



In this issue: • Great prizes in GN Member competition • Is 'hostile architecture' blocking nomads? • Discover Gatton

They love us not?

Not everyone is happy with the influx of travellers to their community

The Covid pandemic completely upended life across the globe, and some of the changes it unleashed cannot be 'put back in the bottle'.

For grey nomads, one of the most impactful of these changes has been the increased frequency with which people travel. The caravanning lifestyle has boomed, and so too has the demand for short-term accommodation in towns and cities ... both here and overseas.

Like it or not, we are now living in the era of 'overtourism'. While tourism hotspots like Bali, Barcelona, and Venice have introduced, or are considering introducing, a range of measures designed to limit traveller numbers, these are unlikely to affect the average grey nomad towing their van through regional Australia. But, with some of the more popular small towns here creaking under the strain of housing shortages and sky-high rents, in part fuelled by the number of properties being turned over to tourism accommodation, there are signs of a backlash.

In the past week, a large home-made sign declaring: 'Hometown not tourist town!' was erected by a road near the WA town of Denmark.



Destinations around Australia are seeing a huge influx of travellers. PIC: Adrian Paul

Although it was quickly taken down, the sign still triggered a social media storm and a fierce debate about just how many tourists is too many ... both in Denmark and elsewhere. Shire President, Kingsley Gibson, told the GNT that the community did recognise the value of visitors to the local economy and was very welcoming to grey nomads. "Concerns around 'overtourism' centre on preserving the environmental health of our natural icons and managing the capacity of limited infrastructure like car parks," he said. "Locals have a certain, understandable sense of ownership of beaches, surf breaks and even their favourite cafes." Mr Gibson said tourist numbers had risen over Covid but were now steady. "Our busiest time, between

Christmas and Easter holidays, can get pretty crazy and we would love people to consider coming in the Spring and Autumn, when the winds are generally more gentle and the weather is still often stunning," he told the GNT. "We often see an increase in grey nomad arrivals at the conclusion of the April school holidays and that works well for 'spreading the load' a little." Mr Gibson asked that grey nomads visiting Denmark – which doesn't have any free camping options – take rubbish with them, park sensibly, and consider alternatives if there are ever any queues. "If you are caravanning or camping, it is recommended that you book ahead at one of our numerous caravan parks ... you may consider that your capacity to find accommoda-

tion to book (or not) is a good indication of whether Denmark is at capacity or not," he said. "For caravanners, we would also point out that there is limited long-vehicle parking around town and, whenever possible, it would be great if you could go straight to your accommodation to unhook your van before stopping in town for coffee, wine or supplies." While most grey nomads understand the need for common sense and patience as certain spots struggle to cope with a tourism influx, some will find less-than-welcoming signs like the one briefly erected in Denmark an unpleasant reminder of the hostile reception they received in some communities during the early, confused days of the Covid pandemic.

[Click to comment](#)

Increased Vehicle Protection Without the Weight

Discover the [SmartBar](#) Polymer Range [LEARN MORE ▶](#)





Down memory lane

A Daintree excursion with her elderly mum is one that Kary will never forget

One of the great things about the Big Lap is the unexpected highlights it throws up, and the magical memories it creates ... of both places and people.

Kary and John Morrow hit the open road full-time 12 years ago soon after John was struck by a chronic illness which made them reassess their priorities in life.

Since then, the couple have had some incredible adventures in their 18' Scenic Caravan towed by a LandCruiser. "We love the magnificent brilliant blue and turquoise of WA's waters; the views from Cape Jarvis of Kangaroo Island; the luscious green grasses near Bega; the adventure of travelling along the Nullarbor; the beauty of the southern coast of NSW; and the barren, red outlook of the many Outback tracks to explore," said Kary. "When we began our journey, we thought we would settle in an idyllic spot that we had found but,



John and Kary (left) are always looking for the next adventure around the corner. The couple's home is an 18' Scenic caravan (above).

every time we find an area we love, we look at each other, smile and say 'why don't we keep driving just around the bend?'"

But for all their shared adventures, one of Kary's most treasured trip memories was actually when she temporarily left John and the caravan behind.

The couple parked up in Brisbane for a while to allow Kary to take an overnight train trip up to Cairns with her elderly mum.

"My Mum was around 94 years old then and she sat up

all night because the train's cubby bed made her feel like she was in a coffin and she felt she would be in a real one soon enough!" laughed Kary. While in the tropical north, the pair took a tour in a small bus along the rain-damaged Bloomfield Track.

"Mum let out a rare swear word when our heads again hit the ceiling of the bus," said Kary. "Being good sports, we laughed our way to a pub lunch during the trip ... memories of my Mum, our comradeship and our laughter stay with me until I join her."

Kary says that, every time she is in the Daintree, she re-lives the happy days she spent with her mum, who made it to 99, with her health only failing near the end.

Today, John and Kary are still very much making new memories together as their 'gypsy lifestyle' continues. "We are still loving the journey," said Kary. "And always look forward to 'what's around the bend?'"

• Do you have special memories of a person or event when you re-visit certain places?

[Click to comment](#)

Bendigo International Collections

PARIS

Impressions of Life
1880 - 1925

16 March - 14 July 2024
Bendigo exclusive

BENDIGO ART GALLERY

bendigoartgallery.com.au



Exhibition organised by the Musée Carnavalet - Histoire de Paris, Paris Musées. Image credit: Jean Béraud, *The Entrance to the 1889 Universal Exhibition* (detail) 1889, oil on wood, Musée Carnavalet. CC0 Paris Musées / Musée Carnavalet - Histoire de Paris.



Under the weather

Events on the horizon

Years of wind and waves – and high repair costs – have put jetty futures at risk

The future of some of Australia’s most iconic jetties continue to hang in the balance as the cost – and feasibility – of repairing them is assessed. Earlier this year, the GNT reported on a new study which found that the economy in South Australia could lose over \$103 million every year if jetties along that state’s coastlines ceased to exist.

Yet many of these iconic structures – much loved by grey nomads – may not be with us much longer. The Tumby Bay jetty, for example, has been closed to the public since 2022 when severe weather contributed to the failure of piles and crosshead members. The local council says it hopes to find a temporary solution while wider issues are looked at. Expert engineers are testing to see if the jetty’s remaining load capacity is sufficient to safely support renewed public access. If the tests bring positive news, this would mean further repairs to piles and timber crossheads to provide an ‘interim solution’ to re-open approximately two thirds of the jetty’s length. “We may have found an affordable, interim solution,” said Council of Tumby Bay mayor, Geoff Churchett. “The jetty means a lot to us and



Looking good: Repair work in progress at Geraldton’s Francis Street finger jetty. PIC: City of Greater Geraldton

if we can deliver this short-term fix in a safe, effective and affordable way, it’s worth doing.” Meanwhile, in the WA town of Bunbury, even the fishing platform that replaced the original convict-built timber jetty – which was ‘deconstructed’ more than a decade ago – might be on its way out. The new platform, which was converted from an existing service jetty, opened in 2020 but was closed early last year after it was found the structure’s underlying piles had degraded. There are growing fears it may never re-open. There’s better news further up the west coast though, where the City of Greater Geraldton has announced work will get under way to extend the longevity of the Francis Street boat ramp and finger jetty facility located near the Esplanade. “Since the finger jetty was completely rebuilt in 2016, the

structure has been exposed to our infamous winds, the salty sea environment and countless boat launches by the nearly 2500 boat owners in the city,” said Mayor Jerry Clune. “This time around it’s the ramps that needs attention, so we’ll be replacing the old worn pre-cast concrete waffle slabs that form the boat ramps and undertaking minor renewals to the jetty structure ... this critical maintenance is essential and will ensure the community can continue to use the facility for years to come.” While it is widely accepted that jetties bring massive community benefit, it seems that – for many of them – the money required to ensure long-term survival is simply not available.

- *How important are jetty visits to your Big Lap experience?*

Click to comment

Moree on a Plate

Now in its 20th year, this event to be held on May 13 has evolved into one of regional



NSW’s most beloved food festivals, with a diversity of producers from across the region and beyond. As well as the food aspect – which will see one of Australia’s leading chefs, Matt Golinski, in attendance – the event offers a smorgasbord of live music, entertainment, and fun.

- Parrtjima
- Outback Music Trail
- NSW Caravan Camping Holiday Supershow
- Toowoomba Royal Show
- Julia Creek Dirt n Dust Festival
- Outback River Lights
- Canowindra Balloon Challenge
- Spirit of the Bush
- Shore Leave Festival
- Bright Autumn Festival
- Drovers’ Campfire
- Harvey Show
- Tastes of the Goulburn
- Canberra International Music Festival

UNWIND AND RECONNECT WITH NATURE

EXPERIENCE MANSFIELD WITH **LAKESIDE**

03 5775 2735

BOOK NOW!

