

In this issue:

• A back saving bike rack

• Couple takes on the Big Lap in an EV

• Delve into Devonport



A new year dawns ... and all grey nomads and wannabe grey nomads are raring to go!

A wonderful life

The Big Lap is becoming more and more popular ... help us explain why!

If reports into the popularity of camping and caravanning are to be believed, 2024 promises to be one of the busiest on record in the camping grounds and van parks of Australia.

Whether it's due to the lingering impacts of the pandemic, the cost-of-living crisis, or the rise of the digital nomad lifestyle, the fact of the matter is that the Big Lap secret is well and truly out ... and grey nomads are going to have get used to having a bit more company at Happy Hours.

The new year then will doubtless present some challenges

for long-term travellers, particularly those veterans who remember when there were 'no other travellers at this spot', when 'camping here was free', and when 'driving this track was a real adventure'. But change is part of the journey, and there's a reason why more and more people are 'living the dream' ... it is simply a fantastic lifestyle. Most grey nomads are in little doubt about what makes a long-term trip around this country so special. It's a combination of the camaraderie of the road, the scenery, the history, the sense of adventure, and the sheer stimulation of it all.

In order to get 2024 off to a positive start, we're asking

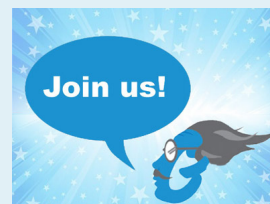
readers what it is that they love the most about being a grey nomad, and what it is they are most excited about doing or seeing or trying in the next 12 months.

For soon-to-be grey nomads, the question is the same ... what is it that persuaded you that now was time to say goodbye to the garden and the comforts of home (at least for a while), and venture out into the great unknown?

In GNT 316, we'll carry some of the emails that we receive as we head off into 2024 with hope in our hearts and wings on our wheels!

Email us here to share why you're excited about what lies ahead this year.

Click to comment



Become a GN Member

Becoming a 'Grey Nomad member' is a great way to show your support as we continue to expand the range of services we offer grey nomads and soon-to-be grey nomads. As well as daily news updates on our website, a fortnightly e-newsletter, a forum, and active social media channels, the Grey Nomads will be launching a new season of its popular podcast in the near future.

We have some exciting member competitions lined up for this year as well. Annual membership is \$49.

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Driving is believing

Shane and Sarah are keen to prove that the Big Lap is possible in an EV and a van

While the debate about whether an electric vehicle (EV) will ever be able to tow a caravan around Australia continues to rage, a couple from WA are seeking to settle the argument ... by actually doing it! Sarah White and Shane Parker set off from Perth on Boxing Day in a 2021 standard-range Model 3 Tesla towing a modified 1986 Cub Drifter. So far, they've travelled up the west coast to Broome, across to Katherine, down to Three-ways and east to Townsville, before heading down the coast as far as Sydney. They're next heading west via Melbourne and Adelaide, and across the Nullarbor back to Perth. And the verdict ... it's definitely do-able!

Their Model 3 Tesla can generally do about 400 kilometres around town or about 350 kilometres on the highway. "When towing the van, we can adjust our range by adjusting our speed," said Sarah. "At 80km/h, we can go more than 220km without a top-up and, if it is early in the day, so the air conditioning is not working too hard, we can stretch that to 240km or more." She says that, at 100km/h, they can get a range of at least 180km, even with a headwind. On the east coast, fast charging stations are usually less than 100km apart, so there are no problems. It's a different story in the Outback, but Sarah says EVs can actually be charged from anywhere you can plug in an electric kettle. "There is a little bit of planning required when we are charging off regular power points in that, if that is all there is available, then we try and plan



Shane and Sarah (above left) are towing a caravan with an EV (top). Their caravan is lightweight but has the capacity to go off-grid and help charge the car (above right).

to sleep at that location for the night," she said. The couple's secret weapon is the van itself. Having bought the Cub Drifter second-hand, they re-built it with lightweight components and added solar panels, batteries, and an air-conditioner! "When totally off grid the van is capable of adding about 1/3 of a charge to the car at 5kW, and, when in a caravan park, it can charge the car at 7.4kW, which is plenty to give us a full charge for the next morning," Sarah said. "The caravan can be charged from a caravan park or the solar panels on the roof, meaning the batteries are essentially a self-re-filling jerrycan which tops itself up as we drive along!"

So far, their longest leg without charging from a power point has been 287 kilometres between Sandfire Roadhouse and Roebuck Plains Roadhouse, which they made without trouble after stopping at a free camp to top up the car from the van. Sarah and Shane are thrilled that fast charging infrastructure is being built everywhere ... and quickly. "Large 4WD EVs capable of towing big caravans are available in other countries but not in Australia yet," Sarah said. "As soon as they become available, I can't see why grey nomads won't start using them." Readers can follow Shane and Sarah's trip [here](#): [Click to comment](#)

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Illegal campers in sight

Camping at the Jetty Foreshore is a perennial problem in Coffs Harbour

It seems that the NSW town of Coffs Harbour has joined the coastal communities who have decided enough is enough when it comes to illegal camping ... but, to some extent, its hands are tied.

For many months, people in caravans, campervans, motorhomes and tents have been a highly visible presence on land at the Jetty Foreshores. Of course, the issue has been exacerbated by an influx of travellers over the festive period, creating what Coffs Harbour City Council described as a 'pinch point'. However, the authority's options to respond are surprisingly limited.

The land used by illegal free campers is in large part managed by State Government agency, Property and Development NSW, which means council rangers have no jurisdiction to move people on. "It's a perennial issue, and



The Jetty Foreshores has been filled with campers in recent weeks and months.

