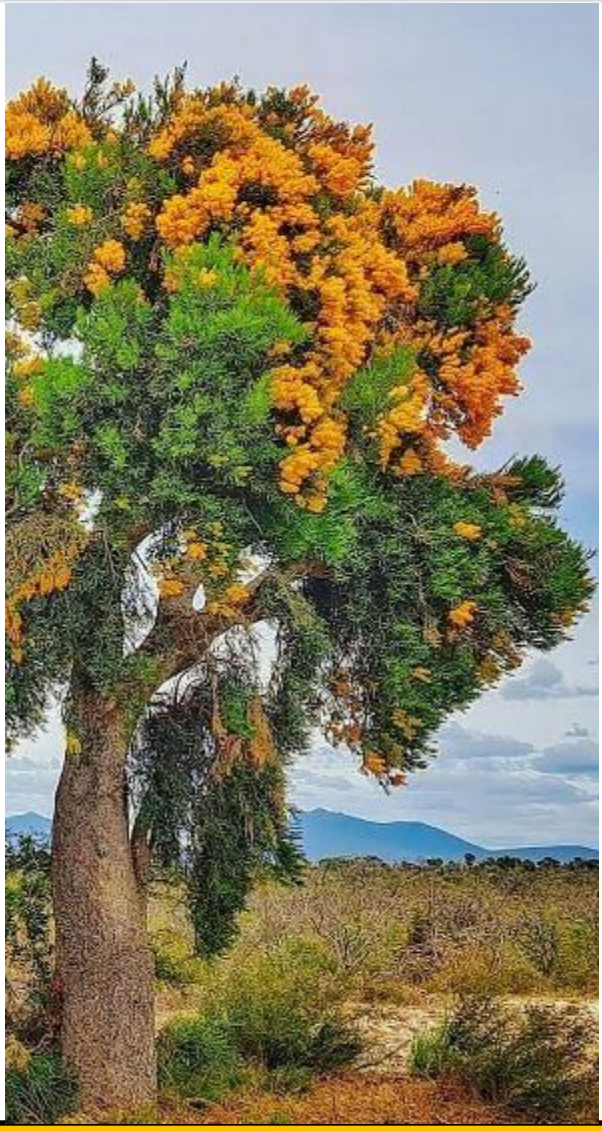
Australian Touring RV Club Inc.

ARN 0038452P ABN 81322749403

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026



Jan-Feb 2026 Issue No. 156

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Front cover *: Christmas Tree (Nutsia floribunda) near the Porongorups WA*

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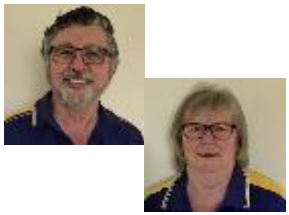

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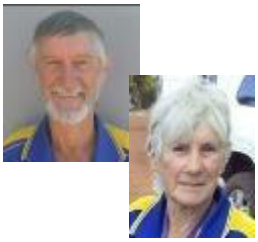

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Are you interested in becoming a Regional Delegate or Coordinator, or interested in organising a Rally or a Get Together for your Region?

Our Club will not survive into the future unless we have people willing to put their hands up.

Please feel free to discuss this with a Committee Member or email a message with your suggestions.

President's Update from the Committee Room December 2025

Hello everyone, it's hard to believe that this report is the last one for 2025. I hope this finds you well and with many travelling plans in the coming New Year.

I realise that celebrating Christmas and talking about good cheer was hard in the wake of the devastating tragedy that happened in Bondi recently. Also for members who have lost loved ones, know that our thoughts and prayers are with you.
We had an interesting Committee meeting with everyone in attendance.

We were sorry to hear that Alan and Hazel Reynolds have resigned as South Australian delegates. Our thanks and appreciation to them for their service to ATRVC. And we look forward to seeing them at future events.

