the temperature close to 50 degrees the residents leave or hibernate below ground. Most of us camped at the



Opal fossicking area called Potch Gully, we were warned to beware of the mine holes.

Diane arranged a 3-hour tour, we were shown through a luxurious underground house and had a tour of the first solar power station in the world. Impressive.

Leaving White Cliffs for Broken Hill via Wilcannia the Collins departed from the group at Wilcannia as we have visited Broken Hill on numerous occasions. We were now on our own for the 4 days.

Wilcannia - 2 days in the Council run

caravan park washing and resting. This park had no permanent caretakers, bookings online \$30 per day, you were given a number for amenities door entry. The only construction in the park was the toilet/laundry block. The park was very well maintained, toilets cleaned daily. Wilcannia was nothing like the bad reports we had seen over the years.



Leaving Wilcannia on the western road towards Menindee we travelled 80 km along and stopped at a cattle station for 2 nights, again on the riverbank. Our site was measured in acres not metres. Our site had its own table and chairs, fireplace, plenty of firewood, and a drop toilet. The toilet was supplied with all the deodorants imaginable plus a solar light.

Another 60km to Menindee - we arrived before the Broken Hill group and found the caravan parks and river side camp sites. 5 caravans stayed on the riverbank. Menindee now produces fruit and vegetables owing to the irrigation system, in the past it was it was sheep country. We drove out to one of the old sheep stations that used to have shearing for 20 shearers. Like most of our river side camps around 4 in the afternoon it was time for nibbles and drinks around the campfire.

Leaving Menindee for Pooncarie another 100 plus km, this will be our last riverside camp and probably the smallest. There was a caravan park, also the community had established a river side parking area with good showers and toilets, \$10 a night (pay at the pub). The last run down to Wentworth, another 100 plus km. We stayed in the Sports Club carpark along with many others. Our last glimpses of the Darling River, we walked to the junction where the Darling joins with the Murray River. The full Western area of our state looked fantastic, all the wildflowers and the beautiful fields of the yellow canola.



We were surprised how few kangaroos we saw, the main wildlife were goats and emus.

We left a day earlier than planned, on our last day we had lunch with the group and set off mid-afternoon. First night on the Hay Plains and second in the Belanglo Forest arriving home 22 days after we started. We travelled a total 3,200 km. Our food, drink and entertainments cost \$1050, Fuel \$1785, Accommodation



\$220, a total of \$3055. We were very surprised how little the whole trip cost us; we did everything our energy would allow. A thank you again to Diane Barnes for the organisation which made the trip so successful.

Mike & Leonie

I have also attached the itinerary for this run to the email and on Facebook.

Our Mundi Mundi Bash Adventure



Even though it wasn't a club trip, I thought you might be interested in our recent trip to the most incredible outback music festival adventure.



Encouraged by our neighbours and some good friends we set off to Broken Hill (actually Mundi is another 30kms west of BH). We have heard for many years that the Bash is an Aussie experience not to be missed.

We had good weather all the way but unfortunately Mundi was experiencing record

rainfalls. By the time we arrived at Broken Hill racecourse holding camp, with hundreds of other vans, we were met with the news that we might not be able to make it onto the Mundi Mundi plains due to the red dust that was now red mud.



Not to worry, we had power & water, hot showers, toilets and lots of sunshine. We were surrounded by happy campers, all in the festival spirit.

Two & three day early entry ticket holders had been allowed in but were ankle deep in mud, as you probably saw on the news reports. Stall holders and food trucks were decimated by overnight wind & rain.

We had one day early entry so we were asked to remain where we were, together with the regular entry people. Ten thousand people had made it in but the remaining five thousand were told that police had closed the road and we would not be permitted to attend. Phew! We felt relieved by this stage as the images of vans being towed onto mud swamp sites were not appealing. We remained at the racecourse, had campfires & entertainment groups playing for us and crazy dress ups that



were planned for the Bash but were just as much fun on dry ground. The local lads still had their "undie run" and there was the "blue" dress up fundraiser for Beyond Blue.