MOREE on a plate!

FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL
Saturday, May 11, 2024

A signature rural event celebrating food, wine and the arts

featuring **CELEBRITY CHEF Matt Golinski**

Moree Racecourse
10am to 4pm
Gold coin donation entry
www.moreeonaplate.com.au

Blocked by design?

Are grey nomads becoming victims of a 'hostile architecture' trend?

Many grey nomads looking for an unobtrusive place to pull up for the night will have encountered a strategically placed concrete block preventing them access to what would otherwise have been the perfect spot to 'camp'. Or they've been annoyed by a post which limits their ability to 'spread out' at a non-busy campground. Or maybe they've just been frustrated by a lack of long vehicle parking areas in a town.

While it is easy to write these sorts of situations off as travellers just being 'unlucky', the reality may be that they are being 'persuaded' from camping here or there, or spreading their campsite, by local authorities using a technique known as 'hostile architecture'. Bioethicist and public health scientist, Dr Evie Kendal, from Swinburne University says hostile architecture refers to design choices intended to influence social behaviour, often



Strategically placed stones and logs block the track.

with the goal of discouraging certain activities or people in particular areas. She says classic examples include 'skate stopper' bolts on surfaces to prevent skateboarding, or arm rests on benches that stop people laying down. "What is often most insidious about this increasingly prevalent design practice is how the choices can appear neutral – or even decorative and appealing – unless you are the target for exclusion," Dr Kendal said. "Sloping benches and large flowerpots on the streets may look artistic, but they can intentionally remove safe resting

places for rough sleepers." However, she says interventions targeting a certain group can have knock-on effects for others. For example, designing public benches in a way that discourages 'loitering' also means elderly people may struggle to find appropriate places to rest when they need. "Restrictions to open public spaces also impact travelling populations, with the placement of bollards and other obstacles preventing camping and caravan parking," she said. "The goal may be to 'move on' these groups to fee-paying alternative sites, or to prevent

large gatherings of people." Dr Kendal said that, in many cases, avoiding the formation of homeless encampments in these areas may also be a specific objective. "As with all hostile architecture, some behaviours are being classified as 'undesirable' and targeted for modification, and these tend to be those that challenge commercial interests in these spaces," she said. "If recreational vehicles are forced out of publicly available sites, the owners will have to pay to access private facilities instead." Dr Kendal says the cost-of-living crisis mean more people are relying on temporary accommodation, but free and low-cost options are limited. "For people living in mobile homes, restrictions on available spaces to park or camp suggest they are not welcome in these places and are being pushed to the side," she said. "As with people experiencing homelessness the attitude of those engaged with hostile design seems to be 'out of sight, out of mind'."

[Click to comment](#)

WIN WIN WIN WIN WIN

Join us for a chance to win great prizes

Not a member? [Click here](#) to learn more and join.

Grey Nomad Members are being offered the chance to enter three separate competitions!

We have teamed up with cooking system kings, Cobb, as well as reversing camera system company, rearview 170, to give members the opportunity to cook up an on-the-road storm, and to solve those reversing-into-tight-spots dramas.

Cobb is offering GN members the chance to pick up two separate prizes, a Cobb Gas Package, and a Cobb

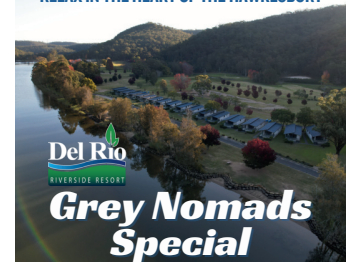


GN Members could win these amazing prizes

Grill Premier (Charcoal) The **Cobb Gas Package** (above pic left) is leading the way in bringing cooking convenience to outdoor adventures. The prize is valued at \$439. Find out how to enter [here](#). The **Cobb Grill Premier (Charcoal)** (above centre), valued at \$279.95, is a portable and completely versatile

charcoal /briquette fuelled cooking system. Find out how to enter [here](#). The **rearview170** (above right) reversing camera system, valued at \$259, is solar operated, requires no wiring and can be fitted within 10 minutes. The system offers 170-degrees horizontal rear view. Find out how to enter [here](#).

RELAX IN THE HEART OF THE HAWKESBURY



Del Rio
RIVERSIDE RESORT
Grey Nomads Special

JOIN US FOR A 7-DAY STAY AT JUST \$199 FOR TWO PEOPLE ON A POWERED SITE*



DEL RIO RIVERSIDE RESORT
FOR INFORMATION & BOOKINGS
PHONE (02) 4566 4330

CHASELING RD, WEBBS CREEK,
WISEMANS FERRY NSW 2775
WWW.DELRIORESORT.COM.AU

*EXCLUDES PEAK PERIODS. CONDITIONS APPLY.



Letters to the Editor

Share your thoughts with fellow nomads

Re: **Camping in holidays** (GNT: 320). Several years ago, we were heading home from a big trip and, circling around Sydney, stopped in at a highly-rated van park at Umina on a Thursday morning. By that evening, there were massive queues at the check-in. We were unaware it was a long weekend and, being a popular place close to Sydney, we were swamped with thirty-something neighbours with young families. Now, I love kids and am a very tolerant fellow but what followed was three nights of revelry with plenty of loud late night /early morning drinking and loose children riding all sorts of wheeled contraptions everywhere ... including shortcuts under our awning. Most of these party-goers had extended check-outs, leaving late Monday. After they left, on the Tuesday morning, we went for a walk noticing all the hibernating grey nomads emerging pale and shaken from their wheeled caves squinting at the early morning sun. If you value your sanity, then avoid those calendar events at all costs!

Ross H

We stay at home and travel after the Easter and School holiday period!

Len & Barbara S

I try not to travel at times like the Easter or Christmas holidays, or any long weekend, unless I absolutely have to ...



Where is it?

Although this area is quite dry these days, it used to be a seabed 80 million years ago. The distinctive geological formations boast many shades of orange, yellow and white. 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 320 was Sorrento Pier. The winner was Ivan Scully.

and then I leave much earlier than I would normally travel, and take more and longer rest stops. And, if needs be, I find a free camp spot off the side of the road where one can stop overnight in a safe manner.

Robert S

We park up and don't travel at all during those periods.

Joe D

Every year at all holidays I find a nice spot away from beaches and all tourists spots. I find the country people like to have a few visitors in their area, instead of people leaving

to holiday in all the tourist spots. Get there early, keep off the roads, and enjoy the peace and quiet. On the road, there are so many rushing to get where they are going, only to be packed in like sardines, and then rush home again in a couple of days. How can that be a break?

Arthur W

If retired, I think you would be mad to venture out in school holiday periods. It's difficult for full timers, though.

Dick M

I stay home usually. Being re-

tired there is no need to travel at these very busy times.

John D

Re: **Storing children's belongings** (Letters: GNT 319); I recently gave my adult children all of their childhood artefacts, photos, yearbooks etc. I told them that these items were part of their life story, and I had been the custodian of them but, as they are adults, it is now up to them to choose whether they want to store or dispose of them. Either way, I no longer have to store them.

Leanne NW

Australian Italian Festival

1st & 2nd June
TYTO PARKLANDS
INGHAM



Come for the food...stay for the fun

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

COMPLIMENTARY ENTRY & MEAL VOUCHERS

www.australianitalianfestival.com.au

AMPOL CAPELLA
John Hallam

11-15 Peak Downs Street Capella 4723

07 49 849 148

Food - Fuel - BBQ Gas
www.accommodationcapella.com



CAPELLA COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Join us 7th to 12th May, 2024

www.capellaevents.com.au



optitec
The world's most powerful portable wireless remote control mover

Moves caravans, boats and trailers up to 3500kg

Ph: 0437 833 393 www.optitec.com.au




Letters to the Editor

Share your thoughts with fellow nomads

Should caravanners have to do a course, rather than have to get a towing licence?

If it trains the morons who sit on 80/85km/h, then speed up to prevent anybody going past ... then yes! Also, the ones who travel together in convoy leaving no space between; the ones who don't use mirrors to see the queues of traffic being held up behind them; and the ones who speed up on overtaking lanes. And for good measure learn how to correctly load their van!

