

# Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners Incorporated



## NEWSLETTER No. 226 January 2026

PO BOX 4028 Lake Haven 2263

**Web address:** [Tuggerahlakescaravanners.net](http://Tuggerahlakescaravanners.net)

**Facebook Group:** Newsletter Caravanners TLC

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

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# **NEXT MEETING – Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2026**

**Meeting Held 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2026**

**This was a General Meeting**

Members: Attended 61 Apologies 14 as per book and 3 Visitors Brian Waterhouse, Carolyn and Graeme Lewis

## **Raffle Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> prize \$50.00 Gaianne Wilcox

2<sup>nd</sup> prize \$30.00 Wes Kirk

3<sup>rd</sup> prize \$20.00 Bev Insull

Winners of \$10.00 Gift Cards supplied by **The Doylo**

Ann Fraser, Fran Lindsay, Leonie Collins, Merlene Crimmins

## **Birthdays for February**



Lindsay Heal	27-Feb	Barnes Diane	16-Feb
		Knight Chris	19-Feb
		Eadie Helen	25-Feb

## **Welcome**

Welcome to our newest members John and Jenny Matts



## 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

## ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE



A couple of Members asked me about Roadside Assistance. I had a few calls to NRMA and was able to pick up their "Consumer Roadside Terms & Conditions" (not exactly easy to understand) which outlines their Roadside Assistance Packages, (nothing to do with Insurance).

I still had questions and phoned to discuss the coverage which we had. This was Complete Care. NOT ADEQUATE for our size vehicle and caravan behind it. Don't know how it had been changed from the old, now out of date plan. The old plan would still not have been adequate.

We decided to go with Ultimate Care and Vehicle Plus. This does cover us for the weight of the vehicle and the weight of the caravan combined. More expensive, but we have peace of mind.

Please make your own decision, I recommend you phone your roadside insurer. Have your vehicle and van weights available to discuss during your call.

Leonie



Plans for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration are underway. The venue will be the Royal Hotel in Wyong on Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> June (date supplied by Susan Edwards). A two course meal and a celebration cake for dessert.

## Hartwood Campfires and Country Music.



The Hartwood Festival has been enjoyed by TLC Members for many years, and it is important to keep our numbers up to maintain the facilities there which are unique to our club. We have an undercover area plus a shed which contains equipment including a BBQ, tables and campfire equipment. The gates open on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March and there is an excellent deal whereby you pay \$10 per night for the van/motorhome per night up until 29<sup>th</sup> March. The remaining period through to Easter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April is included in your entry fee. Those who attending for two weeks can enjoy reticulated bore water (fill your tanks with a hose), flushing toilets, disabled toilets near the main stage areas, dump points and garbage collection. You can collect firewood throughout the property and generators can be used between 7.30am and 9.00pm.

The main concerts are held over the Easter Weekend.

The entry fee is \$150 per person, which includes all entertainment, and camping between Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April. The gates close on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm. If you stay Monday night a \$10 fee applies.

Total for 2 weeks \$370 for 2 people.  
NO EFTPOS FACILITIES ON-SITE.

To book phone 0456 780 824. (Make sure you say you are part of the group from Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners.) If you are paying on entry, make sure you have cash.

The email address is [info@hartwoodfestival.com.au](mailto:info@hartwoodfestival.com.au) Check out the website for the program. Web site is <https://hartwoodfestival.au> Address: Hartwood 301 Saltwater Road Bomera NSW 2357. The nearest town is Coolah, about 40km. Spring Ridge and Premer are closer and both have pubs where the group have enjoyed a great pub lunch.



## Eastern Victoria Trip October, 2025



### *Day 1*

We left home Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> October and headed for Jugiong to meet up with the Leotta's and Sue Brennan

### *Days 2 and 3*



Left Jugiong for Discovery Park, Lake Hume Caravan Park (Wodonga) finding it neat with no complaints. Set up for 2 nights and while there we had a look around Wodonga and the surrounding area including the Hume Weir.



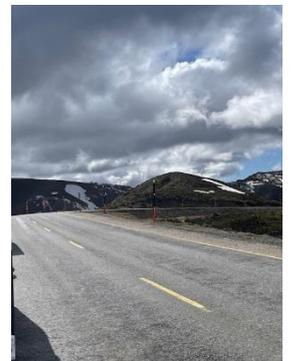
### *Days 4 and 5*



We had a short drive to our next stop at the "infamous" Porepunkah where Sue rejoined us as she free-camped overlooking Lake Hume due to a no pets policy at the last stop. We had a look around the area which is very pretty including the deer farm being set up very well. Don't ask about the caravan park staff as we never saw them. There are lots of cycleways in the area.

### *Days 6, 7 and 8*

Headed for Bairnsdale via the Alpine Highway - bit of a climb with lots of snow still about, stopping at Omeo for lunch at a bakery. It was a good pie and coffee shop, which was for sale if you are looking for a change. We arrived at Nicholson River Caravan Park which was neat with very helpful staff. We met up with Kim and Norm Strachan and stayed for 3 nights. We did some daytrips to Lakes Entrance and gave the seafood a nudge on a couple of the days and did some sightseeing and got onto the big TV to watch The Bathurst 1000.