PIC: Cizza

one faced by many coastal communities, but the City has been constrained as the illegal camping at the Jetty Foreshores has been taking place primarily on state-owned land," City of Coffs Harbour Mayor, Cr Paul Amos, said. Nonetheless, the council says it has increased patrols for illegal camping on City-managed land at the Jetty Foreshores providing verbal warnings and handing out warning notices,

and issuing fines where illegal campers have not complied. Council rangers have been active despite the limitations – handing out 80 warning notices to campers/vehicles on City-managed land at the foreshores just before Christmas. On City-managed land, rangers gave out 30 verbal and 14 formal warning notices over the Christmas-New Year period, and 15 fines were issued. City of Coffs Harbour's Acting

General Manager, Andrew Beswick, said rangers will continue to actively patrol the City-managed land – including over the weekend – and issue fines where appropriate. It's understood Property and Development NSW is assessing signage and fencing options on the land it manages at the Jetty.

• Have you ever stayed at Coffs Harbour's Jetty Foreshores?

[Click to comment](#)

Accessibility is a step closer

While it is probably unrealistic to expect that all of Australia's remote natural beauty spots will be fully accessible to the many grey nomads who travel with a disability or mobility issue, there is certainly progress being made in that regard. The new disability-friendly infrastructure and equipment recently unveiled at Houtman Abrolhos Islands, 60 kilometres off the WA coast, is a sign of just how far things have come.

The State Government's 'Plan for Our Parks' initiative has seen the installation of acces-



Houtman Abrolhos Islands provides wheelchair users to access some of its beauty spots

PIC: DCBA

sible boardwalks, accessible toilet facilities, accessible huts, and accessible shade tables. Wheelchair user, Chris Kerr – who was able to fly to light to East Wallabi Island after using a light plane chairlift – was eager to test the facilities.

"I love to travel and, as someone with a disability, travel is often very challenging," she said. 'So it's been a dream to have an environment that is off the beaten track that people with disabilities can access.'

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2024

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the Grey Nomad Times

Letters to the Editor

Share your thoughts with fellow nomads

Re: **Overweight rigs** (GNT: 313). Caravan builders mislead owners with unrealistic data plates. They rate the weights while the van is empty, not allowing for the weight of full water and grey water tanks, full gas bottles, and the fitting of some manufacturers' extras like front storage boxes. Two full water tanks weigh approximately 140kg, two full gas bottles another 25 kg. Get real, manufacturers!

Len & Barbara S

We are all governed by the laws of the road and, if I'm overweight, then I would expect a fine. There has been enough educational information on this subject for years now but still there are caravaners out there still towing their overweight vans and tugs and being 'I don't know what my weight is but I'm just going to get my van and tug going to the next destination so we'll see what happens'. This is dangerous and we all have to pay for it through our taxes and vehicle/van insurances.

Tim H (Hobbsy)

Re: **Staying in Australia**. We made the decision to retire early and without a huge retirement fund to travel Australia and enjoy every bit of it while in younger good health. Travelling overseas was out, but we haven't missed it. The pleasure of hooking up the van and leaving our driveway with complete freedom compared to airport transfers, planes, crowds, customs, language and money difficulties was an easy decision. We figured we could see Australia and all it has to offer really well, or get just a glimpse of overseas countries. Now, later in retirement and with health issues, we're so glad we did it



PIC: Cizza

Where is it?

Although the Water Cloud sculpture that dominates the main street of this small NSW town was a controversial addition, some locals believe it will attract visitors and encourage them to stay longer. Do you know where this is? **Email us here** if you think you know. The first correct answer drawn will win two Grey Nomad stickers. The mystery location in GNT 314 was Lake Ballard, WA. The winner was Stewart Cogle.

the way we did.

Kaye & Pete B

Re: **Risqué secret Santa gift** (Jaclyn & Heidi: GNT 314). If the book contents are such a problem for you, buy a different book of the same size, wrap it in the same paper and swap it. When hubby realises what has happened, confess to being selfish by wanting the book for yourself for ideas of improving your own experiences!

Dennis N

Completely inappropriate. I'm pretty broad minded and a gift like that may be okay within a group of close friends, but not in a mixed group with people you've

never met before. I'd tell hubby straight out that if he doesn't find something more appropriate he can stay on his side of the bed and read his 'funny' book for a month.

Di D

Re: **Selling up**. I am interested in knowing whether we should choose to sell up to travel. For us to hit the road, we would need to sell up but then we would have the worry of where we will live when we return. We would be happy to work as we go.

Sonja F

(Can anyone give Sonja some input on this tricky, but common, conundrum? **Email us here** – Ed)

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Letters to the Editor

Share your thoughts
with fellow nomads

SmartBar Photo of the Month

Congratulations to Allan Packwood for this beautiful photograph of Lake Menendie in New South Wales. Allan took the shot in the evening as he was camped by the lake and was happy with the scene he captured.

"This is one of the best pictures I have taken," he said. "I used it as my iPad wallpaper."

The photo wins this month's SmartBar Photo of the Month competition. Allan has won a \$50 ARB voucher, courtesy of competition sponsor,

SmartBar.



To enter next month's competition, email your original entry to photo@thegreynomads.com.au and supply brief details about where and when the pic was taken. **Click here** for terms and conditions.

Re: How far to travel in a day (GNT: 313). Tourist travel in Australia is not a race, and should not be done in straight lines, point-to-point. Take your time! Do not try to travel at dawn or dusk when animals and birds are most active. Do not try to compete with the early morning and after the work-day traffic as most of these drivers need to be at a workplace at a certain time and don't need to be held up by dawdling grey nomads. My leisure travel is now done ... leisurely. Roll off around 10am, stop for a good (often pub) lunch around 12:30pm. Continue to reach an overnight (or a few days) stop before 4pm to set up, freshen up and be ready for meet-and-greet by 5:15pm. Distance travelled depends on

how many touristy deviations and stop/revive/survive leg stretches are made during the six hours of 'travelling'. Around 200-250km at 90-95kph is a comfortable day on the black top, but often less distance will be covered 'on the dirt'. The extra concentration and stress created from the more 'interesting' roads requires longer and better rest each night, so pushing for 500km in one day will often result in a three-day recovery stop. All work and no play creates (unnecessary) extra stress which contributes to emotional distress and ruins your travel experience.