Brenda Goodall has also stepped down from her role as Merchandise Officer due to ill health, our thanks to Brenda and we wish her well.

The Treasurer, David, presented a report concerning charitable fundraising initiatives, with particular emphasis on the "Wheelchairs for Kids" fundraiser organised by a member during the National Rally. He expressed concern that ATRVC fails to comply with the legal requirements to raise funds for charities. Following discussion it was decided to continue to give any funds raised eg. in raffles, to the state delegates for donation to a local charity. For further information on this issue please read the treasurers report, which can be found on our website under the heading Club Publications and Documents.

The delegates reported there was insufficient coverage of the Albany rally posted on Facebook. If members would like to review them again, most can be located under the heading Album at the top of the Facebook page or by using a search for Albany where more can be seen.

Kerry reported that our membership stands at 111 with 4 resignations, 2 new members and 1 rejoined. We had some suggestions to encourage membership for example, a Club video, no membership fee for the first year, the website made more interesting at first glance - for example more colourful and with more photos, and an article to be submitted to the ACCVic for inclusion in the GoRV magazine.

However it is up to each member to advertise ATRVC within their own networks, that is my challenge to you all as we step into the New Year, meanwhile your committee will continue to play its part.

Finally, it is my pleasure to wish you and yours, all a very Happy, healthy and prosperous New YearTake care, stay safe and enjoy your travels

Your President—Mary Claridge

■

Voting at General Meetings

Hello Members, there seems to be some confusion in regards what constitutes a membership and how that is counted in the context of a quorum and for that matter anything that we as club members are required to vote on.

In the constitution a quorum is as below and the critical part is highlighted

36 Quorum at general meetings

(1) No business may be conducted at a general meeting unless a quorum of members is present.

(2) The quorum for a general meeting is the presence (physically, by proxy or as allowed under rule 35) of 10% of the members entitled to vote.

Then under membership categories 14 (e) each membership number is entitled to one vote.

14 Membership Categories

(1) Membership of the Association shall consist of:

Full membership: which shall

(a) be granted by the Committee at its discretion on receipt of the nomination form lodged in accordance with Rule 9;

(b) require the payment of one full membership subscription;

(c) entitle the applicant(s) to one Association membership number;

(d) entitle a maximum of two adult persons travelling in the same vehicle, as nominated on the nomination form, to be members of the Association;

(c) entitle each membership number to one vote with full voting rights and other entitlements and responsibilities of membership.

In recent times or at least in the last 4 years there has been no need to be too particular in regards to counting votes as we haven't had to vote on anything and as for the quorum at the AGM's we have always had more than sufficient numbers to achieve a quorum and behind the scenes where we record the attendance we only count the membership numbers not the people.

I trust this is clear however if anyone has questions please contact the secretary.

Geoff Woodard

secretary@atrvc.org.au

So what was happening Twenty Years ago?

This was extracted from the Traveller Issue No 45 Jan/Feb Edition 2006

News Of The Day

2006 has arrived and on behalf on your committee may I take this time to wish all of you and your families a truly Happy, Safe & Healthy New Year and we look forward to catching up at one of our Get To-Gethers held during the year,which of course this year there are many with State Delegates in QLD,NSW & VIC busy arranging events over 3 or 4 days for you to attend and meet up with fellow members.A full list of events are listed in this issue.

Joy & I camped back along the Mighty Murray this year as there were no National Rallies to attend and as you may have read in the papers the temp got up to 44 deg on some days and under our awning it reached close to 50 deg. Each morning I listened to the radio for news of aTotal Fire Ban warning to no avail,on talking to a Parks Victoria Ranger he told me that this was becoming a major problem to get Radio Stations to broadcast these warnings and he suggested that I should inform all members who may be traveling down south to Victoria that maybe we should programe the following number into our phone,s as it's a Fire Restriction information line and the number is **131599**
By calling this number we can all have peace of mind that we are doing the right thing.