Many of the top line performers came into Broken Hill venues each evening so people still had the music experience.

We feel we "dodged a bullet" by not making it to the actual bash and we received a full refund promptly to our bank account, so win, win for us! We had lots of fun without the mud!



There was a lot to do in Broken Hill. Heritage buildings, historical sites, the "Priscilla" hotel, the retro Bells milk bar, desert sculptures, Menindee lakes, the sunsets and the night sky! Wow! The stars! The Broken Hill economy benefits from the Bash event, estimated to be approximately \$18 million this year.

Recommendations for good free camps on the way –

- Denman (behind the pub)
- Mendooran (huge level area by the river bank).
- Gilgandra (behind the Royal hotel)
- Nyngan Weir (absolute bliss, beside the river, under the gum trees, amazing birdlife)
- Not free but Warrawong on the Darling near Wilcannia was a great stopover.

John & Chris Knight

“Good Old Days experience”.

Is happening with in the next couple of days, if you are unsure of anything please contact Chris Knight. Details below.



Greetings to “The Good Old Days” Festival participants.

Barellan here we come!

Most have booked into the Lake Talbot Caravan Park in Narrandera arriving on September 30th for 7 nights. Departing on Wed 7th Oct. Stopover spots on the way down are your choice – some are staying at Goulburn South Caravan Park, others at Gundagai Caravan Park, free campers are choosing Gunning Showground or Jugiong.

As there are 33 vans booked we won’t try to organise too many group outings. Keep in mind it is the October long weekend and school holidays.

For information on the Good Old Days Festival follow them on Facebook or google it, it looks amazing, such a country experience. The dates of the festival are Friday 2nd Oct, Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th . We plan to go on Saturday 3rd. Gate entry for seniors is \$25.pp for a full days entertainment. It is 60 km to Barellan from Narrandera.

On Friday 2nd we plan on attending the annual Lockhart Picnic races. Even if you’re not into horse racing it is quite an experience to visit a country race day. You might like to join in the Fashions on the Field competition? It is 63 km from Narrandera (in the other direction). We have been allocated an area in the member’s carpark, close to the track, under two gazebos. You will need to bring your folding chairs, your own drinks and nibbles. Gates open at midday and cost is \$25 pp. No need to book.

There are lots of other things to do in the area and the tourist information centre is preparing some ideas for everyone.

Any questions ring Chris 0432 665 841 or email – jcknight334@gmail.com



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		<i>Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners TRIP SHEETS 2026</i>		
2026	DESTINATION	MEMBERS ATTENDING	CONTACT	PARK
30th Sept – 7th Oct	<i>Good Old Days Festival Barellan</i>	Barnes D, Baird D/Bickley C, Brill C/H, 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, O'Brien B/D, Palmer I/Evernden F, Pollard C, Ranse C, Rogers R/R, Sherwood R/C, Treacy J/Wenning r, Wilcox G/ Richardson J 27	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, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Dawson R/K, Delaney N/M, Dick M/ Moore T, Field L, Insull B, Jeffs S/K, Kane P/C, Kirk W/B, Lee-Sing W/S, Lewis T/K, Lindsay A/F, Newall G/M, Rogers R/R, Rohwer P/P, 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, Lewis T/K, Lindsay A/F, McConville B/D, Newall G/M, Pollard C, Schultz A/B, Smyth J/H, Strachan N/K, Treacy J/Wenning R 17	Joan Cornwell & Sandra Lee- Sing	<i>Lakeside Forster Holiday Park</i> 02 6555 5511
15 – 28/3/27 2wks, 1wk or Easter	<i>Hartwood Campfires & Country Music</i>	Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Lee-Sing W/S, Pollard C/Michelson M,		<i>Hartwood Bookings</i> 0456 780 824 (Tom) www.hartwoodfestival.au info@hartwoodfestival.com.au
		PLEASE UPDATE THE TRIP LISTS IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE TRIPS		