Alex A

It would go a long way ... as would correct info from manufacturers on true weights of caravans, and having each one sold with a weigh bridge certificate. Also, have much easier access and lower cost in allowing caravan owners to get their vans weighed, so they know what they are towing or attempting to tow.

Derek M

Many people retire after long work careers and then go out and buy a large tandem axle van and a large tow tug and set off on their retirement trip. Prior to that, many have never towed at all, only driven in cities or bus/trained to work and have zero experience on the open road. It is evident in caravan parks where flash new rigs pull in and the drivers have no idea how to back onto a site. This is just one very basic example. There are plenty of others. Towing licences should be mandatory!

Craig R

I'm not necessarily a fan of a new class of licence for towing a van, but I continue to be amazed at the number of caravanners who will spend \$100k-\$200k or more for their rig ... but will balk at paying a couple of hundred



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.

SmartBar Photo of the Month

Congratulations to Gary Althorpe for submitting this humorous photo he titled 'Outback Selfie'. The pic was taken at Mary Pool rest area in the Mueller Ranges, west of Halls Creek, WA in August of 2022. Gary said he and he his wife were playing backgammon when a young bull wandered over. "He couldn't resist a photo opportunity," Gary said. "Happy with the result, he just up and left!"

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



dollars to do a towing course. In my recent comprehensive insurance renewal, I received a small discount for both of us having done such an accredited course when we first purchased our van.

Greg W

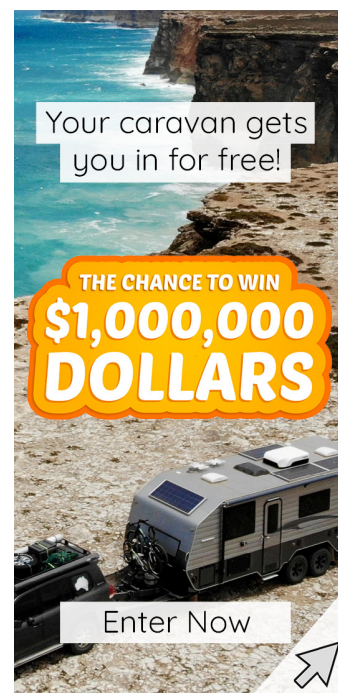
I have long advocated for the need for a dedicated driving course for drivers who want to tow a caravan. And, if they pass, they get the appropriate endorsement on their licence. The only exception would be anyone who has a semi-trailer licence or above. I have seen numerous incidences of obviously over-loaded or wrongly loaded caravans on the road. Yes, the accident statistics may be relatively low, but if it saves

only one person's life, it would be worthwhile.

Phil E

Discussing a caravan towing endorsement is discriminatory and unrealistic as there are many large boats, horse floats, and furniture trailers on the road. There's a delineation within the trailer licensing legislation which requires anything over 2000kg to be fitted with electric brakes. Given the higher level of risk towing any larger trailer, I believe an endorsement on a driver's licence covering any trailer over 2000kg would be realistic. It could be an online endorsement or a combination online and practical evaluation.

Russell D



Your caravan gets you in for free!

THE CHANCE TO WIN \$1,000,000 DOLLARS

Enter Now



Letters to the Editor

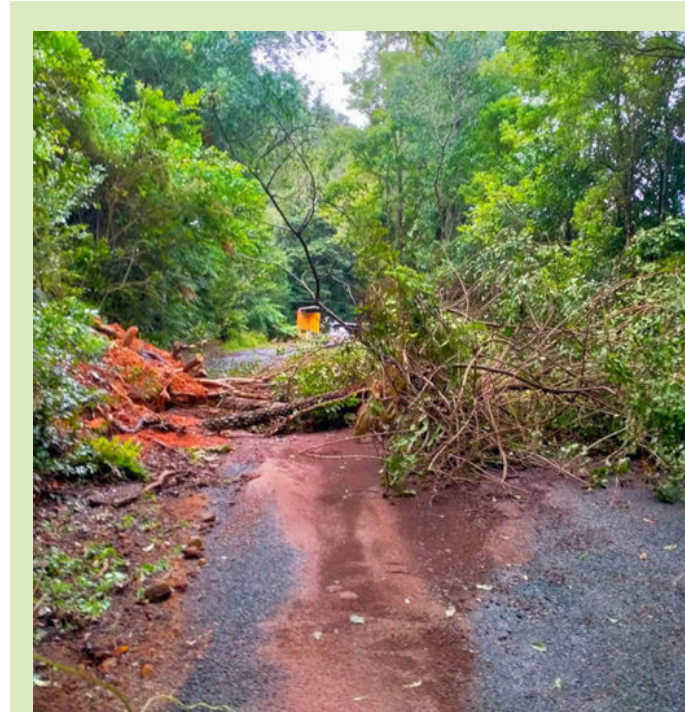
Share your thoughts with fellow nomads

Re: **Ghost camping** (GNT: 319). What national parks have now done is causing issues for us when we arrive, having paid online, only to find that others have taken our campsite. At times, we have even been abused when requesting proof of registration of those illegally camping in our site. The current system is fraught with issues for those of us that simply require a place to stay over for a couple of days in peace and quiet. As for rangers attending these camp spots to ensure compliance, as yet I have never seen this happen. So best the wife and I independently do our own thing and find our own spots in the bush where we can ensure peace and quiet is abundant, with only the wild life to bother us. As we no longer stay in national parks, we do not collect the mounds of rubbish previously collected left by those less considerate than ourselves. Tread your own path.

Trevor & June E

Unfortunately, I have never had a good experience with national park bookings ... ever! These public servants are paid to manage lands owned by the public, and they do their best to either make it difficult or keep us out like it was their own land. I just don't bother with the hassle any longer.

Geoff L



A landslide at the entrance to Minnamurra Rainforest and visitor centre. PIC: NPWS

Camping is best at 'first in, best dressed'. There are now too many vacant sites. And national parks should be free of charge!

Ian Mc

I don't see anything wrong with a booking system. How about campers take responsibility for their actions and plans ... and cancel if they can't be there, then there is availability for others who can. By the way, if you take the risk and don't pay when you should, then don't whinge when you are caught.

Kathaleen H

The only time I am disinclined to pay is the booking fee for the free NSW campgrounds. This is \$6! The booking fee for a paid campground is \$0.30. Makes 'free' an interesting concept.

Chris F

The national parks booking system is good but the 'Ghost Campers' make it difficult for everyone who is looking to camp in a specific park, only to find it booked out. These 'Ghost Campers' should have a cost penalty imposed upon them if they fail to turn up at

Landslip blocks road

The Minnamurra Rainforest and visitor centre south west of Shellharbour in New South Wales will stay closed until further notice due to extensive flood damage sustained during recent heavy rainfall. Two bridges on the popular Lyrebird Loop track sustained significant damage, with one bridge completely destroyed. A 15 metre by 15 metre landslide occurred at the main entry to the rainforest, and picnic areas surrounding the visitor centre suffered extreme erosion. A significant number of trees are also down across the site. An engineer has been engaged to assess structural damage.

their site without a reasonable prior explanation.

John H

I know it's not as secure due to possible theft, but the self check-in system using envelopes and / or card payment is our preference. We mostly camp off peak anyway. Many parks do not have internet reception so, under the current system of internet booking, a spontaneous stay or extension is not possible unless we leave the park to get reception. We have a motorhome and this would be tedious.

Margaret Mck

Come and join our community.

Bundaberg Cabins & Permanent Caravan Sites

MIDTOWN
Caravan Park

stay@midtowncaravanpark.com.au
61 Takalvan Street, Bundaberg QLD 4670
www.midtowncaravanpark.com.au

07 4152 2768

GREY NOMADS MERCHANDISE

POLO SHIRTS | BUMPER STICKERS

THE GreyNomads .COM.AU



Letters to the Editor

Share your thoughts with fellow nomads



PIC: Tasmania Parks and Wildlife

Penguin paradise

It may not be a spot many grey nomads will ever get to ... but the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service still has to put in the hard yards at Macquarie Island, 1,550 kilometres south east of Hobart. Ranger in charge, Paul Black, said the major tasks this year included biosecurity operations, wildlife monitoring, and marine debris collection. The team is also responsible for maintaining the extensive network of walking tracks and infrastructure, including bridges and viewing platforms, building wildlife barriers and clearing overgrown vegetation. Macquarie Island is a Nature Reserve and World Heritage Area located halfway between Tasmania and Antarctica. It is an important breeding site for many sub-Antarctic species including seabirds, seals and penguins.

Re: **Decade of full-time van-ning** (GNT: 320). Us, too! Eleven years on road ... with no plans for sitting in a unit.