If members have information on numbers such as above for other states please let me have them and we will include all numbers in the Traveller.Remember camp fires are our responsibility.

Edition states : All info for newsletter please send to Brian Kelleher (home address)

Vale Colin Ralston. Mem #Aus 981

Colin Ralston was a long-time member of Australian Touring Club. He was a man that was faithfully present at most rallies and lunches since 2014 when he along with his wife Lorraine joined the WA Branch. He and Lorraine were responsible for organising the Christmas lunch for as many years as I can remember and putting the Christmas bon bons on the table for members' enjoyment.

He was also responsible for distributing the Club magazine every 2 months, and before that it was as merchandise officer along with Lorraine.
I remember chatting with Colin one evening at our Esperance Rally about his career as a piano tuner. He was going to check out my father's Bechstein but unfortunately, we never got round to that.
We are grateful for Colin's contribution to ATRVC and he will be missed in many ways.
Our condolences go to Lorraine and his family.

Your president

Mary Claridge

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Wongan Hills Rally WA 31st Oct—2nd Nov 2025

Our Wongan Hills Rally in Western Australia incorporated the Reynoldson Festival, bringing a vibrant celebration of local culture, flora and community to Wongan Hills.

Day 1 we opened the rally. 17 vans and 1 chalet attended this rally over the 5 day period.
We also welcomed Sandra Sampson to our rally.

Hamburgers and salad were cooked by our in house chef Ken, who worked tirelessly over the barbecue.

Day 2 Many of us did sightseeing on Thursday morning before a well organised tour was arranged by Geoff Woodard to the Dsatco Mulch Farm. Dsatco Mulch is a supplier of premium organic mulch, based in Western Australia. The tour was well attended.

Day 3 at our own leisure, we drove to Lake Ninan which looked great after all the rain we have had. It offers a perfect escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

We then headed to Mt.O'Brien which is the second highest peak in Wongan Hills standing at 424 metres high and offers spectacular panoramic views of the surrounding area

A Sundowner with local musicians was organised to open the Festival which was well attended by our members.

➔

Day 4 Saturday breakfast, devonshire teas and bus tours to the Reynoldson Reserve added a lot of atmosphere to our rally. These activities were organised by the Festival Committee and from all accounts our members enjoyed all that was offered.

Day5 Sunday evening, our members headed off to the local pub, the Wongan Hills Civic Hotel, whilst some went to hear the Hills Symphony Orchestra for the closing of the Rally.

Our rally ended up with Rod our tour guide from the Wongan Hills Visitor Centre taking us to Gathercole Nature Reserve to view some fascinating sculptured rocks

← Irish dog walking! ↑

After the walk we needed some sustenance, so headed to Cafe of Note where we enjoyed our brunch.

→

At the Cafe Fran and I handed over the raffle money of $200 to Sarah who is part of the Volunteer Fire Brigade.

We said our farewells at our final barbecue at the closing of the rally. Robyn Rally Organiser

The Generation Gap

■

Sth Qld Rally Bellingen NSW 6th—13th Nov 2025

Seventeen intrepid travellers made their way some 400 odd km to beautiful Bellingen on the mid north coast of NSW for a 7 day rally, camping at the showground. A very quaint, picturesque, slightly alternate town right on the Bellinger River.

We pretty much formed a wagon train circle which was quite conducive for our daily happy hour(s).

Had plenty of laughs, plenty of stories, and lots of our usual card games, Finska, Disc Bowls etc.

Some of the highlights revolved around food (funny that), great pub dinner at Diggers Tavern, a combined self catering dinner, lunch in Dorrigo and a great fish and chip/hamburger Cafe at Mylestom after our lawn bowls morning. A great little gem was the Cafe at the Old Butter Factory where we enjoyed 3 morning teas and a wander around the attached boutique stores.

Congrats to all our sports winners and runners up, who took home magnificent trophies.

