

# Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners Incorporated



**NEWSLETTER No. 206 May 2024**

PO BOX 4028 Lake Haven 2263

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

**Facebook Group:** Newsletter Caravanners TLC

<b>President:</b> Des Cooper                      0429 933 383	<a href="mailto:desc9675@gmail.com">desc9675@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice President:</b> Joan Cornwell                      0438 891 381	<a href="mailto:joan_cornwell@hotmail.com">joan_cornwell@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b> Fay Thomas                      0408 271 236	<a href="mailto:caravannerstuggerahsecretary@gmail.com">caravannerstuggerahsecretary@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b> Robyn Nutter                      0413 086 705	<a href="mailto:caravannerstuggerahtreasurer@gmail.com">caravannerstuggerahtreasurer@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:nutters-nest@bigpond.com">nutters-nest@bigpond.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 Director:</b> Janis Treacy                      0411 288 815	<a href="mailto:janandrobot@bigpond.com">janandrobot@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Assistant Social Director:</b> Carol Wilkinson                      0422 031 674	<a href="mailto:busylife66@gmail.com">busylife66@gmail.com</a>
<b>Welfare:</b> Jan Ryan                      0421 886 059	<a href="mailto:jiryan@bigpond.com">jiryan@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Members Representative:</b> Norm Moore                      0418 435 455	<a href="mailto:joyean34@bigpond.com">joyean34@bigpond.com</a>
<b>State Representative:</b> Peter Davidson                      0429 447 467	<a href="mailto:pdavison842@gmail.com">pdavison842@gmail.com</a>

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## **NEXT MEETING - Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE JUNE MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 12:00 NOON,  
SO THAT THE REMAINDER OF SUSAN EDWARDS' LETTER CAN BE ADDRESSED.  
THE NORMAL GENERAL MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 1:00PM

### **Meeting Held 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

#### **This was a General Meeting**

Members: 38 Attended 23 Apologies and 2 Visitors

#### **Raffle Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> prize \$50.00 Julie Wells

2<sup>nd</sup> prize \$30.00 John Bryce

3<sup>rd</sup> prize \$20.00 Joan Cornwell

Winners of Gift Cards donated by **Creightons**

1 x \$30.00 Coles card Beryl Howard

1 x \$20.00 Coles card John Wells

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

Joan Cornwell & Peter Rohwer

### **Birthdays for June**

Olesen Peter	2-Jun	Anderson Helen	8-Jun
Rees Matt	6-Jun	Fraser Ann	8-Jun
Moore Trevor	5-Jun	Miles Adrienne	9-Jun
Schultz Adrian	16-Jun	Dick Margaret	10-Jun
Palmer Ian	17-Jun	Webster June	23-Jun
Cok Will	18-Jun	Cok Amelia	23-Jun
Cousins Des	24-Jun	Newall Michele	29-Jun





Our very own Joe the Gadget Man demonstrated his Bunnings cleaning product for our vans!

Thanks Trevor

This is what happens when you don't use hand cream.



SOCIAL SECRETARY MAY 2024

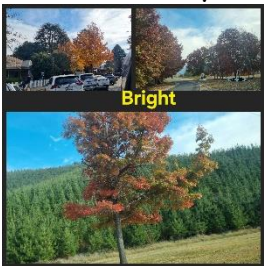
At the July rally we will be having a raffle with all proceeds going to John Hunter Childrens Hospital. The Play therapy tickets will cost \$5 for 10 tickets. I will have these tickets available at the June meeting for those who are not going to the rally but would like to purchase some.

Thank you for your support, Janis

Black Top Gold Run Autumn 2024



It is not always easy running an extended touring caravan trip with a large group so we decided to set off to explore the Victorian goldfields limiting the number of vans. On the 30th April seven vans set off with the first stop Holbrook NSW. The popularity of caravanning was very evident when we crossed the border. Caravan parks, especially in popular areas were fully booked, confirming our decision to have a smaller group. Even our bakery stops put staff in a flurry when 14 of us rolled in, not to mention parking all of the vans in some of the quaint, historic villages. So, if you like the sound of this trip please consider repeating it in the future. We have kept a record of the itinerary and trip highlights that will be on the TLC website for you to try anytime, although autumn has been spectacular! If you have any questions please ask. Chris and John Knight

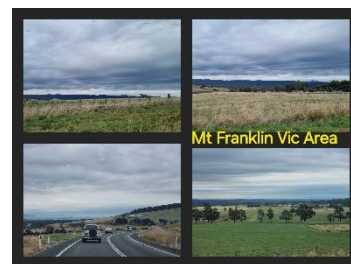


The "GOLD" of the tour for me has been the gold of the Autumn Leaves. We could not have timed the Run better, starting on 1st May when the leaves were just starting to change colour. Some towns had beautiful avenues which provided an archway of colour as we drove in, and everywhere we stopped there were lovely displays. A lot of planning by dedicated gardeners no doubt. The cleanup



would be daunting. The colours ranged from yellow, orange, red, maroon, purple. Now we are turning North towards home. The leaves are thick on the ground in many streets. Leonie and Mike