*Days 9, 10 and 11*



*Days 12 and 13*

On to Cape Paterson for 3 nights staying at the Ingenia Holiday Park, which was a very nice park. From there we did day trips to Wilson Promontory, having a look at Fish Creek which looked a lot better on “Back Roads” having lunch at the servo as it was the only place open. Also did some sightseeing around Mornington Peninsula and a day trip on Phillip Island. While at Mornington Peninsula we took the chair lift to Arthurs Seat 314Metres above the ocean which is well worth a look.

Left Cape Paterson for a short trip to Healesville for 2 nights and after setting up the girls wanted to look around town “Oh! The pain”. Ann and Lynn voted it the highlight town of the trip and the credit card company did as well.

*Day 14*



We left Healesville and headed north through the Yarra State Forrest which was the highlight as the Mountain Ash trees are amazing (so tall and straight). Spent a night at Jugiong with the Leotta’s as the others had left us to head for the South Coast of Victoria.

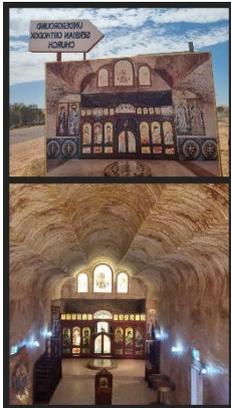


May I add that we found the food at The Bakery’s great and the pub food poor.

Terry and Ann Fraser/ Pictures by Sue Brennan and Terry

# A day in Coober Pedy

Gaianne



Today we went and checked out the Underground Serbian Orthodox Church. This is an amazing church. It was built in 1993, there are frescos cut into the rock, a glass painted icon screen lit from the back and stained glass windows. It is absolutely amazing.

We then had coffee in an underground cafe which had a tiny shop with lots of aboriginal art.

Next was Old Timers mine. This is a self guided tour where you step back in time to 1916 with an original opal mine, underground home and historical museum. Here we could see natural seams of opals and fossils, see opal in UV light, historic home and modern home and lots of information on the history of not only the mine but the area and use of machines etc.



We went home for a rest as this afternoon we were heading for the Breakaways and hopefully a sunset. First stop was the Dog/Dingo Fence.

The original fence posts were made of gige as it was very strong and white ants didn't eat it. Dingo fence is 5300km now but once 9600km. It was built from 1880 to 1885. It runs through Qld, NSW and SA. Was made to keep out dingoes and wild dogs out of sheep country.

We then move into the middle of the the Breakaways Conservation area which has been back in the hands of the indigenous community since 2013. Many of the rock features have been given names by them.



Millions of years ago the Breakaways were the floor of a vast inland sea with they think bound by rainforest. As the sea receded, weather changed, it exposed the plain to intense weathering. This and iron staining created the multi-hued colours and the formation of opal.



The Breakaways have been used for movies like Fire in the Stone and Mad Max: Thunderdome Ground Zero and Presilla, Queen of the Desert

Breakaways have flat top mesas, Stony Gibber Desert and is extremely arid. It is one of hottest places in Aus with a ground temp can be 65°C.

As we sat quietly in this beautiful land the sun set and even though there was a very heavy cloud layer I found the sunset just beautiful and such a spiritual experience.



The Breakaways are an experience that shouldn't be missed with no picture able to capture the true beauty and magic of the area.

### **Go For "Broke" again! 2026.**



After the success of last year's cheapskate trip to Broke we thought we'd do it again. It is also a relaxing trip in a bushland setting to sit around and plan our 2026 touring adventures.

Monday February 23rd to Friday 27th. 4 nights

McNamara Park, Wollombi St Broke – there are toilets but no power or showers or dump point. - 2 nights. It is a free camp. No need to unhitch.

Day 3 and 4 - just 15 minutes up the road to Bulga Campground, The Inlet Rd Bulga also a free camp. No power but there is toilets, a bbq and picnic shelter, water and a dump point.

Bulga Tavern has reopened

It is easy to visit the local wineries, Hunter Valley Gardens or Singleton War museum free entry. Or just relax under a tree with a good book.

Contact Chris & John Knight for more information. 0432 665 841



## A date for your diary – the Barellan Good Old Days Festival.

October Long weekend 2026



Departure date for this trip would be September 29<sup>th</sup> returning Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

One of the Riverina's most unique festivals, the Good Old Days, is a tribute to the nation building teams.

The working draught animals represented in the tribute are Clydesdales, Australian Draught horses, bullocks, camels, donkeys, mules and goats.

The program includes a Furphy Festival, camp oven under the stars, live music, market stalls, sheaf tossing, camel races and rides, blade shearing, cow milking and butter churning.

Visitors can also see working yard dogs, dog jump, rope making, animal nursery, a working blacksmith, Clydesdale weight pull, whip cracking, grand parade and a tribute to the Light Horse. Visitors can enjoy poetry and a bush breakfast on the Saturday and Sunday mornings, scones made in a wood fired oven and the Festival's own Barellan Beer brewed using locally grown barley.