Joe D

Re: **Evolving outlook** (GNT: 320). Love this section addressing these issues. They are important considerations, and I am trying to cover them before we travel full-time, as well. What to do with your time after working all your life? I know a lot of older Australians who actually go back to work because they have never had the time to discover what they would enjoy doing if they didn't have to work. This time is a time of discovery.

Barry K

Re: **Skid Row Trailer Recovery Skid** (GNT: 320). This is another Great Aussie Invention and I wish them well with the sales. These should sell well via caravan manufacturers / 4WD stores, etc.

Robert S

I had this getting stuck problem on a couple of occasions, especially when camping on Fraser Island or Rainbow Beach. To overcome it, I cut an old pair of cross country skis and fitted them to a plate on the base of a jockey wheel. If I become bogged, I fit the ski wheel to the van and it's amazing how easy it is to move with it fitted.

Col S

Re: **GPS V paper maps**. I love printing sections of a map and making a big map. So easy to record all the stops and dates.

Andre DP

Re: **Maleny** (Great Places: GNT 320). Great place to visit. Due to go again!

Meryl N

As the Maleny Showgrounds is not a caravan park, there is a limit of three days per stay.

Robyn L

Busy campsites should introduce a loyalty card for regular campers like grey nomads. We support campsites during the quiet times, and then get priced out when things get busy. It doesn't seem fair.

Mark D




- * Solar powered
- * Wi-fi DIY reversing camera
- * No wires
- * 170-degree rear view
- * Install in 10 minutes
- * Members' bonus
- * Free post \$259
- * QLD designed and warranted

www.rearview170.com.au



Picture puzzle



Last week: Grey nomads who haven't booked ahead this Easter will find this at almost all popular van parks.

Answer: Full House
Winner: Dianne King

Win grey nomad stickers!

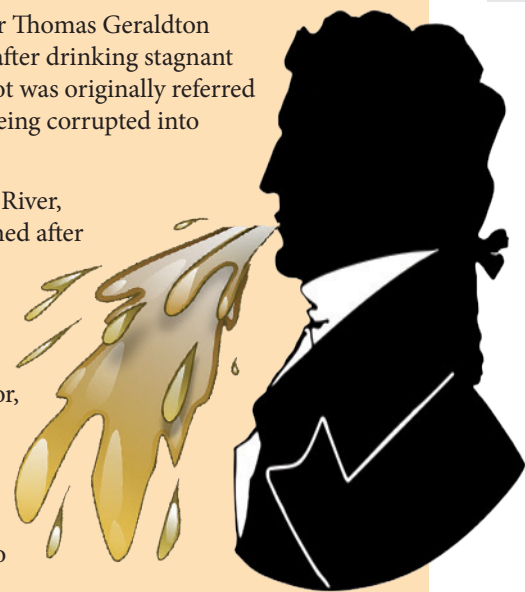


PIC CLUE: Grey nomads will need to have the ability to store this if they want to stay in self-contained only camping spots.

Email us the solution to the puzzle. Winner announced in Issue 322

Quiz corner

- I am travelling directly between Cunnamulla in Queensland, Cobar in NSW. Which highway will I spend most of my time on?
- The NSW town of Manilla was named after:
 - Original explorer Sir Thomas Geraldton became violently sick after drinking stagnant water here, and the spot was originally referred to as 'Man Ill' before being corrupted into 'Manilla'
 - The nearby Manilla River, which was in turn named after the indigenous word, Maneela, meaning meeting of the rivers.
 - Then NSW Governor, Nathan Buckthorne, named the town after Manila, the capital of the Philippines as part of a wider effort to improve relations with Australia's Asian neighbours.



- Which WA town sounds like it might have been named after Albert Bany, known as Al to his friends?
- Creasing Lips (anagram). This is pretty much as a must-stop for grey nomads heading up the Centre.
- Shortest road distance between the WA town of Newman and the state capital, Perth?
 - 857 km
 - 1,177 km
 - 1,449 km

(answers on page 12)



It's a wacky world

After a spike in anti-social behaviour and vandalism at a public toilet block in the

Victorian town of Swan Hill, the local council has decided to pipe out the likes of Mozart and Beethoven there in an effort to discourage 'loitering'. The classical music initiative will be trialled for six months before the council decides whether to continue with it ... and potentially expand it to other crime hotspots.



The Grey Area





Grill of a lifetime



On all previous Big Lap adventures, my cooking choices have boiled down to either the full campfire experience, or the 'ho-hum' caravan kitchen meal option.

Now, I love a camp oven roast as much as the next nomad, but I'm not always in the mood – or in the right place – to spend hours building and tending a fire, and then running the risk of burnt fingers or burnt broccoli.

So, this time, when we pulled out of our driveway, we had packed a Cobb Grill Premier (Charcoal) in the rig to give us a 'halfway house' al fresco cooking alternative ... and what a masterstroke it proved. While we had toyed with the idea of getting the gas version of the Cobb cooking system for its sheer convenience and ease of use, we eventually decided that the charcoal version would give us the 'event cook' we wanted, while cutting out the sometimes unwanted palaver associated with campfire cuisine.

The compact stainless steel Cobb takes up limited room in the rig and, weighing just four kilograms, offers cook-anywhere-you-like possibilities. And we actually carried it down to a pebbly creekside picnic spot to prove the point. While the Cobb can be used



Preparing the Cobb (above left) and cooking on it (top) was easy. Results were delicious (above right)!

with regular charcoal briquettes, we used the special Cobb 'Cobblestone' charcoal that is easily lit and offers up to two hours of cooking time. The thing I loved about this system is that, as you cook, there is no external heat transfer so the base always remains cool-to-touch on the outside. On this trial run, I just decided to cook up some sausages and kebabs and they cooked evenly and quickly and, most importantly, had that delicious charcoal flavour.

Granted, I was cooking in a pretty unusual spot but it was amazing – and enjoyable – just how much attention the Cobb got from fellow creek visitors.

If you're looking to make new friends, a Cobb cookout is highly recommended!

Okay, so the sausages and kebabs, were a mouth-watering, dipping-my-toe-in-the-water triumph, and I can't wait to really see what my new baby can do.

Cobb says, with the right accessories, the Premier is capable of cooking anything from standard grilled meats, to full roast dinners, pizzas, stir fries, baked bread, and more.

And it's kind of fun, too!

The Cobb Grill Premier (Charcoal) retails at \$279.

• *What is your favourite on-the-road cooking method?*

[Click to comment](#)

Survey results

Pre-tech is best

Grey nomads are happy and relieved that they are old enough to have grown up in a world free from the temptations and stresses of social media.

A staggering 100% of respondents to our recent GNT poll on the issue said they did not feel jealous of today's tech savvy youngsters.

"I'm still in a social media free world," said Stewart F. "Facebook, Tik Tok and Instagram are the scourge of modern society!"

Willard W said that, now he's ageing, he can't do that much ... but can still keep himself amused.

"I'm just frustrated because it seems I will even need to go online to book a space to enter heaven or the other place!" he said.

Have your say

A push by some pro-cash advocates to make banks think twice about any moves towards making Australia a cashless society apparently had limited success. Anecdotal evidence suggests there were queues outside some ATMs during 'Draw Out Some Cash Day', but the Australian Banking Association claims there was no material difference in withdrawal levels.

POLL

Have you used cash in the last week?

YES NO



SatKing Pro Max Satellite TV

- The most advanced Motorised Satellite TV System on the Australian market
- Australia Wide Coverage
- Dual output LNB, suitable for VAST, Foxtel and Foxtel IQ.
- Simply select your preferred satellite and press "OK"
- The cost of the unit is \$3995.00 including GST

Ph: 1300 139 255
www.satkingpromax.com.au



Gatton is a gem



Sitting in the heart of south-east Queensland's lush Lockyer Valley, Gatton is famed for its agricultural heritage, for the warm welcome it offers grey nomads and other travellers ... and for a brutal unsolved murder!

Located on the Warrego Highway an hour's drive from Brisbane, the town is part of the fertile 'Salad Bowl', and – amongst other things – the area produces large quantities of vegetables.

The first European explorer here was Major Edmund Lockyer in 1825, and the settlement was gazetted in 1855. A post office opened in 1866, the original school in 1868, the Gatton Congregational Church in 1874, and a major agricultural college in 1897. Today, Gatton boasts a population of around 7,000 and is a major service centre for the region. It's got great cafes, restaurants, and a range of interesting shops ... including Gray's Furniture & Gifts, and Jack & Mo Taste Co. There's also a Repco and a Supercheap Auto, and Coles, Aldi, and IGA supermarkets.