Our hamper raffle was won by Wayne and Elaine (funny how Wayne drew out his own winning ticket).

Raf e proceeds went to the kitchen at the showground who prepared meals for the homeless, and to say they were stoked was an understatement. Although it was a modest amount, it went to a thoroughly deserving group of volunteers.

A couple of noteworthy Birthdays while we were away - Bob Stalker's 80th, and Gillan Kelly, 50 something!

Happy travelling from the South Qld mob. Looking forward to our next rally.

Cheers Barry Mason 0409 381385

Victorian Rally 26/11/25 – 3/12/25
Held at
Echo Holiday Park Naracoorte (S. A.)

We were very pleased to welcome so many members in attendance for our Christmas Rally.

In total we had 35 in attendance. 24 from Victoria, 10 from South Australia and ex-President Sandra on her way from Albany to her home in Queensland.

What great facilities were provided by the Caravan Park. Huge Powered Sites, excellent large Camp Kitchen with all necessary appliances including 2 free barbeques with commercial exhaust fan for us to use in preparing meals.

It was very disappointing to receive a text from Trish advising that she had mechanical problems and had to return home after doing 450 km.

Wednesday 26th November

Nothing was on the agenda for today with most members arriving at the caravan park.

It was great to meet some members who we had not seen for a few years, and others not since our Myrtleford National Rally 18 months ago.

The Caravan Park kindly provided the Sausage Sizzle for the 26 of us that were here tonight and the Club providing Ice Cream and topping.

Thursday 27th November

We had the remaining 9 people arrive today.

This afternoon we had our first excursion to "The Bird Room." The farm was on the edge of Bools Lagoon wetlands which is currently dry. Here we were able to see over 600 Taxidermied birds on display plus a small number of small mammals and various types of eggs.

The Tawny Frogmouth was Aust Bird of the Year 2025

Parrots

Lizards

➡

On the way back to the park we also called into another farm house, where the daughter ran a small quilt and fabric shop. Whilst the ladies visited the shop her father took the rest of the group to visit the heritage listed shearing shed which is still in use this day.

Happy Hour had everyone in attendance. All deeply involved in discussion since we last all met.

Tonight, at dinner we utilized all barbeque and facilities with every one having a barbeque with a salad to share.

Friday 28th November

In the morning we visited the largest Rosemary Farm in the Southern Hemisphere where they had 8000 plants. They supply both Woolworths & Coles.

We were given a very comprehensive insight into the industry. Rosemary does not get attacked by Rabbits, Kangaroos or Snails.

We were able to see both the equipment and processing room where they advised the benefits of the oil extracted from the leaves. This oil is extremely beneficial for many ailments. Most members purchased a bottle for their own personal needs.

During Happy Hour, Steve & Donna Hole, who are on the Committee for the N.A.C.C. Rally for Bendigo 2028, showed what was presented at the N.A.C.C. Rally earlier this year at the Mudgee Rally.

After Happy Hour we had our Soup Night, (choice of four varieties), with Buttered Bread Rolls and Ice Cream & Flavouring.
We did not have much left from the 24 litres available. The soup had been in the dream pots prior to our excursion.

➔

This was followed by an enjoyable game of Card Bingo, with plenty of prizes to be won.

Saturday 29th November

An early start, having to go 50 kilometres for our 10.30 appointment to visit the Mary MacKillop Centre at Penola. What a magnificent display to recognise both Mary and Father Woods.

Most members walked down Petticoat Lane and inspected the restored houses of the late 1860 era and their gardens and herbs of the day.

We then all enjoyed a lovely lunch at The Royal Oak Hotel in Penola.

On the way back we inspected the wood carving display on the roadside along the highway about 20 kilometres out where Father Wood used to camp whilst on his various trips in the huge area under his jurisdiction back in the 1860's.

Sunday 30th November

A free day to be enjoyed by all doing what they wish. In the afternoon we were meant to be playing Disc Bowls but because of inclement weather we all adjourned into the Camp Kitchen and enjoyed an afternoon at the Races.

