

Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners Inc.



NEWSLETTER No 59 – SEPTEMBER 2011

PO BOX 4028 Lake Haven 2263

Committee of Management:

PRESIDENT: Des Cooper 43933383,
Vice President: Gary Johnson 4328 3743
Social Director: Coral Kane 43339738,

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Editor: Alice Cooper 43933383,
Welfare: Irene Woods 4392 1659

TREASURER: Philip Webb 43539069
Tour Director : Des Cooper 43933383
Webmaster: Margery Fabien 9642 6289

Swansea Report Well, what to say? Water everywhere we looked. We arrived Thursday from Port Macquarie and set up in the pouring rain. Some vans were already sitting in three to four inches of water. The next day we set off to purchase gum boots so at least our feet would stay dry sloshing through the enormous puddles.

Friday night was our community dinner & despite the terrible weather there was quite a crowd. Coral and her team did a sterling job.

Saturday morning was quite a sight as two (2) men took their positions at the Kane's annex. Both men held a corner post then with the car hooked up to the van and the annex still attached it all started to happen. With extra men walking alongside giving instructions it was driven very slowly out of the water

on to the road then backed up on to a (slightly) dryer site. (You never know what excitement you'll have when you come away with TLC.)



The Kanes on the Move

The sun finally came out and our gumboots were put away We had - a card making morning many thanks Cheryl, Also a jewelry making afternoon many thanks to Val. A pike let morning tea, yum--plus a nice dinner at Swansea RSL .

On Tuesday we were all off to the Drovers Camp at Branxton for our Christmas in July dinner. Bill Hansell and Bruce Somerville drove the two (2) buses. Thanks guys. What a great day.

We stopped at Millers on the way home, then Bill drove those of us on the big bus through Kurri to see some of the murals – these are well worth seeing folks. Then we went along the Newcastle waterfront with a running, very interesting commentary, then back home through Merewether.

Wednesday was lunch at Swansea Workers, unfortunately barefoot bowls cancelled as not enough put their names down to play. But it was a lovely relaxing day with lots of sunshine.

Thursday home again. The weather was not kind but we all had a great week. Bill Hansell won a bottle of wine at our

Christmas lunch and donated it back to the club, so we had a lucky draw for those of us there Wednesday night and the winners - Deb & Barry Latham.

One problem we encountered was when we went to Charlestown to buy gumboots we found it can be tricky getting from van park to main road. We came out on the highway a couple of Km South of Swansea, instead of in town beside the bridge,----- oh well we had a nice look around. Noooo

A couple of nights later driving to RSL which is just across the main road for dinner we came out too close to the bridge and so could only turn left and go back once again across the bridge and return back. ---Oooops.

Playing Phase 10 card game one night Greta proudly lay down a run of nine the only problem being, she was supposed to have 2 sets of 4. Won't tell you what she said, but those who have played cards with Greta will know.

In the showers you had to press a button for a four (4) minutes of hot water shower. So the idea was to get undressed first then open the door slightly and press the start button. Some people pressed the wrong shower button so were left standing naked in one shower listening to hot water running in the one beside them. Sometimes it took two (2) to three 3 minutes for hot water to come through so then you only had one (1) or 2 minutes hot water left. So then you had

to grab your stuff and scurry naked to the next shower pressing its button as you shut the door.

Oh the joys of caravanning. We were really pleased to see the many day visitors that came to spend time with us there are too many to name.

We also had a lot of members who came for the dinner and we ended up with 84 members on the bus trip for Christmas in July. I think it was a very successful week, thanks to Coral, Peter and their helpers. Laurel Curnow xxxx

AGM Nomination Forms: Forms will be sent out with the September Newsletter. It is very important that members nominate for vacant position in the club and help with the work. The forms need to be returned to the Secretary (5) five weeks before the AGM. Des and I will again nominate for Editor and President positions

Article by The Caravans Plus Team. Caravan owners have always had a problem connecting their vans up to household power points. This is because caravans use 15 Amp power inlets (large earth pin) and houses have 10 Amp outlets
For many years the solution has been that people have ground down the large earth pin so it fits. This is illegal and many caravan carks and insurance companies now monitor the power cords.