Bruce G

It all depends on where one travels. I always say that it is not a race. Across the Nul-

larbor, we did do 600 kilometres in one day. That would be about the furthest we ever did. But other areas probably 200km-300km would be the most we would want to travel. It's more fun to spend your time at your destination than on the road.

Hannu A

We plan on between 300 and 400 kilometres a day. We average around 80km/h, giving time taken for coffees and meals.

John J

Drive as long or as short as you feel on the day. If you are on a tight schedule, an early start is better than a late finish. The journey itself should be part of the fun.

TM

We start our travels at 8am, stop for morning tea at 10am, then stop for lunch around 12.30pm or so, then look for a spot to spend the night around 3pm or so and the kilometres travelled is what it is. This is only when we have a destination that is of a great distance, for example, crossing the Nullarbor or up the Centre etc.

Roger L (Dodg)

We used to travel hundreds of kilometres per day. Then we decided to take it slower. We drove our Mercedes Sprinter from Mt Gambier to Brisbane stopping at many places and really enjoyed it. It took a month to get to Brisbane. In our car we'd do it in two days but see nothing.

Foster J



Letters to the Editor

**Share your thoughts
with fellow nomads**

New user-pays water points at Inskip Point generated lots of feedback

At 1/2 a cent per litre, it's worth it. Clean and filtered ... under pressure for quicker fills. If there are more of these things, you'll save on fuel as you can pull a lighter van knowing there's dependable water fill-ups along the way.

Tony C

We need more of these type of water stations around the country. You get fresh water. \$1 for 200 litres is a very good price.

Gerhard F

Could somebody tell me why a council would bother at \$1 for water that would never repay the costs of the equipment, kick sand into the tourists' eyes by way of nuisance and humbug for no reason, and bring scorn onto the locality. They spend loads of money on publicising their attractions and then introduce this penny-pinching disincentive to travellers. Nuts!

William F

We don't mind paying for water. Free water should be a thing of the past as we see so much waste when it is free.

Tom J

Bingara has had a water bows-er for years, just near the free camp on the river. The dump point is located there, too. It's so convenient. I think I put in a \$1 coin, and left 70c credit for the next person to use. It saves driving around looking for taps and not being sure of the quality of the water.

Prado M

I see nothing wrong with having to pay for water for use in my caravan. Councils have to provide and often expect that good quality water be



Travelling the highways and byways of this great country can be a hair-raising experience and not just because of the chance of encountering swaying road trains or wandering wildlife. Sometimes, it can be nerve-wracking just following behind another vehicle, especially if it's got a wobbly-looking load ... like the one in the picture. Have you ever seen something fly off a roof rack or a trailer while driving along, or worried that you were about to?
Email us here to share your experiences.

provided. There is no such thing as a free lunch. I think \$1 for 200 litres is pretty good. Imagine filling up your water tanks using bottled water, that can be upwards of \$3 per bottle. How many bottles of water would you need? That would be grounds to complain!

Bruce M

I pay my rates in my home town and an official water point and dump point are free for travellers passing through or staying overnight. So, I expect to get the same deal in any other town unless they have severe water shortages. Actually, I'll bet the setup and maintenance costs of those paid dispensers are never recovered.

Tony L

I think it is a great idea to have water stations. In drought

times the local communities have run low on water and had to buy their own. Paying a small amount for water should not be a problem.

Joyce S

Will gladly pay a fair price for potable water.

Trevor W

Councils install these things to appease minority local ratepayers who don't want to be subsidising water used by camping visitors. The same ratepayers and communities who benefit economically from visitation. Just look at the ridiculous infrastructure, carbon footprint, with internet connection and power for payment, simply to get near zero cost water out of a tap. Caravanners and campers are self limited by their tanks and

bottle sizes anyway. Is a \$1 or even a \$10 fill up an incentive to save water? Madness!

Cliff B

What a great idea. Clean, fresh water and the charge will pay for maintenance and upgrades.

Paul C

Anyone driving a vehicle and paying for petrol should have no issues with paying a dollar for about 200 litres of water. Hell, for the price of a beer in some Melbourne pubs, you can get 2,000 litres of water. Now, that's a bargain!

Ken P

Definitely a good idea, so long as the price is reasonable. \$1 for 200 litres is good, unlike some up north in WA who want \$1 for 20 litres!

Rod & Jenny S

Picture puzzle



Last week: Plenty of grey nomads will be singing – or listening to – this in the next few days.

Answer: Silent Night

Winner: Terry Hobbs

Win grey nomad stickers!



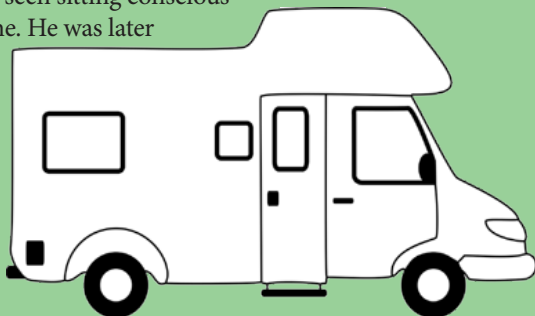
PIC CLUE: No grey nomad wants one – or should get one – of these!

Email us the solution to the puzzle. Winner announced in Issue 316.



It's a wacky world

An elderly man had an amazing escape when he was thrown through the window of a moving RV and into the path of oncoming traffic on a highway in California. The accident happened after the man's wife allegedly fell asleep at the wheel. Dashcam footage shows the RV crashing into a concrete divider and drivers then swerving to avoid the man as he tumbled along the road. He can be seen sitting conscious at the scene. He was later transported to hospital with unspecified injuries.



Quiz corner

1. I am travelling directly between the NSW towns of Bende-meer and Port Macquarie. Which highway will I spend most of my time on?