This was run by Max, Rosemarie, and Rosemary. It was greatly appreciated that the South Australian contingent brought this game with them

➔

What a great way to spend a rainy afternoon.

For dinner tonight we had "Build your own Hamburger." It was a really lovely meal and enjoyed by all. We really thank all the Cooks and servers involved.

After the main course we drew the lucky member numbers for the Club Sponsored prizes. We thank the Committee for giving us the $100 to cover this.

Then we said goodbye to Sandra who was leaving for home tomorrow morning.

Monday 1st December

In the morning majority of members visited the Volunteer Fire Fighters Museum. This is the only Volunteers Fire Fighters recognition in South Australia where they had many old Fire Trucks from various locations throughout the state spanning over 50 years.

We were given a very informative talk on volunteer fire fighting and the larger fires in both South Australia & Victoria.

There was also a Memorial for all volunteers who have lost their lives fighting fires.

In the afternoon some of the ladies started preparing various salads etc at 2 pm.

Happy hour was held as per normal.

Our Christmas Dinner was held tonight. It comprised of ¼ Chicken, Ham on the bone, Buttered Bread Rolls, and a very large variety of salads.

➔

This is one of the rare occasions that we have run a Raffle at a Rally. We then drew the Raffle as some members were leaving tomorrow morning.

This was followed by drawing the Kris Kringle gifts. What a lovely variety of gifts were chosen by everyone.

After all of this, with our stomach settled we then partook in the parfait sweets that were also made on site.

We thank all ladies for the preparation and serving the food.

Tuesday 2nd December.
The morning was free for members to explore the neighbourhood.

After Lunch we had our game of Disc Bowls. Sitting in the warm sun was very enjoyable after the cooler days that we had been having. It was great to see unexpected players in the final.
The Winners were Franz & Micki

with the Runners Up being John Kestle & Helen.

We would like to thank all members who helped make the Rally be the success that it was and we hope that everyone had an enjoyable time.

We also wish everyone a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year & a safe and Healthy 2026.

Hope to see you at our Rally Late January at Marysville or our first Lunch in February.

Wendy & Malcolm Carter ■

Luncheon at Crown Hotel, Lilydale, Victoria

We thank Steve & Elaine Nichols for arranging both our luncheon and a tour of the Athenaeum Theatre. We learnt of the history of this building dating back to 1880's.

What an experience to be able to go on the stage, behind the scenes, into the dressing rooms, inspect the props and trying on costumes.

Steve giving us a talk in front of the stage.

The Dame Nellie Melba Room Display.

Micki dressed in a costume.

Some of the props.

Jan, Elaine, Bernadette & Wendy.

Micki in disguise.

After our visit to the Theatre, we walked across the street to have lunch at The Crown Hotel.

We only had a small number of 15 in attendance, unfortunately there are always some apologies.

The meal was delightful.

Dress ups!

■

Payments to the Club by Electronic Funds Transfer

Bendigo Bank BSB 633 000 109562397

To keep the Club's records up to date it is important when paying by Electronic Funds Transfer, that any forms be posted or emailed to:

Membership Officer ATRVC

Kerry Dymock 8 Poplar Court, Forrestfield 6058

Or to membership@atrvc.org.au (preferred)

ENSURE THAT YOU INCLUDE YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER AND THE REASON FOR YOUR PAYMENT WITH DEPOSIT

Reference examples for payments:

- **Payments for Membership fees, reference is : Member number + "Membership".**
- **Payment for new Members, reference is Surname + "New Member"'**
- **Payments for National Rally Fees, reference is Member Number + "National Rally"'**
- **Please see the Merchandise Page for the Bank Location when ordering & include Member Number as the deposit reference.**

Please contact Treasurer David on 0474 482 034 for assistance or other payment options.