And the town prides itself on the camping options it offers visitors. These include private operations like Murphy's Creek Escape, which invites travellers



The 'Lights on the Hill' memorial pays tribute to truck and coach drivers who died on the road. PICS: Tourism and Events Queensland

to relax in a genuine bushland setting. Also popular with grey nomads is William Kemp Park, located on the banks of the Lockyer Creek near Gatton CBD. This offers free 48-hour campsites on a no-bookings-required, 'first-come, best-dressed' basis.

The Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre – which comprises of a Visitor Information Centre, art gallery, transport museum, café, and library – is a must-visit for all travellers. The Transport Museum, in particular, is well worth a good look around, and displays scores of lovingly-restored vintage vehicles.

The Cultural Centre sits next

to Lake Apex, which is great place to stroll around, and to look at the mind-boggling variety of birds that visit. Here also is the Lights on the Hill Queensland Truck and Coach Drivers' Memorial, which has been made in the shape of the front of a truck and pays tribute to professional drivers who have lost their lives on the road.

There are a number of interesting war memorials in Gatton, including the Lone Pine Memorial, a tree planted from seeds whose lineage can be traced back to Gallipoli; and the Weeping Mother Memorial which pays tribute to the role of women in wartime.

So, that's the agricultural heritage, and welcoming reputation taken care of ... what about the unsolved murder?

Well, back in 1898, Michael Murphy and his sisters Norah and Ellen were killed in the most gruesome way after they had hitched from their farm to a nearby dance. The particularly brutal crime drew massive nationwide attention, but was never solved.

For grey nomads interested in a bit of dark tourism, the graves of the three murder victims can be seen in the Gatton cemetery.

• *Have you visited Gatton yet? What were your highlights?*

Click to comment

Access to discounts, member competitions and more ... join us! [Click here](#) to learn more.

MURPHYS CREEK ESCAPE

AUTHENTIC BUSH CAMPING POWERED/ UNPOWERED SITES PET FRIENDLY ECO BILLABONG AND SEASONAL CREEK

0746305353 356 THOMAS ROAD UPPER LOCKYER QLD 4352

the Grey Nomad Times



ASK JACLYN and Heidi



Our experts solve your grey nomad etiquette dilemmas

'I'm not alone in boredom'

Dear Jaclyn and Heidi, I know I will get a lot of stick for saying this, but I'm sure I'm not the only one who secretly hates those nightmarishly long Outback drives. We've just crossed the Nullarbor, and I'm sure there's a shedload of know-it-all nomads out there ready to lecture me about how I must be travelling with my eyes shut, blah, blah, blah! But I can't believe people really enjoy the mind-numbing endurance tests that blight the Big Lap. We've now got the prospect of a trip up the west coast hanging over our heads. When this sort of 'isn't-it-fascinating-driving-for-eight-straight-hours-looking-at-the-same-barren-landscape' tosh comes up at Happy Hour, no one states the screamingly obvious. Should I tell other travellers how I feel, or just keep nodding along with the rest of 'isn't-everything-fantastic' sheep?

Don

Oh dear, Don. Two issues. The first is the fact that you don't enjoy long drives. Without wishing to sound like a 'blah, blah, blah sheep', have you thought about really reading up on the places you will be travelling through ahead of time to make sure you are at least aware of all the points of interest? Have you tried listening to podcasts as you travel? What about breaking the journey up into shorter stints? The second issue is whether or not you should talk about how you feel to other travellers. Yes, of course, you should! It's always good to get the perspective of your fellow grey nomads. Maybe you will, as you suspect, find the masses share your misgivings ... but, equally, you might find that other travellers approach the 'driving ordeals' with a positive mindset and embrace the experience. Worth a try, Don?

Jaclyn

Yup, how inconvenient that the Big Lap is so big! Maybe you should go travelling around New Zealand instead, or perhaps little old England? Or what about your backyard back home? I'm sure your neighbours would be delighted to have you back whingeing about everything over the garden fence! How about your park up the caravan, and fly from city to city? Then you can see all those interesting bright lights without having to endure all the boring bits in the bush. And you wouldn't have to get annoyed listening to all those happy people who are obviously just pretending to be having a good time as they chink glasses and talk and laugh sitting around the campfire with the stars twinkling overhead in a stunningly beautiful, cloudless Outback sky. Newsflash, You're the problem Don. Not the long drives!

Heidi

[Click to comment](#)

We now have 6,000 Instagram followers

The Grey Nomads Instagram page is seeking to bring people together who share the same dream and passion to explore Australia. Please click below to follow us:



QUIZ CORNER SOLVED

1. Mitchell Highway
2. b) The nearby Manilla River, which was in turn named after the indigenous word, Maneela, meaning meeting of the rivers.
3. Al bany
4. Alice Springs
5. b) 1,177 km

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

Dometic Perfectcharge MCA 1235 Charger
Brand new. Never used. Perfectcharge MCA 1235 IUOU Automatic charger for 12V batteries.
Price: \$400.
Phone 0418 290 411



FOR SALE

PRYML Fishing Kayak
Price: \$400
1 person, Deluxe padded seat
2.18 adjustable paddle and centre swivel rod holder.
5 rod holders. Front and Centre covered hatches. Weight 24.9 kg approx.
L265xW78xH40 Transport wheels.
Life jacket. Located in Far North Qld.
Phone Tony Mob. 0427 977 785



FOR SALE

Roadstar 2016 Infinity Slideout Caravan 22ft 6in.
Full kitchen, bathroom and washing machine. Large 'pop up' 42in LED TV + smaller 22in TV. A very comfortable van with lots of storage space for living in and towing. We lived in it full time for three years. Great experience. Located in Revesby, Sydney.
PH: Kevin 0412 512 833



FOR SALE

Jayco 2007 Expanda
This well-kept caravan is in excellent condition and has had little use. Is very spacious with a generous layout. Fully maintained and tow is excellent. Registered until end of October, 2024. Includes shower, toilet, solar. Dining converts to single bed. Double bed expands out. Electric and gas hot water. Electric brakes. Anderson plug. Hitch lock. Weatherproof power adapter. Twin gas bottles. Alloy rims with 3 NEW tyres. Extension lead and power converter lead. Water and waste hoses etc. etc. Fully serviced and maintained.
Email: ncwalker15@bigpond.com

FOR SALE

Talvor Eurodeluxe Mercedes Sprinter Motorhome 2017
Fantastic light, spacious and complete motorhome. A breeze to drive!
Size: 7.70 x 2.33 x 3.23 high; 257,000 km; well maintained; extended warranty until 30 July 2028. Great kitchen. Bathroom with toilet, basin and separate shower plus outdoor hot/cold shower at the back. New 24" Smart TV and antenna. Airconditioning and 2 Sirocco fans. Solar panel + extra battery. Dual lens reversing camera. Located in Rockhampton QLD.
Price: \$99,990
Call Peter for more info: 0414 223 814



FOR SALE

2005 Toyota Coaster
Price: \$28,000 ono.
This has been a school bus it's entire life in Morayfield QLD, very neat and tidy, serviced regularly, so don't let the mileage fool you. The seats have been removed for your convenience and ready for a conversion as a motorhome or tiny house. Excellent Air Con, mechanically ok, drives extremely well. Registered until 14/6/2024 All paperwork present and accounted for. Reluctant sale. Genuine enquiries only. Mileage: 313711 Manual 6 speed.
Email: trackhome01@gmail.com



FOR SALE

2015 Jayco 21 Ft Silverline Caravan
Due to medical conditions, we reluctantly must sell what has been our temporary holiday home. This caravan has travelled 45,000Kms and is in excellent condition as it has never been on outback tracks and has always been stored under cover. The van is protected with a VANTEC over the exterior and upholstery treatment internally. Many inclusions and extras. Asking price \$58,000. If required the Tow Vehicle - 2015 Land Rover Discovery SDV6-SE, in excellent condition - is also available for sale along with the Jayco Silverline. Located in Gold Coast, QLD
Contact Ray on 0447 006 034



FOR SALE

2015 Paramount Studio 24' Van with 2015 Toyota Landcruiser Wagon GXL Package
**** SELLING AS A PACKAGE \$143000****
Would consider selling Caravan only Both will have Roadworthy Certificates. Both in very good condition, selling due to scaling back on travelling. Many inclusions and extras.
Email: accounts@gdimowers.com.au