2. The South Australia town of Auburn – originally known as Tateham's Waterhole – was renamed in 1849 ...

a) In recognition of the famous poem, 'To An Auburn-Haired Beggar-Maid' which was written by Charles Baudelaire during his extended stay in the area that year.

b) When Thomas Williams acquired the land and decided to call it after Auburn, a small town in the west of Ireland.

c) By early settler, Kayden Jackson, after the strikingly reddish brown colour of the soil in the area.

3. Wag Inn (anagram). Many grey nomads like to sit under this and have a drink.

4. Which Outback Queensland town sounds like it might have just been called Goondi if it hadn't been blowing a gale at the time.

5. What is the shortest road distance between the Tasmanian cities of Devonport and Hobart?

a) 121 km

b) 257 km

c) 562 km

(answers on page 10)



The Grey Area



On yer bike rack



While it may have been designed to help users cope with heavier electric cycles, a first-of-its-kind bike lifter could eventually prove a 'back saver' to grey nomads hauling traditional bikes around the country.

US-based company Suweeka has just started taking pre-orders of what it calls its 'game-changing' modular rack system which means users no longer have to lift their bikes in order to load them onto the back of their vehicle.

The company says the unique design allows the user to lower or raise the cycle-carrying trays with a power drill or included hand crank in a flat position all the way to the ground for most vehicles. This allows for roll-on loading and roll-off unloading instead of the typical method of hoisting a bike up on to the trays. Although Suweeka stresses that its bike lifter is not currently available outside of the US and Canada, the wider potential is obvious.

The system currently attaches to the tow bar of a vehicle, but it is certainly not too much of a leap to imagine the 'wind-down-to-the-ground' concept could be used on bike racks designed for use on caravans. "Our rack has many benefits to any rider but especially



New bike lifting system will save many a back.

PICs: Suweeka

those with e-bikes or e-motorcycles that can weigh up to 80 pounds (36kg) or more," said Suweeka's Product Designer, Spencer Houser. "Lifting any of these heavy bikes onto a rack can be extremely difficult and even dangerous ... I knew there had to be a better way, and our Lifter is the solution ... it allows anyone to roll on, raise up and go and then lower down, roll off and enjoy their bike ride."

The Bike Lifter system will also include a Quick Connect Hitch Cleat (QCHC) connector, onto which any future Suweeka product carriers

can be mounted. The QCHC attaches to a vehicle's tow bar and the Bike Lifter system slides on to this and securely locks into place. The Lifter has two arms extending outward, onto which the bike trays and support beams are installed. The Bike Lifter system with two bike trays will initially retail for US\$2600, and the single-tray option will be US\$2200.

• Do you struggle to get your cycle or e-cycle down off racks, or to you transport them in a different way?

[Click to comment](#)

Have your say

DIY Economy

For several years now, it has seemed like personal service and face-to-face interaction will inevitably go the way of the dodo!

The rise of internet shopping, online banking, remote working, supermarket delivery services, and self check-in and self check-out terminals has made human contact an ever-rarer resource. But is the process irreversible?

An American academic has just suggested that the self-checkout experiment, for one, has failed to achieve what it was supposed to. Chris Andrews, an Associate Professor and Chair of Sociology at New Jersey's Drew University, says the technology hasn't delivered the speed and convenience it promised.

Rather, he says, it has just turned customers into free workers for the supermarkets, and the same thing is happening in other sectors like hotels, airlines, and other retail stores. Professor Andrews, the author of a book, on the Do-It-Yourself Economy, said that in a competitive market, it would ultimately be up to customers to vote with their wallets and decide whether self-checkouts survive.

POLL

Would you like to see self check-outs removed?

☐ YES

☐ NO



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An aerial view of Devonport and its stunning natural surroundings next to the Bass Strait.

PIC: Tourism Tasmania / Peter Belling-

Devonport delights



great places

Devonport is literally the first port of call for grey nomads arriving in Tasmania from the mainland, and the state's third largest city is well worth a good look around.

This is, of course, where the Spirit of Tasmania ferry service docks after its voyage from Geelong in Victoria, and most clued-in passengers are in no rush to head off to explore the other delights of the Apple Isle. Located on the mouth of the Mersey River on Tassie's northwest coast, Devonport is 100 kilometres north-west of Launceston and nearly 300 kilometres north of Hobart. Aside from its scenic waterfront and thriving arts scene, the city of 26,000 people is also full of historical attractions and fascinating architecture. The first European exploration

of the area took place in 1823, and settlers – who were initially met with significant indigenous resistance – began arriving within a few years. In the 1850s, two different settlements – Formby and Torquay – grew on opposite banks of the river and they were connected by a ferry service. The two communities were united in 1890 and became known collectively as Devonport. The Victoria Bridge linking them was built in 1902.

For grey nomads seeking to get to grips with this city's rich maritime history, the best place to start is the Bass Strait Maritime Museum. Housed in the original harbourmaster's residence, it boasts a wide array of exhibits – including a simulator which allows visitors to test their skills at bringing a steamship into the Mersey River – and a large collection of superb model ships. A 20-minute stroll along

the waterfront from here is the vertically red-and-white striped Mersey Bluff Lighthouse which was built in 1889. The Mersey Bluff itself is a headland of dolerite volcanic rock formed some 185 million years ago in the Jurassic Age. Another must-visit is the National Trust-listed Home Hill, which was built in 1916, and was the home of Australia's inter-war Prime Minister, Joseph Lyons, his wife Dame Enid Lyons – the first woman elected to federal parliament – and their 12 children.

The Devonport Regional Gallery, which is housed in a converted 19th-century church and hosts multiple exhibitions, events and workshops – often by local Tasmanian artists – is also well worth a look.

On the western edge of Devonport is the Don River Railway, which takes visitors on a 30-minute trip on a heritage train along the picturesque

Don River to Coles Beach. Also just to the city's west is Lillico Beach, which is home to a colony of Fairy Penguins. There is a viewing platform here where visitors can watch the birds return to their burrows each evening after a day of fishing.