There are ring events on Saturday for horse exhibitors, a ploughing contest, bullock cueing (shoeing), whip and rope making, and blade shearing.

There will be more information in the next newsletter.

Ring or text Chris and John Knight 0432 665 841

### A couple of funnies.

**Last year I replaced all the windows in my house with those expensive, double-pane, energy-efficient kind. Today, I got a call from Home Depot who installed them. The man complained that the work had been completed a year ago, and I still hadn't paid for them.**

**HHHelloo.....just because I'm blonde doesn't mean that I am automatically stupid. So, I told him just what his fast-talking sales guy had told me last year... that these windows would pay for themselves in a year.**

**Hellooooo, it's been a year, so they're paid for, I told him. There was only silence at the other end of the line, so I finally hung up. He never called back. I bet he felt like an idiot!!!**

sun-gazing.com  
INSPIRY

**THEY SAY 40 IS THE NEW 30  
AND 50 IS THE NEW 40, BUT ALL I  
KNOW IS THE OLDER I GET, THE  
MORE 9PM IS THE NEW  
MIDNIGHT.**





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<b><i>Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners TRIP SHEETS 2026</i></b>				
<b>DATES</b>	<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>MEMBERS ATTENDING</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>PARK</b>
<b>5 – 15 Feb</b>	<b>Lakeside Forster</b>	Barnes D, Brennan S, Cornwell J, Delaney N/M, Eadie H/M, Edwards/Williamson S/G, Fraser T/A, Holmes L,  Insull B, Kane P/C, Kirk W/B, Lee-Sing W/S, Leotta L/A, Lindsay A/F, Marsland P/E, Matts J/J, McConville B/D, Newall G/M, Rogers R/R, Schultz A/B, Smyth J/H, Strachan N/K <b>21</b>	<b>Coral &amp; Peter Kane</b>	<b><i>Lakeside Forster Big 4 02 6555 5511</i></b>
<b>23 – 27Feb</b>	<b><i>Broke/ Bulga</i></b>	Barnes D, Brill C/H, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Knight J/C, Lindsay A/F <b>6</b>		<b><i>Chris &amp; John Knight 0402 593 873 J 0432 665 841 C</i></b>
<b>3-10 Mar</b>	<b><i>Bonny Hills Ingenia</i></b>	Barnes D, Baird C/Bickley C, Bryce J/Tanner H, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Cousins/Kennedy D/M, Cok W/A, Davidson P, Insull B, Kirk W/B, Latham B/D, Lee-Sing W/S, Newall G/M, O'Brien B/D, Smyth J/H, Treacy/Wenning J/R, <b>16</b>	<b>CLUB ORGANISED</b>	<b><i>Bonny Hills Ingenia 02 6585 5655 TLC Booking No. 74115</i></b>
<b>23 Mar – 5 Apr</b>	<b>Hartwood Festival</b>	Jeffs S/K, Newall J/M, Rogers R/R, Ryan R/J, Sherwood R/C <b>5</b>		<b>Book online Hartwood Festival 2026 0456 780 824 Em: <a href="mailto:info@hartwoodfestival.com.au">info@hartwoodfestival.com.au</a></b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> Apr – 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Harrington Big 4</b>	Barnes D, Brennan S, Latham B/D, Matts J/J, Moore T/ Dick M, Strachan N/K, Treacy J / Wenning R <b>7</b>	<b>Janis Treacy 0411 288 815</b>	<b>Harrington Big 4 Colonial Holiday Park 1800 931 822</b>
<b><i>July week including 25<sup>th</sup> July</i></b>	<b><i>Xmas in July</i></b>		<b>CLUB ORGANISED</b>	

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<b>DATES</b>	<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>MEMBERS ATTENDING</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>PARK</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> AUG – 14<sup>th</sup> Sept (dates are Walgett to leaving Wentworth</b>	<b>Darling River Run</b>	Baird C/ Bickley C, Barnes D, Collins M/L, Cooper D /Kinnell V, Cornwell J, Cousins D / Kennedy M, Davidson P, Lee-Sing W/S, McConville B/D, Newall G/M, Ranse C, Rush W/L, Strachan N/K, Wilcox G / Richardson/J. Visitors Wilson M/D with Rush <b>15</b> 3 wait	<b>Diane Barnes 0427 032 918</b>	<b>Walgett to Wentworth Approx. 14 days</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> Sept – 9 Oct</b>	<b>Good Old Days Festival</b>	Barnes D, Bickley C/Baird C, Brennan S, Brill C/H, Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Curtis D/M, Delaney M/N, Dick M/Moore T, Fraser T/A, Jeffs S/K, Kirk B/W, Latham B/D, Leotta L/A, Lindsay A/F, Merrett J/Wright P, Rodgers R/R, Sherwood D/C, Strachan N/K, Wilcox G/Richardson J <b>20</b>		<b>Chris &amp; John Knight 0402 593 873 J 0432 665 841 C</b>