The Traveller Publication

The Traveller will be published every two months:
January, March, May, July, September and November.

The cut-off dates to submit articles, photos and any other item to be included in the magazine are **15th December 15th February 15th April 15th June 15th August 15th October**

It is requested that you please submit your copy as early as possible.

Email to: **traveller@atrvc.org.au**

ATRVC ANNUAL FEES 2025

A GENTLE REMINDER

Membership Fees are due annually on 30th June.

The Annual Membership Subscription is

- **$50 for couples/families**
- **$30 for singles**
- **$25 for Associate**

Please add $20 if you wish to receive a Hard Copy of The Traveller.

ATRVC Bank Account:

Bendigo Bank: BSB: 633 000 Account No: 109562397

**** Deposit Reference is: member number + "Membership".**

For further information:

Contact: membership@atrvc.org.au

Phone: 0407 449 324

We extend a very warm welcome to the following members who have recently joined

Charlie Galati/Sue Young referred by Geoff Kenward & Denise Bratley

Please take the opportunity to join one of our get-togethers soon and meet some of the characters that make up this club.

Membership Challenge

CLUB AIM:

Every Member to introduce one new member per year.

(Singles, Couples and Families are all welcome)

"There will be a prize of FREE MEMBERSHIP for ONE YEAR, for the most introduced between the 2024 AGM and the 2025 AGM !"

List to-date:

LEADERBOARD

Geoff Kenward & Denise Bratley

Australian Touring RV Club Inc.
Get-Together Schedule 2025

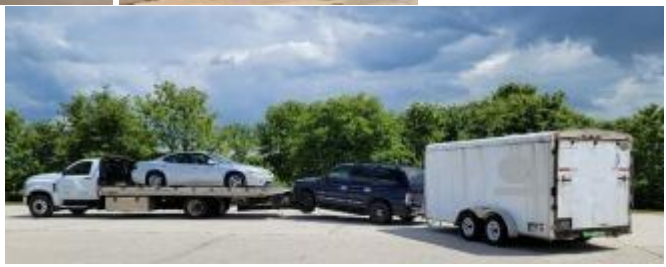
<u>Luncheons</u>—contact the relevant organiser for Location and/or to register/book in.

Western Australia	3rd Feb	Lunch with Maureen and Hugh Tour of wheelchair for Kids Facility 10.00Am. 10 Buckingham Drive Wangara Then on to Luncheon to be advise
Victoria 	29th Jan To 5th Feb	**Rally Marysville Caravan & Holiday Park**. Site Fees $40 per night All Cabins 2 B/Room. Basic 2 B/Room Cabins $128 per night. Extra for additional people (Price Quoted 2/11/25) Book direct with Park Ph. 03-5963-3247 Bookings to be made by 7th January Then advise: - Wendy & Malcolm Carter, Victorian Delegates, A.T.R.V.C. Inc. vicdelegates@atrvc.org.au Ph. 0409-352-515 1130 Buxton – Marysville Road, Marysville. Vic. Ph. 03-5963-3247
Victoria	19th Feb	**Luncheon Riddells Creek Hotel. 12 Noon** 10 Hamilton St., Riddells Creek. Vic Book with Wendy & Malcolm Carter, Ph. 0409-352-515 Bookings close 15/2/26
Western Australia	7th Mar To 12th Mar	**March Rally With Robyn Mengler** Big 4 Port Denison Caravan park Dongara We have secured and paid deposit on 20 sites, 5 Nights at $44.65/night— **+ discount if Big Four member.** If you would like to attend can you please **call or Text Robyn on Phone 0403218540** More details in the New Year asking for a deposit and your details