About 12 kilometres to the south west is the 66-hectare Tasmanian Arboretum, which is home to an array of temperate-zone trees and a huge range of wildlife and birdlife. Devonport boasts a wide range of services, shops and cafes, and there are a number of good van parks including the Mersey Bluff Caravan Park, the Abel Tasman Caravan Park, and the Discovery Caravan Park. For the more budget-minded, the local council does allow camping for 'fully self-contained' RVs at Girdlestone Park in East Devonport, and Horsehead Creek at Quoiba.

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the Grey Nomad Times



**ASK JACLYN
and Heidi**



**Our experts solve your grey
nomad etiquette dilemmas**

'We want different things'

Dear Jaclyn and Heidi,
It's another new year and hubby Tom and I have made another list of new year's resolutions and, once again, it looks like our Big Lap dreams are heading in different directions. I want to: 1. Travel slower. 2. Visit our son in Perth and our daughter in Brisbane. 3. Treat ourselves to 'bucket list' adventures like hot air balloon trips and scenic flights. 4. Be more sociable at van park Happy Hours. And Tom wants to: 1. Do more 4WD tracks. 2. Camp in more remote and less crowded areas. 3. Spend less money on 'luxuries' so we can spend more on fuel and travel further. 4. Spend less time 'worrying' about what the 'kids' are up to. We've been on the road full-time for three years and I sense this divide in trip expectations is just getting wider. What can we do?

Beccy

Well, if you've been on the road full-time for three years, you must be doing something right, Beccy. And, from what you say, it sounds like neither of you want to pack it in and go 'home' so everything else is effectively a 'detail'. I'm guessing that each of you has had to make compromises on the way you travel over the past 36 months and you – and Tom – will just have to do more of the same going forward. Maybe you should draw up a few of your 'red lines' and negotiate. If visiting your children and staying in good touch with them is non-negotiable to you, maybe you could let go of the budget-busting bucket-list items and enjoy a few more 4WD tracks together instead. Talk it through, work it out, and concentrate on what you both love doing, not what you want to do differently.

Jaclyn

OMG, Beccy. What is this weird obsession with New Year's resolutions. 'I'm going to get fit this year'. Yawn. 'I'm going to read more books this year'. Double yawn! Let's cut to the chase. No one ever sticks to their New Year's Resolutions, and that's a good thing. They are an artificial, guilt-inducing waste of ink and paper. You've always known what you want to do on your trip this year, and you've always known what Tom wants to do. The fact that you've both made a silly list doesn't change a thing. You're a married couple for goodness sake! Do what you're supposed to do and argue about it all. Then, when the dust settles after the row, make sure Tom knows you listened carefully to his side of the argument, and then make sure he does exactly what you want him to do. Enjoy Perth and Brisbane, Beccy!

Heidi

[Click to comment](#)

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QUIZ CORNER SOLVED

1. Oxley Highway
2. b) When Thomas Williams acquired the land and decided to call it after Auburn, a small town in the west of Ireland.
3. Awning
4. Goondiwindi
5. b) 257 km

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In good condition
fully modified for
4x4 but no competition work.
We love this vehicle but it is not suitable
for towing our new van and we have
upgraded.
12 mths Rego until January 2025
Patrol GU 62 2011 3 litre Auto 80,000km
GVM upgraded to 3300Kg.
Many inclusions and extras.
Serviced by Wollongong diesel and 4x4
Email: poultonaq@gmail.com



FOR SALE

2021 Trailblazers RV
Pacific 17.5ft Offroad
Hybrid Pop Top Caravan
Almost As New ~ unique
hybrid offroad pop top
caravan – manufactured
in Melbourne by TTRV Trailblazers (in their
Keysborough factory, now Dingley).
*This is NOT an import that has just been
assembled here!
Ideal for a relaxed getaway & a dream to
tow, it's narrower width means less stress
passing through suburban streets, no
sway on highway & country roads when
semi-trailers whoosh past. Many extras
and features.
Price: \$90,000.00 Negotiable
Please message Helena on 0434 975 308



FOR SALE

2011 Eco Tourer
Slipstream Caravan
Parting with our
wonderful Eco
Tourer and
would like it to go
to a good home. The caravan is in
excellent condition and ready to hit the
road. It tows well. Near new tyres. Gas
cert supplied. Includes WiFi reversing
camera, it works great.
\$33000 ono
Email: resoslideman@gmail.com



FOR SALE

2014 Landcruiser
Sahara. One owner.
220000 Kims.
Bull bar. Snorkel.
Catch can. Torque
lock up converter.
Air bags. Electric brake controller.
Anderson plug at rear. Large dual
batteries. Twin 12v outlets in rear. Upgrade
to Taipan exhaust. Uni filter. Tune it chip.
King springs. Dash mat. Rear carpet mat.
An excellent car with all service history
available. Awaiting new 300 series.
Vehicle located on the Gold Coast.
Price: \$65,000
Phone Dave 0413 940 942



FOR SALE

Satellite Phone –
Iridium Extreme 9575
This phone has only
been used on two
occasions. It was
brand new in May
2023 and purchased for our 4 month
round trip of Australia last year. We
carried it for our own safety in the event of
an emergency. The Iridium 9575 is the
best on the market. I have no use for the
phone now and will ship at my expense
via Australia Post throughout Australia.
Email: yachtchappie@gmail.com



FOR SALE

Motorhome Avan
Applause 600
2015 Avan Applause
600. Fiat Ducato
2.3lt. 66000ks.
6 speed auto. Many
extras. Single beds.
90 Lt compressor fridge. 200w solar.
2xagm 120ah batteries. Dry shower and
toilet. Plus external shower. 125lt fresh
water tanks. Diesel heater. Air con.
Electric step. External gas bayonet.
External Anderson plug.
Price: \$97,000. ONO.
Email: cgun49@hotmail.com