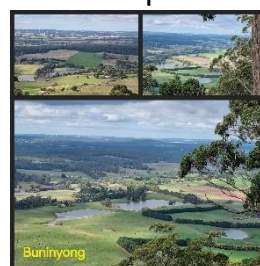
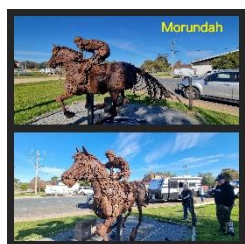
Trev and I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Chris and Ian for a wonderful trip. We have shared 22 days with our lovely friends and together we have seen many little country towns that we haven't seen before, driven along back roads, gravel roads (especially for Trev's benefit) and highways, always being mindful of the safety of our mates (via cb's) and others on the road, we have shared so many laughs, stories, sights, morning teas, happy hours and were always willing to lend a hand should a problem arise. A lot of work has gone into making this trip a success and we are very grateful for this opportunity. Thank you to all concerned for their patience and understanding camaraderie. Marg and Trev.

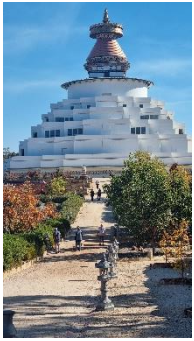


We have all enjoyed the bakery stops on our trip. The first before we joined them, was at Yackandandah where apple strudels were a favourite apparently but that was only the beginning. We were then lucky enough to have vanilla slices galore, custard tarts, Danish pastries, cream buns, lemon tarts, sponge cakes with passionfruit icing, apple turnovers not to mention the pies, sausage rolls and pasties. It was always the 1st question on everyone's tongue as to where the morning tea stop would be and what time? While we might have gained a few extra kilos on this trip we have also done lots of walking to compensate and had plenty of laughter along the way too. We found we were able to contribute to many of the small town's economies with many of us also buying at the other small shops or at the many country butchers. (Which Jimmy enjoyed perusing and selecting many of the delicacies from each town). We also found some of the best sculptures, buildings, painted silos, art work and an amazing history in these small towns that are often bypassed but we were lucky enough to have the experience as we did go looking for bakeries. Gaienne and Jimmy



Bendigo Days 6, 7 and 8. We arrived at Bendigo on another beautiful day and set up for 3 nights. On the 1st day we all headed into town for a ride on the talking tram which took us around the town telling us about the historical buildings and the gold mining. The tram started at the Deborah Gold Mine and





finished at Bendigo Wool Mill where we got off and had lunch in a restored tram, then a look at the woollen mill, off to Bendigo Pottery arriving back at 3pm just in time for happy hour.

The 2nd day saw us off to the Chinese Museum which houses Dai Gum Looing, the world's longest imperial dragon and Loong world's oldest imperial dragon. It featured stories of the Chinese during the gold mining era and many memorabilia relating to this period. It was a fascinating place. We then headed to the Great Stupa which is a 50 metre high Tibetan Buddhist Temple the largest in the southern hemisphere. You can feel the peace and calm in the temple and it was truly an amazing experience. Janis and Robert



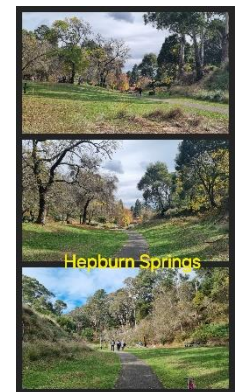
Departing Bendigo on the 8th May, we arrived in Daylesford at approx. midday. After the usual setting up we explored our lovely Park with its old and beautiful Sequoia trees. Amenities a little old and very cold at night, but clean. A wonderful bonus to our stay was the exclusive use of an old stone building called the "Lodge" in which was a large fireplace. Every day the staff cleaned and stacked

a large fireplace with great fire burning wood and Mike Collins and Barry Latham took great care in ensuring that the fire was always stoked and burning well. Every afternoon at 4.00 we gathered for Happy Hour and found it difficult to leave the warmth of the room to go back to our vans to cook dinner. Some came back after dinner, and it has been known that a few were still there at 9.00 pm enjoying company and of course a drink or two....