Victoria	20th Mar To 23rd Mar	**ACCVic State Rally (Optional)** **Myrtleford Recreation Reserve** **109 O'Donnell Avenue, Myrtleford** (Can go early & can stay longer) ($30 P/N (if going in early) and $35 P/N (Friday/ Saturday & Sunday) and $30 if staying longer Book on web site "Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria," Then go to State Rally 2026 and register on line. **There is a one-night gap if going to Wodonga**.
South Australia	23rd Mar To 30th Mar	**Rally Port Pirie Echo Holiday Park** **1 Three Chain Road Solomontown Beach** $36/night-they have given 1 night free to bring down the cost/night When you have made your bookings with Alissa at the Caravan Park can you contact Alan Reynolds via SMS or 0429 824 245
Victoria	24th Mat To 31st Mar	**Rally Wodonga Caravan & Cabin Park,** **186 Melbourne Road, Wodonga. Vic.** Ph. 03-6024-2598 Site Fees $40 per night (Less 10%) 1 B/R Cabin $120 per night, 2 B/R Cabin $130 per night Plus $15 extra person. (Price Quoted 25/11/25) Bookings to be made by 28th February. Book direct with Park Ph.02-6024-2598. Then advise: - Wendy & Malcolm Carter, Victorian Delegates, A.T.R.V.C. Inc. vicdelegates@atrvc.org.au Ph. 0409-352-515
Western Australia	April	Lunch with Mei Details TBA
Victoria	23rd Apr	**Luncheon Village Green Hotel,** **Cnr Springvale Rd & Ferntree Gully Rd,** **Mulgrave**. Book with Wendy & Malcolm Carter, Victorian Delegates, A.T.R.V.C. Inc. Ph. 0409-352-515 : Bookings close 18/3/26

Western Australia	20th May	**Rally with Geoff & Denise.** May start at Pumphreys Bridge for 6 Days at various Locations. More details to follow.
Western Australia	June	Lunch with Gordon Details TBA
Western Australia	July	Rally with Robyn. Still working it out but could be in Carnamah region later in July. Details emailed when they come to hand.
Western Australia	Aug	Volunteer please
Western Australia	Sept	Rally (must include AGM Meeting)
Western Australia	Oct	Luncheon
Western Australia	Nov	Rally
Western Australia	Dec	Christmas Lunch (Warren and Lynette)

1st rally off the rank for 2026 is Victoria's, at the end of January.
It is fitting to suggest some alternative towing/loading methods.



The Wanderer

In 1885, a remarkable new sight appeared on Britain's roads: The Wanderer, a magnificent mahogany coach -built caravan, the first designed specifically for leisure travel. Weighing two tonnes, it was pulled by two horses, whimsically named Captain Cornflower and Polly Peablossom, and preceded by a valet on a Ranelagh tricycle who rode ahead to check and clear the route.

Its owner, Dr. William Gordon Stables, a retired Royal Navy surgeon and popular author of boys' adventure stories, set out on The Wanderer's maiden 1,300-mile journey from his home in Twyford, Berkshire, to Inverness, Scotland.

Influenced by his naval background, he referred to the caravan affectionately as "she," much like a sea-going vessel.

Upon reaching Inverness, the caravan was loaded onto a train and returned to London, after which the journey continued by road along the south coast to Lymington in Hampshire.

For many summers afterward, Dr. Gordon Stables travelled the country in his striking Highland dress, accompanied by pets, and occasionally one of his children, often writing novels or articles as he went.

Other examples of Horse Drawn Caravans

What, no washing machine, Diesel heater, TV, Shower/toilet!

How did they survive?

3 Common Fruits that Help You Fall Asleep Faster & Sleep Longer

A healthy brain and body are needed for you to thrive and live abundantly.

Food and sleep are key. Research confirms consuming the right foods improves sleep quality; and a sound night's sleep, in turn, makes it easier to eat well the next day, creating a positive cycle.

Virginia Woolf stated, "One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well."

These dayZ falling asleep and getting a good sleep can be a challenge.

Want better sleep at night? You may need to rethink your eating habits. Three common fruits, eaten in the evening, that can help you fall asleep faster and sleep longer : tart cherries, kiwis, and grapes.