FOR SALE

Traveller 21'6" 2012 Sensation Caravan.
It has the lot. Located in Shepparton. Well maintained with Fantastic Fan, Electric Step, Diesel Heater, Front load Washing Machine, Slide out BBQ, Gas/Electric Hot Water Unit, 186L 2Door Fridge/Freezer, Microwave, 200W Solar Panel, Ibis Airconditioner, & much more. Kept under cover most of its life.
Price: \$49,500 ONO
Email: okej@bigpond.com.au



FOR SALE

Traveller Prodigy 23 ft 2013.
Excellent condition New A/C. Sat king Satellite. New Tyres. Gas heater. Generator box. 3 way fridge. Trailmate Jack. Many extras.
Email: m.j.curran52@gmail.com



There are many house-sitting positions available on the Grey Nomads website. [Click here](#)

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

2012 Newlands Concept 7.2m (23ft) Caravan
 Price \$65,000
 Rego expiry 13.3.2025
 GVM 2713 KGs
 Tare 2320 KGs, ATM 2713 KGs, Tow Ball weight 276 KGs, Registration X70714, Tandem Axle, sleeping capacity 6 people, Suspension Leaf Spring & Independent Alloy wheels, 12 v External power outlet Large Fridge. Cooktop/Oven never used Shower, Toilet, Ibis Aircon, Washing Machine and much more.
 Email: lorraine_armstrong@hotmail.com



FOR SALE

Toyota Coaster
 Outstanding fit out and exc mechanically 198000 km.
 Toyota 1HZ 4.2L
 6 cylinder engine, manual transmission
 It can be driven with car licence (Class C) Modification certification (bus to RV usage). QLD and NSW engineering certificates. Current RWC and Gas Cert.
 Beige leather upholstery, front seats, 2m x 2m L-shaped lounge. Island bed.
 150 Litre twin-drawer fridge/freezer
 280 litre (total) freshwater tanks, and 80 litre greywater tank. 2x New Smart TVs
 Diesel heater and much more.
 Price: \$95,000
 Email: bfappleyard@hotmail.com



TOWNSVILLE REGION, QLD

Desperate need of help on horse property. Looking for a single or couple with self contained van to help out on a horse property. Power, water supplied. Short or long term. Very light duties eg watering and feeding horses, some mowing with ride on. [Click here](#).

WINTON, QLD

Seasonal cleaner wanted for Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum. Hourly rate classed as Grade 3 at rate of \$24.87. The position is part-time/fixed term from April 2024 - 5/10.24. Comprehensive training provided. [Click here](#).

BARCALDINE, QLD

Help wanted for homestead gardens. [Click here](#).

BRIDGETOWN, WA

Helping hand needed for 100 acres on the peaceful Blackwood River. Welcoming self contained, self sufficient Grey Nomads who don't mind being off grid! [Click here](#).

NORTHERN RIVERS REGION, NSW

Cane truck drivers wanted for 2024 season. Seeking experienced HC or MC drivers at Condong, Broadwater or Harwood sugar mill sites. Competitive rates. [Click here](#).

MALLEE, VIC

MC Truck driver wanted to cart grain and hay from farm to end user. Room to park a caravan. \$40 / hour, immediate start. [Click here](#).

DUNSBOROUGH REGION, WA

Seeking caravanning grey nomads to help me on my block a few hours a day in return for a nice shaded private campsite with water and electricity. Helpers must have a fully self-contained van. [Click here](#).

SAMFORD VALLEY, QLD

Live rent free in container house in return for garden and yard maintenance of 3 acre property. Minimum 8 hours/week. [Click here](#).

SCENIC RIM, QLD

Caretaker assistant couple wanted. Office/reception work (eg: responding to phone calls and emails) general cleaning, amenities cleaning, yard and general maintenance and routine park tasks. Immediate start. [Click here](#).

LAKE MACQUARIE, NSW

Help to develop an acre into a urban permaculture small farm. Light duties in return for a couple of days a week work and/or payment, meals, fresh sourdough. [Click here](#).

MARBOROUGH, VIC

Seeking a like minded person to help with wood over winter, up keep of vege garden, feeding chooks/dogs/horses etc fresh eggs and veges to share. Look after animals if we go away. [Click here](#).

DARLINGTON POINT, NSW

Handyman/painter wanted to help restore sash windows. They must be stripped back and painted. Paid job to be negotiated. [Click here](#).

RIDDELLS CREEK, VIC

Rowallan Scout Camp and Rowallan Guide Camp are seeking to appoint a volunteer Camp Ranger (single or couple). This is a multi-year appointment. [Click here](#).

JURIEN BAY, WA

Small boutique hotel in Green Head seeks helpers ASAP. ark up your van and use our facilities in exchange for 8 hours a week work all other paid casual rates. [Click here](#).

CHARTERS TOWERS REGION, QLD

Cattle station caretaker wanted for care & maintenance of homestead area & grounds, minor repair jobs & care/feeding of animals (when we are away). [Click here](#).

STANTHORPE AREA, QLD

Handyman/labourer wanted to cut stack and burn fallen limbs to make way for slasher. Must be self sufficient. [Click here](#).

PROPERTY FOR SALE

FOR SALE

Warehouse and Apartment; Coolum Beach, QLD
 Industrial-style 3-storey abode in Coolum Beach.
 Warehouse fully council approved for Residential Living. Exuding industrial chic, this conversion is a must-see for anyone looking to seamlessly combine business with pleasure. The lower level can be used as a workshop, with ample space for a boat, business and storage, while upstairs you will discover stylish living quarters that include a lounge area, an alfresco and a sleek kitchen.
 Email: davidarthy@telstra.com



HELP WANTED

MALLEE REGION, VIC

Farm hand, tractor - seeder driver wanted. We are a family cropping farm in the southern Mallee of Victoria and are looking for a person to operate our seeding rig during the daytime. Tractor has full gps steering, some previous experience would be good but not essential, on the job training will be provided. [Click here](#).

GOLD COAST, QLD

Seeking active, healthy couple with caravan or motorhome to caretake for 6 weeks from 24 July to 4th Sept. This is a paid position. [Click here](#).

FOR SALE

2020 Prime MT13H Hybrid van MY14 PX Ford Ranger Dual Cab utility package. Ready to drive away! Both vehicles are in top condition. Full interior ensuite. King bed single up front. Full exterior kitchen. 90 dual zone Evacool fridge/freezer. Genni. Fiamma awning. 110ltr fresh water, 90ltr grey. New AT tyres. \$60k package ono. Located Adelaide, SA. Email: stueasom32@gmail.com



FOR SALE

LOTUS OFF LIMITS 24' CARAVAN & RAM 2500
 Full touring set up priced for a quick sale at \$200,000. (will consider selling van alone). Both the RAM and van are in excellent condition throughout with all the comfort and practicality needed in a home away from home, especially suited for luxury touring. The van has been upgraded to 4.490 ATM making sure you will never be overloaded. Many extras from standard.
 Email: ima@outlook.com.au



FOR SALE

Sumerland Patriot off-road caravan 012 Patriot, double axle, 22ft, off road caravan. sleeps 2. new pillow top double mattress, solar panels, larger fridge, toilet, shower, air-conditioning, w/machine. New tyres, 12 mths rego. In good condition, serviced every year of ownership. Near Armidale. Price: \$58K
 Email: petermasonre@bigpond.com



GN SERVICES

RV REPAIRS AND SERVICE

12 VOLT GUY; CRONULLA, NSW

We carry out all your electrical installations, repairs and modifications to Campers, vans, Motor homes and 4WD's.
 Ph: 0438 777 737
www.12voltguy.com.au

AAA BOATFIT & RV AND FLOATS

Perth region. WA-Owned business, dedicated to servicing, fitting out and upgrading RV's, Horse Floats and Boats! More than 30 years experience.
 Ph: 0466 977 745
www.floatswa.com.au

THE TRAILER AND CARAVAN SERVICE MAN; ADELAIDE, SA

Over 16 years experience. Mark is a reliable and qualified local service-man dedicated to assisting you.
 Phone: 0412759864
www.ttscm-adelaide.com.au

ROADTREK; CRAIGBURN, VIC;

We specialise in gas/diesel appliances, electricity setup, water tank/pump services and more. We're also insurance repair specialists.
 Ph: 03 8637 5060
 Website: www.roadtrek.com.au

SYDNEY CARAVAN REPAIRS

Family-run business with excellent reputation for customer service and quality repairs. Pickup and delivery.
 Phone: 1800 111353
www.sydneycaravanrepairs.com.au

TOWING COURSES

PURPLE BRIDGE; TOOWOOMBA REGION, QLD

Our Trailer and Caravan Awareness Courses will ensure clients understand the legal requirements to satisfy state road legislation. They provide a wealth of technical information, handy hints, and advice.
 Ph: 0418 656 121
purplebridge.com.au

ADELAIDE TRAILER TRAINING

Our 'Safe Trailer Towing' course teaches you how to tow an RV safely, and includes both Theory and Practical elements. Specific training in reversing is also available.
 Mob: 0413 778 812
www.adelaidetrailertraining.com

LOW 4 OFF ROAD TRAINING; MAREEBA, QLD

We offer hands-on 4WD adventure training courses, caravan and trailer courses and various off-road skill training. Prepare for your next adventure with us!
 Mob: 0472 704 174
www.low4offroad.com.au

GN SERVICES

MOBILE WEIGHBRIDGE

GO WEIGH; VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN AUSTRALIA

Offers a specialist caravan weighing solution which provides a comprehensive report. Licensed by the Australian Government to operate our weighing services.

www.goweigh.com.au

ACT/NSW

CAPITAL VEHICLE WEIGHING; ACT / NSW

Our weight safety compliance service gives customers a professional and analysis of their weight compliance.