FOR SALE

Toyota Landcruiser
200 series + Jayco
Basestation caravan.
Available together or
separately.
2009 model 200
series Landcruiser V8 Diesel, twin turbo,
Showroom condition, Leather seats,
Cheetham roof rack, Toyota bullbar,
UHF radio installed, many more extras.
Price: \$78,000. reg.
2009 Jayco Basestation, currently the rear
room has a king size bed installed with
under bed storage. 2x 2 volt TVs one in
rear bedroom & one in front dining/
lounge, VAST Satellite dish & receiver
plus many other extras.
Price: \$50,000 neg.
Email: tom.rosie.999@gmail.com



FOR SALE

2014 Avida
Esperance IVECO
Motorhome with
slide-out. Automatic
transmission, First
Registered 2015
With Slideout, 37,620 MI/ 60543 KM. It
features: 3 way fridge, diesel heater, 2 way
stove top (gas; electric) oven and grill,
wheel chair lift (if wanted), tow bar, bull
bar, bike rack, 200 watts solar panel,
2 fans, 2120 ah batteries (lithium)
2000 watts inverter, satellite tv (32 inch
tv w/ dvd player) and much more.
Email: sels_duque@yahoo.com



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Masterpiece Caravans Optimum with 2022 Specifications
Birth: 2
Total Ball Weight: 311kg
Axle Configuration: Tandem Axle
Tare: 3245kg; ATM: 4495kg
23' rear recliner centre ensuite mp21243
2022 spec featuring the revolutionary r-tech construction exclusive to Masterpiece Caravans. Fibroplast framing – one piece structural floor – aircell insulation. Stronger – lighter – rot free construction. Many inclusions and extras.
Email: jamesm.coogan@gmail.com



FOR SALE

Winnabago Chieftain 1989 Model
454 Chevrolet Motor with 3 Speed Automatic Turbo 400 Transmission.
(standard configuration). Perfectly functional vehicle, has been parked up for several years but well maintained. Starts, runs and drives fine. New 12 volt system, interior and living quarters in excellent condition. Must be seen to be appreciated. 114,000 miles on odometer.
Price: \$55,000 neg.
Email: markcapraro@bigpond.com



FOR SALE

Highline Matrix 19'6"
Full Off-Road 2016 Long A frame.
Tunnel boot with built in BBQ. QBed with 2" memory foam topper. 2xSirocco fans. Ensuite with extra large shower. Top loading washing machine. External shower, 2 KVA built in compartment, 180 Litre 3 way fridge, Diesel heater. Stone guard, Under body Wind curtain, 300 KW Roof mounted solar. DO 35 Hitch.
Reg till 28/4/24. Toowoomba area, QLD
Price: \$65,000 O.N.O.
Phone John 0439 702 662



FOR SALE

2016 Ford Ranger PX2
45000 km, 6sp manual, Pedders GVM upgrade, pre DPf, roof rack, GME UHF, winch. Includes lots of extras (awning with attachable tent and shower tent). Set up as caravan tourer or overnight camping. Excellent condition, always garaged, fully serviced. Lots more photos located central Victoria
\$58,000 ONO
Email: Srtsparker@gmail.com



PROPERTY FOR SALE

FOR SALE

113 Acres for Sale in North West Gippsland area, VIC
100 acres (approx) of a total of 113 acres, currently used for beef cattle, but could have other uses. Natural spring water feeds to all dams All fencing in excellent working condition. Old farmhouse that could be renovated or demolished to make way for a granny flat Existing 3br farm house in excellent condition with very unique character. Fully enclosed manicured paddock set aside for camping/caravans/farm stay business opportunity is almost set to go, just needs finishing touches.
REASON FOR SALE... The big ugly C word... Cancer.
CONTACT DETAILS if any questions
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RIVERLAND, SA

Semi Driver wanted for grape & almond harvests. Minimum HC licence but also have B/Double & Road Train work with tippers. Approx 10 weeks work, commencing within 2 weeks. [Click here.](#)

LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK, NT

Wangi Falls Café seeking Cook – Short Order and Cafe staff – 2024 Season. Staff required from early May to end September 2024. 2 weeks trial, 3 months min. Min. hours – 30/week. Great for people working while travelling. Explore Litchfield on days off [Click here.](#)

GIPPSLAND, VIC

Family farm requires farm hand workers. – Ideally a married couple with fencing experience, slashing experience, gardening experience and some mechanical experience to help maintain our two farms in Gippsland Victoria. The person who will be completing the majority of the jobs will be paid the \$30 per hour, – Possible part time work for their partner at \$25 per hour. [Click here.](#)

TOM PRICE, WA

2 Person Team; Pilbara Mitre10, are seeking an enthusiastic couple (2 persons) interested in joining our hardware team in the middle of the Karijini. Subsidized Fully Furnished housing provided. Joint salary package of \$195,000.00 incl of penalties and benefits. [Click here.](#)

GYMPIE, QLD

We are looking for someone to park up on our property and help with spraying – 1 hour each day from Monday to Friday. We have a beautiful creek on the farm you can lay/swim in. Minimum 2 week stay. There is a shower, toilet and washing machine available. [Click here.](#)

GILGANDRA, NSW

Caravan park care taking couple required for our park for 6 weeks In May 2024. Must have own van and experience. [Click here.](#)

FLEURIEU PENINSULA, SA

Manage a 80 acre vineyard , need to be handy and competent tractor driver , mechanical knowledge , ideally vineyard or farming experience would be good. Idyllic powered site for large caravan with river frontage is available. Dual cab ute with role looking for long term commitment. [Click here.](#)

VARIOUS LOCATIONS, NT

Want a unique volunteering experience in some of the most beautiful and remote areas of Australia? Come join us as a Campground Host in the Northern Territory! Picture yourself exploring the ancient landscapes of Central Australia or taking a dip in crystal-clear pools in the tropical Top End. It's not just the majestic landscapes that make our Campground Host program so special. You'll forge connections with our amazing rangers and become part of the team that manages the most incredible landscapes in Australia. [Click here.](#)

