



NEWSLETTER No. 217 April 2025

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NEXT MEETING - Sunday, May 18th , 2025

****There was no April Meeting****

Birthdays for May



Marsland Peter	8-May	Bickley Carol	11-May
Gosper Graham	10-May	Rees Di	22-May
Smyth John	13-May	Nutter Robyn	24-May
Laney Richard	14-May	Bohringer Liz	27-May
Field Len	20-May	Rush Louise	28-May
Eames John	21-May		
Williamson Graham	30-May		

Club Shirts

It is so great to see so many members in their club shirts.

If you require a club shirt, please see Bev Insull

T.L.C. ANNUAL FEES

Fees are now overdue \$25.00 per person.

This can be paid into the Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners Inc. Account BSB 637000 Account No. 716098397

If paying into this bank please state your name .

Or you can pay by cash at a club meeting.

Go for Broke trip!



Well, go for Broke we did on Monday March 31st 13 vans headed to the upper Hunter Valley for a cheapskate few days of relaxation and fun. McNamara Park in Broke was a beautiful free camp amongst the trees, beside Wollombi Creek. There were toilets but no water or power so we had to be self-sufficient. We were encouraged to live cheaply, no meals out or bakery stops! We had Miserly Monday when we ate our variety of mince dishes for dinner and had devon and sauce sandwiches for lunch (with some exceptions of course). Tight A**e Tuesday was stew night so several cups of water could be added to “stretch” it round. Our morning teas were a selection of Aldi or home brand bickies (with a few homemade goodies slipped in). Thanks to Mike and Jenny (a new visitor) we had great campfires both nights; and we were able to enjoy the expanse of stars.



Wannabee Wednesday (because we “wanted to be” somewhere else!) we were off to Bulga Recreation reserve just 19 kms up the road. Another fabulous free camp in a quiet little community. There were clean toilets, a dump point, bbq and a picnic shelter

under which we could all fit. It was permitted to have a campfire; it just had to be in a pit up off the ground. There was a cricket pitch in the middle of the oval so Thursday morning the ladies challenged the men to a hard fought match followed by a high tea under the shade. Later that day we had a game of grocery grab where there was a serious battle over a box of Weetbix and a packet of Iced Vo Vos. The day was filled with much laughter and fun antics.



We also enjoyed a Ruff Red night. Every van had to contribute a bottle of red wine, alcoholic or non-alcoholic cost less than \$10; it was placed in a brown paper bag. In an egg cup size glass we all had to taste and score the quality, see, sniff, swirl, sip and savour, then rate it in the line-up by popular decision. The brown paper bags were removed and first prize was revealed as an Aldi shiraz, cost \$3.49. Mind you, the competition wasn't great! The





lowest ranked came from the Collin's van a very, very aged wine well passed it's used by date. Very little wine was actually consumed as most was tossed over the shoulder to feed the grass. The competition was so successful it was decided next time we'd try a Wicked White Wine tasting.

Although the aim was to have a low cost trip away with short mileage and economic meals there were several attendees spotted at the general stores in both villages having a coffee, a Chiko roll or an ice cream. It made it all the more fun and we supported the small towns. On our last night the lady at the local shop said she'd do us a special deal of a chicken schnitzel, chips, gravy and salad for \$15 because the Bulga tavern is closed waiting for a new lessee. Four nights at no cost to camp, we thought it was the least we could do for this great community. We sat together under the picnic shelter enjoying our night off from cooking.

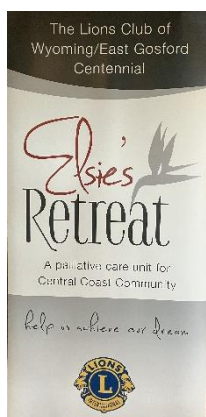


This was a great trip. Easy to organise as it was a terrific group who all participated in the fun and were happy to mix around and just relax with like-minded friends, talk about their travels and plan new ones.

By Chris Knight



Elsie's Project



When invited to attend a special thank-you morning tea for Elsie's Project, Richard and I were delighted for the opportunity to represent our caravan club. Knowing very little about this cause, the function was so informative, and we learned so much. "Elsie's Project" is to provide palliative care units known as "Elsie's Retreat."

The story began in 2013 when Elsie Green was diagnosed with cancer. For Elsie, home care was not an option, and she was placed in a nursing home. As a former nurse, Elsie was very aware of the need for a better palliative care facility.

When the Lions club of Wyoming-East Gosford was made aware of the need for a dedicated palliative care unit on the Central Coast, they took up the challenge for "Elsie's Retreat." Several years on and after many events, meetings and petitions, a Palliative Care Unit, known as A5, was opened at Gosford Hospital – completely

furnished by the Lions club. Following the success of the Gosford Unit, it was decided to have a 2nd Unit opened at Wyong Hospital to serve the Northern community of the Central Coast. This Unit should be ready to be opened in 2026.

The members of Elsie's Project committee wear an orange shirt, as this was Elsie's favourite colour. Her favourite flower was the Bird of Paradise – as shown in the logo.