Phone: 0458 535 834

www.capitalvehicleweighing.com.au

GET-A-WEIGH; CENTRAL COAST, LAKE MACQUARIE, NEWCASTLE & HUNTER VALLEY, NSW

Offers mobile vehicle weighing services & detailed weigh and balance reports.

www.getaweigh.com.au

MOBILE CARAVAN AND CAR WEIGHING

Byron Bay to Kempsey; Armidale to Toowoomba. 30 years experience.

Ph: 0499 770 864

E: Mcsweeneyranch1@gmail.com

CHECK WEIGHT

Mobile caravan weighers from Sydney and the Illawarra to Port Macquarie & Goulburn, NSW. Our goal is to ensure caravan owners travel safely and legally

Ph: 0419 693 975

www.checkweight.com.au

RIGHT WEIGH MOBILE WEIGHING

Lismore to Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour to Tamworth. We are caravan and car weighing specialists.

Ph: 0493 556 505

rightweightmobileweighingservices.com.au

NT

THE TERRITORY WEIGH

The NT's only vehicle, caravan boat & trailer mobile weighing company. We aim to fix any compliance issues.

Ph: 0459 972 832

www.ttweigh.com.au

MOBILE SAFE WEIGH; RURAL WA, NT AND SA

Provides a mobile weighing service. Provide professional advice to clients concerning weight combinations.

Ph: 0434 919 236

E: info@mobilesafeweigh.com.au

www.mobilesafeweigh.com.au

QLD

SAFE WEIGH

Rockhampton and other areas of QLD We come give you a detailed report.

Ph: 0407 634 924

www.safeweighqld.com.au

PURPLE BRIDGE; TOOWOOMBA REGION, QLD

Our Caravan Weighing Service will help ensure your trip is fully legal. We can advise on redistribution if required.

Cost: From \$200

Ph: 0418 656 121

purplebridge.com.au

ONLY WEIGH MOBILE WEIGHBRIDGE;

Servicing S/E QLD and northern NSW. Provide live and accurate data to set up your tow vehicle and caravan.

Dave 0484 067 246

Email: info@onlyweigh.com.au

WEIGH STATION, SE QLD

Full mobile weighing services.

Contact Aaron - 0409 123 544 or

aaron@weighstation.com.au

www.weighstation.com.au

WEIGHBOSS

Offering Vehicle, Caravan, Trailer or Boat weighing. Mobile Service in Mount Isa region.

Contact Travis - 0439 437 000 or

travis@thebossshop.com.au

www.weighboss.com.au

WEIGH CHECK GYMPIE

Servicing Sunshine and Fraser Coasts, QLD. A mobile vehicle weighing service comes to you.

Ph: 0439 902 809

www.weighcheck.com.au

THE TRAVELLING WEIGH

Currently in Brisbane/SEQ. We are a true mobile weighing service currently travelling Australia full time.

Ph: 0402 480 973

www.ttweigh.com.au

ROCKHAMPTON CARAVAN WEIGHTS & ALIGNMENTS

Rockhampton region. More than 40 years experience. Let us check your rig weight and wheel alignments.

Ph: 0412 581 571

Facebook page: [Click here](#)

WEIGHT SAFE

Mobile caravan weighing from Bundaberg to Gympie. Weight compliance and load distribution specialists.

Ph: 0491 190 512

www.weightsafe.com.au

VIC

YOUR TOW WEIGHT, VIC

Servicing metro Melbourne, Mornington Peninsula, Gippsland and more. We offer a complete weight analysis with results provided in simple to read report.

Andy: 0419 380 230

www.yourtowweight.com.au

WEIGH STATION

Weigh Station provides mobile weighing of your caravan, tow vehicle or boat.

Melbourne & regional VIC Contact Dion

on 0419 516 237

www.weighstation.com.au

GEELONG CARAVAN WEIGHING

Servicing Great Geelong Bellarine and Surfcoast areas, we provide mobile service to weigh your vehicle and caravan and offer a comprehensive report.

Ph: 0493 392 510

www.geelongcaravanweighing.com.au

BE WEIGHT SAFE

Servicing Melbourne metro and regional VIC. Mobile weighing service. We also supply and install Weight Distribution Hitches and Blackjack Trailer jacks.

Ph: 0409 560 685

www.beweightsafe.com.au

NOMAD MOBILE CARAVAN AND VEHICLE WEIGHING

Currently in central VIC. We offer a comprehensive and accurate mobile vehicle weighing services at great value.

Ph: 0481 834 900

www.nomadcaravanweighing.com.au

WA

VAN WEIGH

Perth, Mandurah, Rockingham areas, WA; Townsville area QLD. We come to you with 4 years of experience

Ph: 0429 080 444

vanweigh.com.au

SOUTH WEST CARAVAN WEIGHING

Servicing all areas in the Southwest of WA. We come to you using the latest wireless technology weighing system.

Ph: 0499 601 784

www.swcaravanweighing.com.au

WEIGH MY CARAVAN

Yanchep, WA. We offer: a) Vehicle Weighing - cars, vans and boats. b) Diesel heater supply and installation. c) WiTi Security Systems

Ph: 0491 015 621

www.weighmycaravan.com.au

ANNEXES / CANVAS

AFFORDABLE RV AWNINGS; VARIOUS LOCATIONS ON EAST COAST AND TAS

We specialize in producing Australian-made custom awning vinyls that are built to withstand the harsh Australian climate.

www.affordablervawnings.com.au

ANNEXE SOLUTIONS; MITTAGONG, NSW

We can make and fit new or replacement awning vinyls and draft skirts while you wait. High quality custom made annexes are our specialty.

www.annexesolutions.com.au

Phone 0412 470 340

WORMALD CANVAS; GOLDEN GROVE, SA

All your Awning and Annex requirements from repairs, reskins to suit your requirements.

www.wormaldcanvas.com.au

Ph: 08 8288 7788

RV STORAGE

EPIC STORAGE

Safe secure storage options for motorhomes, cars, boats, caravans. Mention the GN's and save 50% off your 1st month storage. Conditions apply

PH: 08 8244 8151

Address: Albert Park SA 5014

www.epicstorage.com.au

KOAH STORAGE

Car, Caravan, RV, Campers. In Steel Shed or open, short or long term. Safe and secure, Caretaker on site.

Mob: Karl, 0417 435 677

Email: karlkaegi@gmail.com

PERTH CARAVAN STORAGE

Our secure storage facility is equipped to accommodate your caravan motorhome, boat or RV when you are not travelling. High-quality safe environment for your storage needs.

www.perthcaravanstorage.net.au

RV CONVERSIONS

FREEDOM CAMPERS, PERTH, WA

WA's leading one-stop shop helping people enjoy the freedom of travel and accommodation, to experience what this beautiful country has to offer.

Ph: 0424 300 734

Website: freedomcampers.com.au

ROADTREK; EXPERT RV CONVERSION SPECIALISTS;

Craigeburn, VIC. Over 16 years of industry experience. We specialise in transforming vehicles into your ideal home on wheels.