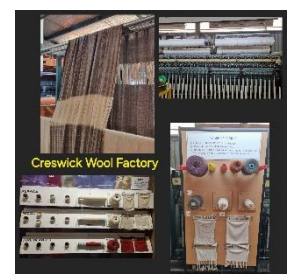
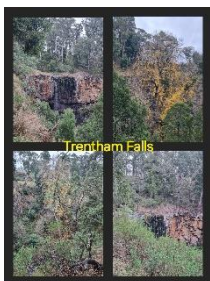


The following day (9th May) was a free day to explore Daylesford. Quite a few of our group visited the Mill Market with 500 stalls - all undercover and quite impressive. Many beautiful old buildings to photograph. At that day's Happy Hour, Chris outlined a 'tag-along' for the following day.

The Tag-along on Friday included driving to Castlemaine where we had morning coffee in a beautiful bakery. Once we were all fuelled up with cake and a drink, we drove to Trentham Falls. Then afterwards onto a Dingo Sanctuary which we found extremely interesting. Back again in time for Happy Hour.



Our third full day included driving to Jubilee Lake, another Caravan Park near to our Park. Nice place, but it was agreed that where we were staying was much better. Then we drove to Wombat Botanical Gardens and The Convent Art Gallery. Following a look around, we then drove onto Hepburn Springs, an old area well known for its beneficial waters. I had a taste but I'm not too sure about its taste. Maybe it's an acquired one. We had lunch at the Lavender Farm where you



could have Lavender ice-cream or Lavender champagne! Back again for Happy Hour in the lovely warm Lodge and being our last day in Daylesford, an opportunity to have Ian Palmer and Christine Knight outline the following day's drive to our next destination, Ballarat. On our departure morning, (12th) the Park management gave us a few extra hours stay, so that gave us an opportunity to visit the Daylesford Markets, where we purchased lots of lovely fresh produce and other items of interest. We departed at approx. 11.30. These 4 nights in Daylesford gave us a much needed break in our travel and consensus was that it is a lovely place to visit Fay Evernden and Ian



We followed on from Daylesford with 3 nights at Ballarat. We explored the city centre, many historic buildings and statues. We went to the Eureka Centre which we found very informative. The original Eureka Flag was on display. We then had a full day at Sovereign Hill. What an experience. We spent the whole day exploring the many old buildings, huts, blacksmith, schools, gold mine and too much more to mention. It was like stepping back in time. All the people were dressed in period costumes with even the school children being dressed up in period costumes. Acting as they would have been - polite,



in two lines, hands clasped and doing exactly as their strict teachers told them to do. We saw the melting and pouring of gold to make a solid block of gold worth \$350,000. The redcoats marched through the streets and even



fired their guns. A wagon took children for rides around the town pulled by 4 large draft horses. We had lunch at the tea rooms again, the staff dressed in period costume and we were treated like royalty. We even went back there to have Devonshire tea. This was a fantastic day out and well worth it. They also put on a light show at night, and a few

members went and said it was amazing. If you haven't been to Ballarat, put it on your trip list. The whole trip has been one long adventure. Deb and Barry

For more information about the trip contact Ian Palmer and he'll email you the information



## WHAT SPEED CAN YOU LEGALLY TOW A CARAVAN, HORSE FLOAT OR LARGE TRAILER IN NSW? - Confusion exists with differing answers

TRUCK FRIENDLY EXPLAINS THE FACTS.

When I started Truck Friendly in 2019, a quick search of the internet found conflicting information about the legal speed that you can tow a caravan in the state of NSW.

There was even a NSW Government web site that had incorrect information on it adding to the confusion. After I contacted the relevant Department several times unsuccessfully, and finally contacted the NSW Transport Minister this site now has the correct information.

I had also contacted several other company web sites about their errors, including one State caravan Industry body many times over a 3-year period. Some including that State Assoc. have now changed their information and are now correct.

There are still those on social media who have not checked the facts or may be unaware of the difference in speeds for different vehicles for different vehicles in different states.

We still get passed in NSW by caravan rigs and trucks when we are driving at 100 KPH on the highways. Yes, I am aware that not all car speedos are accurate, and many trucks use GPS. That is not the point of this discussion. So please no comments on that issue.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

After being advised information I suspected as being inaccurate by several sources, I contacted the NSW Roads and Maritime Service corporate office, who advised me that the rules actually state:-

Road Rules 2014 - NSW Legislation Part 3 Rule 21

"Road Rules 2014

21 Speed limit where a speed limit sign applies

(1) The speed limit applying to a driver for a length of road to which a speed limit sign applies is the number of kilometres per hour indicated by the number on the sign.

Note. Length of road is defined in the Dictionary.

(2) However, if the number on the speed limit sign is over 100 and the driver is driving a vehicle with a GVM over 4.5 tonnes or a vehicle and trailer combination with a GCM over 4.5 tonnes, the speed limit applying to the driver for the length of road is 100 kilometres per hour."

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The big difference is the GVM only refers to the tow vehicle and the GCM applies to the total vehicle combination.

Most tow vehicles (Most are classed as 'Light Vehicles') by themselves, will be below this GVM weight by themselves, therefore not affected by the weight and speed limit.