The problem with running your whole caravan through one 10 Amp power point is that you can draw too much power with the combined appliances in your van. For example: Running the fridge, TV, lights, and a toaster can be enough to blow the circuit, or worst still start a fire. Fortunately there is now a legal solution to the problem and it is an Aussie design! The AMP-Fibian 10-15Amp adaptor is a waterproof joiner which plugs into a household power point. You simply run your existing extension cord from the adaptor to your caravan. There are two models available: View our online article here: <http://caravansplus.com.au/catalog/help-tips3.php?view=9>
So there you have it... a simple Aussie solution to an age old caravan problem.

Letter to Lake Macquarie Council: Recently being one of a group of app 29 caravans from the Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners(having in total 125 vans registered with club) we stayed at Swansea Gardens Holiday Park.
Our stay was very disappointing due to the lack of courtesy and help that your managers afforded both us our members.. The social activities of our group and other visitors was spoilt by the attitude and abusive tone used when they insisted we leave the recreation hall by 8pm. We even had the lights turned out when we were enjoying a game of cards.
All the other parks we have stayed at leave us to our social activities until 10pm, which is the normal hour, and cannot be more helpful as we are not a noisy group ,just enjoying ourselves.

The other problem was the swimming pool was a health hazard, only used by the ducks as a pond. This should be drained during winter.

We are rate payers in the Lake Macquarie area and we deserve better treatment as such. We love the Lake and like to show it off to visitors which we had many visitors from other shires that were appalled at the treatment afforded them. I feel confident that we will not visit that park again.
Beverly/David Jones

Sandbar Trip Whilst at Sandbar between catching lots of fish and playing golf members will be given a demonstration of how to repair all those little stone chips that appear on our vehicles Our Prado will be used for the demonstration. So if you have a stone chip on your vehicle bring along your matching paint. Also remember to bring your fishing gear, golf clubs and bowls. It is a beautiful bushland setting where we will just rest, eat, drink, talk and play. We will also cook dampers, scones and pikelets so bring a little flour and or piklet mix. jam and cream Yummme

Re-imbusement of Expences

The August general meeting resolved that any member of the club who wishes to submit a claim be reimbursed any expenses incurred whilst organizing any club activity subject to the following condition.

Prior to a member taking actions that will involve club funds they must first seek approval from the committee or committee executive. This requirement

is to comply with Sect 13 Powers of the Committee and Sect 36 Funds-management

Club Numbers: On 1st July 2011 the club had a membership of 128 vans and 5 friends of the club. Records indicate that 30 vans that have not been used in the last 2 years Also 25 vans have been used only once in two years.

Attendance levels at meetings varies between 77 and 120. Over the past twelve months we average 93 people at meetings.

In the last four years 2008 -2011 we have had 74 resignations. We have had 71 new members join.

So statistics prove we have actually lost 3 caravan numbers in the last four 4 years. There has never been a report that any member could not attend a trip due to numbers. The Committee will continue to monitor club numbers

2011 Narrabeen Budget:

In 2010 the budget for our Narrabeen Trip was approx \$1,100.00. Due to increasing costs the Committee has approved a budget of \$1,500.00 for 2011. This will cover all costs including Marquee, Melbourne Cup Luncheon, Pikelet morning tea, free breakfast and Tea/coffee etc

Advertising Material: The Committee is concerned that brochures promoting a caravan repair business have been left on a table at our general meeting. The committee have determined that as we have advertisers who pay considerable amounts of money \$200 -\$500 to

advertise in our newsletters and whose businesses are in opposition to these particular business, that it is unacceptable to leave any such material on our tables or Notice Boards.

Sound System Update: Des Cooper, Peter Kane and John Fabien have been assessing what pieces of the sound system the club needs to retain for a suitable system for our club.. John Fabien has carried out repairs to the electronics and battery housing within the PA. Three new batteries have been installed and the PA which is a stand alone system is now in good operating order. John has also been conducting tests using the PA in conjunction with our current sound system We can now report that John has informed us we can use our PA linked to the two 2 speakers or as individual units. This will give us a good sound system that can be easily operated by nominated members.

The C of M will be briefed/shown the parts/pieces not required and the committee will then report back to a Gen. Meeting for confirmation of any action to dispose of any redundant pieces of equipment.

Solar Panels: This was a question sent out by email to all members. Here are two comments for your information.

There are a few different brands, some much more efficient than others. We have had a pair of 65 watt panels for about 5 years that we have just recently mounted on the roof of the van. Until then we carried as foldout portables and they worked well. They will keep your

van battery charged while you have good weather and you can keep moving them during the day so they get the best light.