ROBINVALE, VIC

Truck driver wanted for harvest season. We are seeking an experienced truck driver to be on farm ready to commence work from the 12th of February 2024. Approximately 3-5 weeks work, depending on the length of the harvest season. Hours of work will be 7am to 7pm for the duration of harvest, with days off as required. [Click here.](#)

GERALDTON, WA

Casual Labourer/General Hand Needed. Stores & Warehouse Award – 6mth Term – \$30 p/hr. Immediate Start. 35-40 hrs per week on average ForkLift License desirable. Agricultural Based Business. Bulk Fertiliser Dispatching. [Click here.](#)

ESPERANCE, WA

Casual Labourer/General Hand Needed. Stores & Warehouse Award – 6mth Term – \$30 p/hr. Immediate Start. 35-40 hrs per week on average. ForkLift License desirable. [Click here.](#)

ALBANY, WA

Warehouse & Stores Labourer/General Hand. Casual Labourer/General Hand Needed – ALBANY WA Stores & Warehouse Award – 6mth Term – \$30 p/hr. Immediate Start. 35-40 hrs per week on average. Fork Lift License desirable. [Click here.](#)

NORTH BURNETT PROPERTY, QLD

We are currently seeking an applicant or applicants for a part-time job or jobs on our cattle properties in the North Burnett region. This could either be filled by one couple or alternatively split into two separate parts (two applicants, two separate locations). We are very flexible regarding days / hours and would tailor the position to fit suitable applicant/s. [Click here.](#)

DONNYBROOK, WA

Truck Driver required for 3 months work between Orchards in Donnybrook, Balingup and Kirup. Caravan can be kept on site and amenities provided. [Click here.](#)

JURIEN BAY, WA

Small Boutique Hotel in Green Head, on the indian Ocean Coast 2.5 hours north of Perth. We would love a couple or single to help in our small Hotel, if one of you can cook that would be tremendous. Park up your van and use our facilities in exchange for 8 hours a week work all other others would be paid casual rates. [Click here.](#)

DUNKELD, VIC

Stay on 20 acre property overlooking the Grampians in exchange for work around the property – mowing, painting, window cleaning etc. [Click here.](#)

KANGAROO ISLAND, SA

My husband and I operate a tourist attraction, retail shop and cafe on Kangaroo Island. We are seeking a couple looking to enjoy beautiful Kangaroo Island. We are wanting someone to help with our groundsman and cleaning jobs. Ideally we would love a cook? in exchange for power, water gas and laundry facilities we will deduct 5 hours from your pay. [Click here.](#)

MUNDIJONG, WA

Camp under shelter 3.1m high, with w/c facilities in a shed. Have access to fresh home grown produce. Quiet environment. Chores are controlling leaf litter and weeds in the gardens. Monitoring the automatic reticulation for effectiveness. [Click here.](#)

CHARTERS TOWERS STATION, QLD

A position is available on a cattle station for a caretaker/couple. Duties would include care & maintenance of homestead area & grounds, minor repair jobs, care/feeding animals (when owners are away), basic "handyman" jobs. Paid position with benefits for the suitable applicant. [Click here.](#)

BANKSIA, GROVE, WA

Fully established lush beautiful 3 acre horse property. Any length of stay, pets allowed. We provide free power, water and access to waste disposal depending on your system. Approximately 8 to 10 hrs work a week general gardening, weeding, mowing, raking, spraying, picking up horse manure of 2 horses. Work is light and easy. [Click here.](#)

HOUSESITTERS

GLADSTONE, QLD

We require someone, or couple that are reasonably fit and healthy to farm sit from around 25th January till 16th April 2023. [Click here.](#)

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GN FRIENDLY CAMPSITES

NEW SOUTH WALES

TUROSS BEACH CABINS & CAMPSITES; TUROSS HEAD, NSW

Small peaceful park right on the beach. Powered and unpowered sites with fabulous views of the ocean to Montague Island. Dogs are welcome. [Click here.](#)

OLD BARA CAMPING; MUDGEE REGION, NSW

Enjoy a country experience on a safe and secure private farm. Abundance of space, many long walks to enjoy, Road accessible to all vehicles. [Click here.](#)

CLARENCE VALLEY, NSW

5-acre property on the banks of the beautiful Clarence river surrounded by lush farmland 20 min from Grafton. Flat sites. \$40/night for 2. [Click here.](#)

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS, NSW

Sutton farm is a 50 acre iconic working equine property featured in Phar Lap movie. Flat easy access. Powered and unpowered sites. \$55/ night. [Click here.](#)

NORTHERN TERRITORY

TERLDUNDA DESERT OAKS RESORT; STUART & LASSETER HIGHWAY, NT

Our sites feature water on-site, cmp fires, BBQ facilities, swimming pool and laundry. Short distance from shop. Viewing platform to take in surrounding desert. [Click here](#)

QUEENSLAND

SCENIC RIM ADVENTURE PARK; SCENIC RIM, QLD

We have set aside a grass paddock at the entry of our property with access to 2 powered campsites, suitable for single vehicles, mobile homes or large caravans. Watch cows take their daily walks listen to bird count wallabies, go bush walking. Tank water, toilet and showers. Fees: 1-2 adults \$50 per vehicle per night. [Click here.](#)

BAFFLE CREEK, QLD

Paperbark Bush Camp is set amongst trees and green grassy paddocks. Flat bush camp setting. Both powered and off-grid sites. Three amenities buildings [Click here.](#)

CHARLEYS CREEK, CHINCHILLA, QLD

Camp on the peaceful banks of Charleys Creek, on Chinchilla's doorstep. This unique campground is situated on 35 acres having a beautiful bush setting adjacent to the creek. [Click here.](#)