Ph: 03 8637 5060

Website: www.roadtrek.com.au

TRAVEL AND TOURS

VALLEY WINE TOURS

Relax and let us show you the best of the Clare Valley and/or Barossa Valley. Enjoy an authentic tour experience and see more in a day than you would in a week of self-driving.

www.valleywinetours.com.au

M: (Charles) 0416 235 580

MURRAY RIVER PADDLE-STEAMERS

We embark on a journey to create unforgettable experiences on the majestic Murray River. Our services offer a unique way to explore the beauty of Australia's iconic waterway.

www.murrayriverpaddlesteamers.com.au

OUTBACK AUSSIE TOURS

Explore Outback Queensland with Outback Aussie Tours, a multi-award winning operator for over 35 years. Join us for a journey of a lifetime.

outbackaussietours.com.au/

Phone: (07) 4658 3000

BRISBANE FLIGHT CHARTER

Tired of driving? We run small group air safaris to many of Australia's iconic towns and natural wonders. Need a charter flight, we do that too!

brisbaneflightcharter.com.au

Phone: 0407 059 285

GN FRIENDLY CAMPSITES

NEW SOUTH WALES

HAZELVALE STATION CAMP-GROUND, BROKEN HILL, NSW

80km east of Broken Hill on Barrier Highway. Hot showers, flush toilets. Pet friendly. Unpowered site \$25, Powered \$35. [Click here.](#)

LEVENVALE FARM; BELL-INGEN, NSW

Immerse yourself in nature and relish in the Bellingen shire. Feel a million miles away, yet only 5km into centre of town. Several campsites to choose from. [Click here.](#)

RIVERLAND PARK; GUNDERMAN, NSW

Secure, self-contained park situated on the Hawkesbury River. We offer long-term sites and a 'Tour Break' option for recreational vehicle owners. [Click here.](#)

QUEENSLAND

DAINTREE RAINFOREST VILLAGE; DAINTREE, QLD

Nature's own boutique camping experience at affordable prices. Powered and unpowered sites, immaculate facilities and tropical landscapes and vast mountain views. [Click here.](#)

HART HILL CAMPING; WARWICK REGION, QLD

Stunning 28 acres with huge panorama of flat alluvial ground. Modern amenities including hot showers, vanities and toilets. Access to firepits. Pets welcome. Fishing, kayaking, birdwatching and gold fossicking. [Click here.](#)

HOLD IT FLATS; MACKAY REGION, QLD

75km north of Mackay on the O'Connell River. Hot showers, flushing toilets, grassy sites and shady trees. Accessible by all vehicles; 2km off the highway. Pets welcome. [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](#)

IMBIL CAMPING RETREAT; IMBIL, QLD

12 acres of shaded parklands ranging from secluded areas to open spaces for large groups. Powered and unpowered waterfront sites. Wide range of activities including biking swimming canoeing and fishing. [Click here.](#)

RULES BEACH HOLIDAY PARK; RULES BEACH, QLD

Brand new beach front holiday park with luxurious grassed sites. Accommodates small and large rigs, some pet friendly sites. Modern amenities and camp kitchen. [Click here.](#)

OH DEER FARM STAY; MACKAY REGION, QLD

Beautiful flat sites for all types of rigs. Powered and unpowered sites available. 45 minutes from Mackay, easy access from highway. [Click here.](#)

WESTERN CREEK CAMPING GROUND; FORSAYTH AREA, QLD

Offers quiet, peaceful and relaxing bush setting with plenty of space. Unpowered sites suitable for all types of rigs. Campfire allowed. Pets welcome. Amenities block with hot showers, flushing toilets. [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.](#)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

HUMMOCKS STATION; SNOWTOWN, SA

15 Powered sites; including 7 drive through. Spectacular bush camping areas (unpowered). Modern ablution block, laundry facilities. Great walking and cycle paths nearby. [Click here.](#)

EDEOWIE STATION; FLINDERS RANGES, SA

Working sheep and cattle station offering several types of accommodation including powered/unpowered caravan sites and bush camping. Great base to explore the region. Enjoy the serenity and amazing views. [Click here.](#)

CARTAPO CREEK HOBBY FARM; MID NORTH, SA

Nomad friendly farm with spacious off-grid sites suitable for all sizes of rigs. Wide range of native wildlife, clear star-filled skies, spectacular sunsets. [Click here.](#)

CORDOLA CAMPING & RECREATION; MORGAN, SA

Privately owned campground offering a perfect mix of traditional family camping experience with a little extra at affordable price. [Click here.](#)

HEGGIES HILL BUSH CAMP, TARCOWIE, SA

Located high up in the Southern Flinders Ranges, our camp is hidden away on a working farm. Set up camp amongst trees and kangaroos, enjoy your campfire with incredible views. \$16 pp/pn. [Click here.](#)

COONWARRA BUSH HOLIDAY PARK; PENOLA, SA

200 acres of virgin bush with bushwalking trails to enjoy. Powered sites (from \$40 per night for two people) and unpowered sites (from \$30 per night for two people available). [Click here](#)

MOOLOOLOO STATION; FLINDERS RANGES, SA

Working sheep station not far from Blinman. Various options for camping and accommodation; some accessible to conventional vans, others need 4WD. Bookings essential. [Click here](#)

MERN MERN STATION; FLINDERS RANGES, SA

Working sheep and cattle station 30km north of Hawker. Breathtaking sunsets. Secluded campsites at \$30 per night per car. [Click here.](#)

ALPANA STATION; BLINMAN, SA

Proud member of Station Stays SA. We offer several scenic camping options from basic bush camping to powered ensuited sites. [Click here.](#)

YABBIE FARM BUSH CAMP FLINDERS RANGES, SA

Bush camping on a sustainable yabbie farm. Campers must be self-sufficient. \$6/night per person. We also offer yabbie experience. [Click here.](#)

CATNINGA CAMPING & ACCOMMODATION; FLINDERS RANGES, SA

A hidden gem in the Flinders Ranges, with private bush campsites and B&B accommodation available. Magnificent views of Flinders Ranges and Spencer Gulf. [Click here.](#)

MIKKIRA STATION KOALA SUNCTUARY; PORT LINCOLN, SA

The best place to see wild kolals up close. Bush camping, no set sites. Shelter Shed, Toilets and Hot Shower but no Power. [Click here.](#)

AUBURN COMMUNITY CARAVAN PARK; AUBURN, SA

Delightful community run park offers 14 powered sites and 30 unpowered sites set in beautiful park-like setting in the Clare Valley. Walking distance to unique village of Auburn. [Click here](#)

TASMANIA

CRADLE MOUNTAIN FISHERY AND CAMPING; CRADLE MOUNTAIN, TAS

Enjoy camping overlooking our picturesque dam and bushland. Powered and unpowered sites available. [Click here.](#)

HILLCREST TOURIST PARK; STIEGLITZ, TAS

Powered and unpowered sites which provide ample space. Safe bay beaches within minutes' walk, awesome surf beaches within minutes' drive. Easy access to boat ramps. [Click here](#)

VICTORIA

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.](#)

MONTARA WINES; GRAMPIANS REGION, VIC

Captivating panoramic views of plains mountains and vines. Each campsite is spacious valuing the privacy of each guest. Camp kitchen, toilet. Pizzas, cocktails beer and wine available at cellar door. [Click here.](#)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CHEELA PLAINS STATION; PILBARA REGION, WA

Family owned working cattle station offering shady campsites, large firepit, cafe, restaurant, ablutions, plenty of drinking water and 4WD tracks. Powered and unpowered campsites. Also wilderness camping for those wanting to get off the beaten track. [Click here.](#)

WARROORA STATION; NINGALOO COAST, WA

Cattle station offering a unique fusion of rugged outback charm and breathtaking coastal beauty. Just an hour south of Coral Bay. Pet friendly. [Click here.](#)

MOUNT HART WILDERNESS LODGE; WEST KIMBERLY, WA

Just 50km off the Gibb River Road, the ultimate basecamps to explore the West Kimberley. Set up camp in the Shady Campground situated on the banks of the Barker river. \$30/night per adult. [Click here.](#)

NANNUP LAVENDER CAMP-GROUND; BLACKWOOD VALLEY REGION, WA

We invite you to stay on our farm and share our lifestyle. We have 3 flat semi shady grassy areas and also a hard base site close to amenities and 1 x self contained caravan spot near our dam with or without power. [Click here.](#)

STARGAZERS COMMODATION & FARM; PEMBERTON, WA

Rustic, ensuite sites set up for all types of rigs. Each site has hot water rain shower, toilet, bbq, fire large floor mat and undercover wooden deck space. Pet friendly. [Click here](#)

THE VALLEY TAVERN NABAWA, GERALDTON, WA

Fantastic spot to pull in fleax and enjoy the serenity. Pub and cafe open all day. Bring your telescope (we hold regular astronomy nights). [Click here.](#)

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