You NEED to connect them through a regulator or the battery may explode and burn your van or car whichever battery you are charging. We spent 3 weeks at Ophir without power and had no problem until we connected the Engel fridge - oops.

Biggest problem is - don't let them out of your sight and of course storing them as they are heavy and bulky. If you are buying used ones, have them checked by a reputable solar tech, Australian Solar in Penshurst is where I got mine.

Another member wrote: In reference to Solar Panels one panel is neither your axxe or your elbow. You need two panels (80w Monochristal) plus a 20Amp regulator and minimum 2 80-90 Amp hour batteries to make it worthwhile. Make sure the panels are mounted correctly on the roof (not glued on as the radiant heat from the roof will effect their performance. You need 50mm gap between the bottom of the panel and the roof. They need to be wired into the battery system with a separate switch (both leads need to be switched). BP are about the best option panels. The frame for the panels needs to be 50 x 25 high tensile RHS steel or aluminium. Only mount the brackets on the outer edge of the van. Drill through the 20mm strip on top and put sikaflex on the screw thread. Do not put any bracing on the roof as vibration will cause chafing and will create leaks.

Have a look at the following Web-site
www.exploroz.com/vehicle/electrics/solar.aspx.

Trips Available for 2011: At the time of writing there are still seven (7) trips listed on the board for the rest of 2011. So if you can why not put up a trip to your favorite location

Letter to Lake Macquarie Council: Des has sent a letter and a number of photographs to the Lake Macquarie Council. The letter was read out at the August meeting. A copy will be pinned to the Notice Board for your information. Council has guaranteed Des that action will be taken at Swansea Gardens to correct all the problems. We will look forward to that date and the special deal they will offer our club.

Luncheon- Shelly Beach Golf Club: On Wednesday 17th August forty eight (48) members attended the lunch This was a new venue and the club has been recently renovated. We had a wonderful meal with sweets and coffee and as usual TLC members were the last to leave the dining room.

Big 4 Karuah Jetty Caravan Park:
Just received this offer from the above park. " We would like to offer your club a special rate to come and stay at our park! We have recently added an extra 22 powered sites located in our new campground, as well as a new amenities block and camp kitchen. Our park is located on the beautiful Karuah River. There is also a tennis court, volleyball court, pool and all the modern amenities

you expect from a holiday park. The local RSL is just 800m from our park and has a courtesy bus available on Friday and Saturday nights. For group bookings (8 or more sites) cost will be just \$20 per night - our normal rate is \$30 per night. Also included in this special offer is exclusive use of our large function hall at no extra charge. If you are interested in this offer or would like more information please contact Tracey, or Trudy on FREECALL 1800 005 552. www.karuahjetty.com.au
So folks if anyone is interested in putting up a trip this sounds a good deal

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Phone **John Shawcross 4976 1608** 7/11
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Ph David 4358 2041 Mob 0412 142 483 8/11
Porta Pottie: Sell for \$50 Ph Peter 49763476 8/11

Social Director
Next Luncheon at Wyong RSL
Wednesday 5th October
Smorgasboard 12.00pm
Ring Coral 4333 9738

Remember to let me know if you buy or sell any item. Alice xx
Next ---General Meeting
Sunday 18th September 2011
Email:desmond.alicecooper@bigpond.com

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MONTHLY RAFFLE LIST

**McDonald P/E July
McGillicuddy J/M August
McGloin P/L September**

**Would you please supply the \$20
direct to Treasurer Philip Webb**

**BIRTHDAYS
SEPTEMBER**

Brown Judy 2-Sep
McCann Sandy 2-Sep
Edwards Susan 5-Sep
Williamson Sandy 9-Sep
Hennessy Thelma 9-Sep
Salter Neita 10-Sep
Fuller Bernie 10-Sep
Williamson Garry 12-Sep
Moore Norm 14-Sep
Patterson Kate 15-Sep
Carr Elaine 17-Sep
Purcell Max 17-Sep
Brown George 19-Sep
Pettigrew David 22-Sep
Coltman Lyn 22-Sep
Rigger Robyn 22-Sep
Eadie Max 24-Sep
Bullock Terry 25-Sep
Wilshire Philip 25-Sep
Spath John 28-Sep
Purnell Lloyd 29-Sep
Lambert Betty 29-Sep
Shawcross Gloria 30-Sep
Dunn Judith 30-Sep

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2011 -- TRIPS CURRENTLY LISTED on the BOARD