MAREEBA BUSH STAYS, QLD

150 acre property in the most beautiful, peaceful natural bush setting, about 8 kms outside the town of Mareeba. Powered and unpowered sites Self contained campers. [Click here.](#)

CARBEAN CAMPING, GOONDIWINDI, QLD

Located in naturally shaded bushland adjacent to a large dam, the site is a peaceful and relaxing place to park. \$25 per night per couple with seventh night free. [Click here](#)

BORUMBA DEER PARK, IMBIL, MARY VALLEY, QLD

Family-owned and operated campground with additional caravan sites and cabin accommodation, located about 10 minutes west of Imbil. Set in tranquil 65 acre deer farm, we are pet friendly and offer large off leash area. Amenities block, camp kitchen and more. [Click here](#)

SHADY WATERS CAMPING MAREEBA, QLD

Situated in natural bushland with plenty of shade surrounded large dam on a 140 acre property just off the main highway. Ideal base to explore Ather-ton Tablelands and Far North. Small fires permitted, pets welcome on leash [Click here.](#)

CHILDERS NATURE CAMP; ISIS, QLD

2WD access bitumen almost to front gate, just a short 20m of gravel. Toilets and hot showers. Nocturnal animal spot lighting, nature walks, barrmundi fishing and more. [Click here](#)

MOSSMAN GOLF CLUB RV CAMP AREA, QLD

We have 21 Van, RV Sites for fully self contained campers. Guests may use Club House Toilets & Showers 7am thru to 5.30pm 7 Days per week. We are pet friendly. [Click here.](#)

LONGREACH, QLD

Camp on the banks of the Thomson River 42km north east of Longreach. Firepits. No facilities, must be self-contained. [Click here.](#)

STANDOWN PARK; GYMPIE REGION, QLD

Standown Park offers beautiful gardens, quiet and safe surrounds with plenty of open space with all your amenities and extensive camp kitchen. Grass or slab sites, drive through options for big rigs. [Click here.](#)

MARIAN, QLD

Quiet and peaceful camp located 30 kilometres west of Mackay on an alpaca farm. Powered and unpowered sites. \$20 for unpowered, \$30 for powered for two. [Click here](#)

MACKAY, QLD

75km North of Mackay situated on the O'Connell river. We offer hot showers, flushing toilets, grassy sites and shady trees. Accessible by all vehicles. Dogs on leash. [Click here](#)

THAGOONA BLOCK QLD 4306

Situated just 35 minutes from Brisbane's core, our camp offers a 12-acre haven for those on the road, seeking a serene place to park and pause. Easily accessible, yet far enough to provide a peaceful retreat. \$20 per night for GN members if they come self-sufficient. [Click here.](#)

SPLITTERS FARM, BUNDA- BERG REGION, QLD

Splitters Farm is a tranquil bush retreat, working cattle farm and rescue animal sanctuary minutes from Bundaberg where guests can enjoy farm life at its best. Stay in deluxe glamping tents overlooking the creek or powered camp sites with modern amenities, the lush green farm offers the ideal base to explore the Southern Great Barrier Reef. [Click here.](#)

TAKE-A-BREAK BUSH CAMP; NANKIN, QLD

Our campsites are set up for self-contained campers; however there is a bush shower and drop toilet. Campsites are located in a rural setting with shady trees, friendly cows and mountain views. Campfires allowed in firepits on each site. Pets are welcome. [Click here](#)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

COODLIE PARK ECO RETREAT; EYRE PENINSULA, SA

Located on 500 acres with access to a secluded beach and Talia Caves, Coodlie Park offer dispersed campsites camp kitchen, compost toilet and communal firepit. [Click here.](#)

ADELAIDE SHOWGROUND CARAVAN PARK, ADELAIDE, SA

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SPEAR CREEK HOLIDAY PARK; FLINDERS RANGES, SA

Set in the middle of a 21,000 acre working sheep station, our park provides privacy, security and an experience like no other. We offer powered sites, bush camping, cabins, amenities blocks, walking trails, and much more. [Click here.](#)

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TASMANIA

RAVENS NEST; OUSE, TAS

We are a 50 acre farm on the A10 halfway between Hobart and Strahan in the beautiful Central highlands of Tasmania. We offer campsites to self-sufficient campers. Farmshop with local produce including baked sourdough bread daily. [Click here.](#)

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OPEN OCT TO JUNE

- Low –cost campground offering powered & unpowered spacious, level, grass sites with rural and mountain views • Town water connection
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ROYAL HOTEL, MALLEE REGION, VIC

Located near some great attractions including Lake Tyrell, the hotel has been extensively renovated. Have a meal in our restaurant or enjoy a drink. Caravan parking at the back is free You must be self contained. [Click here.](#)

ECHUCA VILLAGE; ECHUCA, VIC

Private Park for fully self contained Caravans or RV's. Power and water available. Echuca Village Oasis Victoria. 3kms from town centre. Fire pit and spit available. All grassed area. Pets welcome – on lead. [Click here.](#)

HALLS GAP LAKESIDE TOURIST PARK; GRAMP- IANS, VIC

Enjoy our region and save 25% on your stay (cabin or powered site) if you stay 3 nights and more. We are nestled in the heart of the breathtaking Grampians National Park, a haven for nature lovers, adventure seekers and relaxation enthusiasts. [Click here.](#)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WHITEGUM FARM, WA

(Lake Kimberley Bar and Grill) Avon Valley region. Unique Caravan Park & Tourist Destination – offering a Fully Licensed Restaurant & Bar, where guests can enjoy superb meals and a cold beverage. The caravan or camp sites have a farm outlook and to compliment the experience you will enjoy modern amenities. Website: www.whitegumfarm.com.au

MONDURUP ESCAPE; GREAT SOUTHERN, WA

Working farm and vineyard with Nature Based Caravan Park. Sit back, relax and take in the views. Mountain range in the distance changes colour. Coast and national park in easy driving distance. Various styles of accommodation to choose from. Caretaker onsite. Sites start from \$22 / night. [Click here.](#)