- Tart cherries: Contain melatonin and tryptophan, which support the body's natural sleep regulation; consuming tart cherry juice or a handful of cherries before bed may help you fall asleep faster and stay asleep longer.
- Kiwis: High in serotonin and antioxidants, eating one or two kiwis before bed has been linked to improved sleep quality, faster sleep onset, and reduced nighttime awakenings.
- Grapes: Provide natural melatonin; eating them fresh, rather than as juice or raisins, maximizes their sleep-supporting benefits. They make a light and healthy evening snack that can aid in winding down before bed.

I'm always amazed at how much better life looks after a good sleep.

Remember, food communicates with your body & brain. Try to make sure it's saying the right things.

1. Eat Better, Sleep Better, Marie-Pierre St. Onge & Kat Craddock, Columbia University, Centre of Excellence for Sleep and Circadian Research, Simon & Schuster, 2025

■

Yeah—another alternative to standing behind a skinny tree or leafless bush!

*Nevertheless, it entails spending **BIG $'s,** whilst the above is free .*

The Etteliot S - Urine Eliminator

The Etteliot S urine treatment box makes storing and emptying urine unnecessary and requires very little energy (12V / 4A).

It can easily be fitted to any type of toilet provided it is fitted with a separator and urine tank. After use, Etteliot S treats and evacuates your urine directly on site using a patented three-step process: automatic pumping and filtration, disinfection by electrolysis, and evacuation by mist.

During electrolysis treatment, enzymes, bacteria, urea and ammonium are broken down and the treated solution is thus stable and odorless. Then, an ultrasonic fogger vaporizes this solution.

The case is very small (20 × 20 × 12 cm) and easy to assemble, maintain and clean.

Grey Nomads article

Any grey nomad tired of saying 'socks' every time someone asks them what they want

Christmas, now has the perfect opportunity to shake things up …. and say: 'this year, I want a toilet in my van that can vapourise urine so I don't have to empty the cassette as often'.

Yes, it's true!

A French company has come up with a rather ingenious device, known as the Etteliot S, which is intended for dry toilets with systems that al-ready separate urine and faeces into different containers.

The invention automatically pumps urine from the tank, purifies it using electrolysis, and releases it as a harmless mist through an ultrasonic membrane …and it's all completely free of unpleasant odours.

The company says the urine nebuliser is easy to install on all standard dry-separation toilets and blends seamlessly into existing setups.

And the big plus … there's no need to store or manually empty urine.

The electrolysis process neutralises 'nasties' like bacteria and enzymes so that the urine becomes a clean liquid that can then be discharged out of a drain pipe potentially from underbody of the van – as an ultrasonic mist.

➔

Etteliot's Ronan Blaison told the GNT that the device was developed specifically for the caravan and motorhome market. He said that for travellers like grey nomads, the benefits included reducing the need to empty urine tanks; increasing autonomy for hose on the road; improving hygiene and comfort; and minimising environmental impact.

Mr Blaison says the system is very compact, easy to install, operates off 12v power, and is easy to maintain … just requiring weekly cleaning and annual parts replacement.

The Etteliot S currently sells in Europe for around 900 Euros (A$1,600).

But grey nomads eager to vapourise their urine may not have to long to wait.

"Regarding Australia, we are exploring international distribution opportunities," said Mr Blaison.

The dog isn't worried!

■

Xmas Luncheon RAAF Bullcreek WA 9th Dec 2025

There was a good turnout for the WA Members final event for 2025—the Xmas Lunch, organised by Warren & Lynette.

A combination of good food, pleasant company at a superb venue, made for a very enjoyable afternoon.

Celebrating their engagement, were Peter & Anne.

Hugh & Maureen

Ken & Kerry

Raffle winner Pene

Lunch organisers Warren & Lynette

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Naracoorte rally attendees visiting the Naracoorte Rosemary Farm