Palliative care nurses are carefully chosen for their skills with terminally ill patients. Bendigo Bank is a great supporter of Elsie's Project, including providing scholarships for training of these nurses.

There is a Family Room in the Unit, and it was interesting to hear that the Men's Shed is kept very busy making children's toys and some pieces of furniture for the Family room. Elsie's Project also highly values knitted and crocheted items such as blankets, beanies, and wraps – all of which are kept by patients and their families. The "Orange Army" of volunteers also help patients with writing

cards and letters. We were told that there are more volunteers on the Central Coast than anywhere in the country!

The morning tea gave us an excellent opportunity to talk to members of the “Orange Army” (aka Elsie’s Project Committee) and to meet representatives from so many clubs who have made donations to this excellent cause. In summary – this was a wonderful experience for us and one to be well and truly remembered.

Lorraine and Richard Laney



Photo of attendees at the morning tea for Elsie’s Project. The large photo of Terrigal Beach was presented to Adam Crouch, member for Terrigal.

(Richard clearly visible, Lorraine is seen just peeping through a space.)

Melbourne Cup Rally 30/10 – 6/11/2025

Berry Showground

We found the management to be most helpful, and the facilities are particularly good, much better than we had expected with a showground.

These facilities are: - showers & toilets,
laundry,
dump point,
large camp kitchen,
large undercover shade areas with picnic benches/tables.

We will have to use our own BBQs.

The camp kitchen has a range of cooking appliances. We can choose to gather inside this building or the best option, we thought, was to get together in one of the large outdoor shade areas.

Sites have been reserved for the period 30/10/2025 – 6/11/2025. Most are grassed with a few having gravel. All sites have power and water. Some are drive through.

Even though you cannot book, **PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON THE TRIP SHEET** or let Leonie know if you will be attending so sites can be held for our group.

These sites cannot be booked until early August, at which time **full payment** is as stipulated by Shoalhaven Council.

You will be advised how to book at the beginning of August.

The predicted camping fee is expected to be around \$30 per night, a slight increase from the current fee. I was assured that if someone had to cancel that they can expect a full refund of their payment.

Berry is an interesting town, a lot of history, many places to visit in the surrounding area, and ladies – SOME INTERESTING SHOPPING.

Melbourne Cup Lunch

We are in discussion with a group called “Pink Up Berry” who hold a fundraising luncheon and event for the McGrath Foundation at the Berry Bowling Club. You can look up their last years advertising on the internet. Further information will be available later for example Cost etc.

One thing for sure is that it will be a PINK THEME for ladies and men.

An excuse to shop!

Regards

Leonie

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		<i>Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners TRIP SHEETS 2025</i>		
DATES	DESTINATION	MEMBERS ATTENDING	CONTACT	PARK
22-29 July	Xmas in July Hawks Nest	Baird/Bickley C/C, Cok W/A, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Curtis D/M, Davidson P, Edwards/Williamson S/G, Fraser T/A, Kirk W/B, Knight J/C, Latham B/D, Lee-Sing S/W, Leotta A/L, Maranik A/D, McConville B/D, Moore/Dick T/M, Newall G/M, Palmer/Evernden I/F, Rohwer P/P, Rogers R/R, Sherwood R/C, Treacy/Wenning J/R, Wilcox/Richardson G/J, Wilkinson C 24	CLUB ORGANISED	Reflections Hawks Nest 02 4997 0239 BOOKING No. 1547500
4 – 11 Aug	North Haven	Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Insull/Doyle B/J, Kirk W/B, Lee-Sing S/W, Maranik A/D, McConville B/D, Moore/Dick T/M, Newall G/M, Rogers R/R, Rohwer P/P, Sherwood R/C, Thomas R, Treacy/Wenning J/R, 14	Rod Thomas 0419 980 945	North Haven Reflections 02 65599193
8-15 Sept	Curtis Farm Stay	Baird/Bickley C/C, Col W/A, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Delaney M/N, Edwards/Williamson S/G, Kirk W/B, Lee-Sing S/W, Newall G/M, Rogers R/R, Sherwood R/C 11		David 0418 493 822 Meg 0419 209 893
29 Sep – 7 Oct	19th Nat. Caravan Clubs Rally	Collins M/L, Davidson P, Kennedy/Cousins M/D, Ranse C. 4	Leonie Collins 0419 763 107	https://www.19thnationalcaravanrally.org.au
30 Oct – 6 Nov	Melbourne Cup	Barnes/Gosper S/G, Brennan S, Cok W/A, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Dawson K/R, Delaney M/N, Edwards/Williamson S/G, Evernden/Palmer F/I, Kennedy/Cousins M/D, Kirk W/B, Knight J/C, Latham B/D, Lee-Sing S/W, Maranik A/D, Merrett/Wright J/P, Moore/Dick T/M, Newall G/M, O'Brien B/D, Rogers R/R, Rohwer P/P, Sherwood R/C, Smyth J/H, Strachan N/K, Treacy/Wenning J/R, Wilcox/Richardson G/J 26	CLUB ORGANISED	Berry Showground PLEASE NOTE BOOKINGS OPEN EARLY AUGUST. PLEASE DO NOT TRY TO BOOK EARLIER.