The GCM / combination reference, however, also includes the trailer / caravan and therefore includes almost all caravan rigs on the roads. Most caravan rigs on the roads would be above 4,500 kg GCM (Gross Combined Mass) Yes, there will be a small number still under the GCM limit.

HOWEVER: - The rule does not depend upon the actual laden vehicle mass at the time. It refers to the manufacturers plated GVM and GCM weights.

The Road Transport Act 2013 defines GCM and GVM as:

o GCM (gross combination mass) of a motor vehicle means the greatest possible sum of the maximum loaded mass of the motor vehicle and of any vehicles that may lawfully be towed by it at one time as specified by the manufacturer;

o GVM (gross vehicle mass) of a motor vehicle means the maximum loaded mass of the vehicle as specified by the manufacturer.

THEREFORE: - as most tow vehicle / caravan combinations are well above the 4,500kg's GCM weight, THEY ARE RESTRICTED to a maximum speed of 100kph or the posted speed limit, whichever is the lesser when driving in the state of NSW.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



In Western Australia, the maximum speed that you can tow a caravan or trailer is 100kph, irrespective of the GVM / GCM weight.

#### TASMANIA

In Tasmania you are restricted to towing a caravan / trailer on a gravel road to 80kph.

#### VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS

While not legally binding, your vehicle manufacturer may also place towing speed restrictions on their vehicles, like most Subaru vehicles are restricted to 80 kph etc. Prado wagons may also be restricted to 100kph towing, and Ford may have a sliding scale of maximum recommended towing speeds depending on the individual vehicle model and weight of the caravan / trailer it is towing.

My 2021 Ford Ranger is restricted by the manufacturer to 100 KPH when towing.

Remember, your insurance may be affected if you do not follow manufacturers recommendations. or legal speed limits.

It is also dangerous to tow above 100 kph, irrespective of how long you have been getting away with it. Speed is a big factor in causing caravan sway it also increases in severity with speed. The faster you go the less reaction time you have to take action to stop caravan sway

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<b>Tuggerah Lakes Caravanners TRIP SHEETS 2024</b>				
<b>DATES</b>	<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>MEMBERS ATTENDING</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>PARK</b>
<b>18 – 24 June</b>	<b>North Haven</b>	<b>Barnes/Gosper D/G, Brennan S, Collins M/L, Cooper D, Cornwell J, Curtis D/M, Insull/Doyle B/J, Lee-Sing W/S, Maranik D/A, Rohwer P/P, Thomas R/F, Treacy/Wenning J/R, Wright/Merrett P/J 13</b>	<b>Fay &amp; Rod Thomas 0408 271 236</b>	<b>Reflections Holiday Park North Haven 6559 9193</b>
<b>23 – 30 July</b>	<b>Ingenia One Mile Beach</b>	<b>Barnes/Gosper D/G, Cok, A/W, Cooper D, Cornwell J, Curtis D/M, Dick/Moore M/T, Edwards/Williamson S/G, Fraser A/T, Howard B/A, Insull/Doyle B/J, Knight J/C Latham D/B, Lee-Sing W/S, Leotta A/L, Maranik D/A, Olesen P/C, Thomas R/F, Treacy/Wenning J/R, Wilkinson C, Wright/Merrett P/J 20</b>	<b>Club Organised</b>	<b>Ingenia One Mile Beach 4982 1112</b>
<b>5 – 11 Aug</b>	<b>Del Rio Riverside Park</b>	<b>Collins M/L, Cornwell J, Cooper D, Curtis D/M, Dick/Moore M/T, Howard B/A, Lee-Sing S/W, Maranik D/A, Rees M/A, Thomas F/R, Treacy/Wenning J/R 11</b>	<b>Fay &amp; Rod Thomas 0408 271 236</b>	<b>Del Rio Riverside Park 4566 4330</b>
<b>31 Oct – 7 Nov</b>	<b>Big 4 Tamworth</b>	<b>Barnes/Gosper D/G, Cornwell J, Howard B/A, Insull B, Lee-Sing W/S, Rees M/D, Rohwer P/P, Smyth H/J, Thomas R/F, Treacy/Wenning J/R 10</b>	<b>Club Organised</b>	<b>Big 4 Tamworth 6766 3120</b>
<b>11 – 25 Nov</b>	<b>Narrabeen Leisure Trip</b>	<b>Bickley/Baird C/C, Bryce/Tanner J/H, Davidson/Whitehead P/Y, Fraser A/T, Leotta A/L, Maranik D/A, Rohwer P/P, Wells J/J 8</b>	<b>John Bryce 0424 963 954 or Helen Tanner 0468 637 711</b>	<b>PLEASE CONTACT JOHN OR HELEN TO BOOK</b>