Aug 31 – Sept 7	ONE MILE BEACH CARAVAN PARK ANNA BAY 1800 650 035	Contact G/L Johnson
	Coltman, Cooper D/A, Ducker, Kane, Johnson G/L, Marsland, Mac Henry, Webb, Shoobert, Flippence, Shawcross, Thomas, Murgatroyd, Williams, Morris, Latham, Wilton, Oleson, Bickley, Curnow, Thomas, Pollard, Smith, Stevens, Chambers, Howard, Laney, Flippence, Wallace, Teesson,	
Sept 7 – 13th	SANDBAR CARAVAN PARK Ph No. 6554 4095	Contact Kinnells/Lathams/Cooper
	Cooper D/A, Ducker, Flippence, Herod, Johnson G/P, Johnson G/L, Kinnell, , Latham, Marsland, Majchrowski, Reilly, Rohwer, Webster, Williams G/K, Kane, Riley R/M, Henry, Smith	
Sept 20 – 27th	BEDGEYABONG MUSIC CAMPOUT - FORBES	Contact The Group
	Woods, Howard, Moore, Rigger, Maslem, Holmes, Cooper D/A, Reilly	
Sept 28 –Oct 27	GREAT SOUTHWEST RAMBLE	Contact Clarrie Stevens.
	Coltman, Clarke, Cannard, Davidson, Stevens, Brady, Fletcher, Morris, Belshaw, Easter, Gross	
Oct 19 – 23rd	ROSEWOOD ROUNDUP COUNTRY MUSIC Near Tumbarumba	Contact
	Howard, Reilly,	
Oct 27- Nov 3	2011 NARRABEEN RALLY DO NOT RING	Contact Kanes/Coopers
	Angell, Bromley, Burrows, Coltman, Cooper D/A, Flippence, Kane, Hennessy, Marsland, McGillicuddy, Shawcross, Thomas B/L, Ducker, Chambers, Laney, Lee-Sing, Stewart, Holmes, Sommerville, Schoobert, Belshaw, Rigger, Stevens, Jones, Moore, Smith, Howard, Steel, Fletcher, Field, Brown G/J, Holland, Davies, Pollard, Williamson/Edwards, Cannard, Morris, Eadie, Wallace, McDonald, Majchrowski, Brown L/J, Dew, Dunn, Henry, Johnson G/L, Haberfield, Brady, Russell, Curnow, Davidson/Whitehead, Reilly, Svensson, Steell, Rohwer, Luttrell,	
Nov 17 – 22	CANBERRA COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL	Contact Tour Director
	Nil	

2011 -- OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE RECORD for YEAR

JAN 4 – 10	ELVIS PRESLEY FESTIVAL --PARKS	TOTAL 8
	Broadhurst, Bromley, Hansell, Kane, Majchrowski, O'Brien, Olesen, Sheehan,	
FEB 11 – 18th	TUNCURRY CARAVAN PARK	TOTAL 20
	Bunnett, Bickley, Bullock-Browning, Clarke, Courts, Curnow, Chambers, Davies, Dew, Fletcher, Fisher, Howard, Johnson P/G, Kinnell, Latham, Majchrowski, Murgatroyd, Patterson, Pollard, Stevens, Webster	
FEB 18- 25th	HAPPY HALLIDAYS	TOTAL 47
	Angell, Bickley, Broadhurst/Ekin, Bromley, Bunnett, Burrows, Chambers, Cooper D/A, Curnow, , Brown L/J, Davies, Dew, Eadie, Fletcher, Flippence, Hansell, Hennessy, Hogan, Howard, Hunt/Holly G/L, Kane, Kinnell, Lee-Sing, Latham, Lencie, Majchrowski, Moore, McDonald Olesen, Rigger, Shawcross, Shoobert, Stewart, Stevens, Steele, Smith, Teesson, Thomas B/L, Vanderveer/Lang, Webb, Wallace, Wilshire, Woolfe , Woods	
FEB 25 – MAR 3	BIG4 SUNDOWNER PORT MACQUARIE	TOTAL 15
	Chambers, Curnow, Dew, Green, Henry, Johnson G/L, Kane, Majshowski, Moore, Patterson, Pollard, Rigger, Shooberg, Thomas L/B, Steele, Wilshire	
MAR 4 – 8	STATE RALLY COWRA	TOTAL 8
	Brown G/J, Fisher, Purnell/Filmer, Roberts, Patterson, Sutton, Sheehan, Teesson	

MAR 7 – 18	Home from State Rally via Cowra, Bathurst, Orange, Wellington, Mudgee, Denman Roberts, Patterson, Teesson	TOTAL 3
MAR 31 – AP 3	SNOWY RIVER BUSH FEST. Brown B/J, Brown L/J , Bullock/Browning, Cannard, Cooper, Coltman, Curnow, , Chambers, Davies, Eadie, Howard, Holmes, Kane, Lalor , McCann, McGowan, Maughan, Moore, Payne, Pollard, Steele, Webb, Woods, Pettigrew	TOTAL 24
APR 4 – 11	HARTWOOD From The Snowy River Bush Fest. Curnow, Eadie, Holmes, Howard, Kane, Pollard, Steele, Stewart, Maughan	TOTAL 9
APR 8 – 2 MAY	LIGHTNING RIDGE GEMFEST Coltman, Fletcher, Gordon, Hennessy, Purnell/Filmer, Roberts,	TOTAL 6.
APRIL 17– 25	HARTWOOD COUNTRY MUSIC Brown L/J, Carr, Cooper D/A, Curnow, Eadie, Edwards/Williamson, Howard, Holmes, Jones, Kane, Kennedy, Lalor, McGowan, Pollard, Ranse, Rigger, Somerville, Steele, Woods,	TOTAL 19.
MAY 18 -24	STOCKTON BEACH Thomas J/R	TOTAL 1
JUNE 1 -8	BURREN JUNCTION --HOT POOLS Svensson,	TOTAL 1
JUNE 8 - 14	BATEAU BAY CARAVAN PARK	TOTAL Nil
JUNE and JULY	QUEENSLAND WANDER Curnow, Holland, Majchrowski, Pollard,	TOTAL 4
JULY 21 - 28	XMAS IN JULY- SWANSEA GARDENS Brown G/J, Cooper D/A, Fabien, Flippence, Henry, Hendy, Hennessy, Howard, Kane, Kinnell, Latham, Laney, Majchrowski, Roach, Wallace, Stevens, Belshaw, Lee-Sing, Stewart, Jones, Ducker, Scally, Curnow, Pollard, Holland, McCann, Steell, Somerville,	TOTAL 28

TRIPS LISTED FOR -- 2012

Jan 4 – 11	ELVIS PRESLEY FESTIVAL TRIP -PARKES : Sheehan, Aylett, Herod, Williams, Meatheringham	Contact
Jan 20 – 27	TAMWORTH COUNTRY MUSIC Sheehan, Aylett,	Contact
Feb 1 – 9th	TUNCURRY CARAVAN PARK 1800 227 275 : Nil	Contact The Howards 4353 3700
Feb 9 – 15th	HAPPY HALLIDAYS 1800 555 454 Bromley, Cooper D/A, Ducker, Kane, Shawcross, Flippence, Latham, Reilly,	Contact The Kanes 4333 9738
Feb 15th -22nd	SHOAL BAY HOLIDAY PARK 1800600 200 Stevens, Maughan,	Contact Clarrie Stevens

Feb 20 -27th	TAMWORTH FESTIVAL at THE BALLADEERS HOMESTEAD Nil	Contact
Mar 2 - 4th	NSW STATE RALLY Nil	Contact
Mar 29 – 1 Apr	SNOWY RIVER BUSH FESTIVAL CORRYONG 6076 1992 Nil	Contact
Mar 29 –Apr 1	COOLAH MUSIC FESTIVAL (Weekend Before HARTWOOD) Cooper D/A	Contact The Coopers
Apr 2 – 9th	HARTWOOD COUNTRY MUSIC Cooper D/A, Kane, Pollard, Webb	Contact The Kanes 4333 9738
Apr 8 -15th	LIGHTNING RIDGE Nil	Contact
Apr 9 – 14th	BOGGABRI CAMPGROUND WEEKEND Cooper D/A	Contact
Apr 14 – 21	BURREN JUNCTION --HOT POOLS -FREE CAMPING-SHOWERS-TOILETS Nil	Contact
May 2 – 6th	CELTIC FESTIVAL GLEN INNES Curnow Pollard, Holland, Kane, Hogan, Lanci, Cooper D/A, Stevens, Clarke, Bickley/Geale Full	Contact The Curnows 4369 5954 (10 sites available)