



# The Wanderer

The Official Bulletin of the Queensland Caravan Club Inc

## “Fellowship on Wheels”

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### The President's Prattle

Even the wet weather could not dampen the spirits of members, visitors and guests at our December rally at Beaudesert. My observation was that everyone enjoyed the fellowship of fellow members at the rally.

The entertainment package provided by our very talented musicians and choir during the Christmas dinner was first class.

I am pleased that members have given the Management Committee approval to increase our membership fees to a level that ensures overhead costs are adequately covered. This will ensure a sound financial position for the club into the future.

On behalf of the Management Committee I wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

I wish you all safe travel and hope to catch up with many of you at our January rally at Blackbutt.

The information contained in this bulletin is not necessarily the views of the President, the Committee, or the Editor.

All contributions are welcome and should be sent to the Editor, who reserves the right to omit, précis or amend the item without notice.

### Thank You

Firstly, our thanks to Rally Marshals Des McLeod, Roy Bridges, Les Buzza, Ray Caddies and Keith McCallum. Your assistance is appreciated.

And a special thank you to Santa, who came all the way from a secret location on the northside especially to visit us. Also, we thank Santa's lady helpers, Jenny & John Carroll.

We also thank Sue Baker for her beautiful work in decorating the Christmas cake. Doesn't she always produce such a work of art?

Desley & Alf Hinson also deserve a very big thank you for providing their big screen, and CCCQ for lending us their protective ramps.

Also, we have to thank all those ladies who provided the wool, knitted or stitched those lovely items displayed at Beaudesert for donation at the National Rally.

This month, we nominate Ray Caddies for a good neighbour notice. Without Ray's knowledge of the district and help, I suspect the Christmas party would have been a little less well equipped and certainly more expensive. Thanks neighbour.

We also have a good neighbour notice for Gwen Egen. When the original caterers cancelled at the last minute, Gwen pulled no punches to find suitable replacements at short notice.

# Rally at Blackbutt – January 2010

## How to Get There

Either – Continue on the Bruce Hwy north **past** the Buchanan Road/ Morayfield exit. At the next exit (Caboolture/Bribie Island/Kilcoy - Exit 152) there are 2 lanes that exit. Exit Bruce Hwy on the **right exiting lane**, which continues on to Kilcoy and D'Aguilar Hwy. Once on the road to Kilcoy and after going under the overhead bridge, move into the **left** lane, following the signs to Kilcoy. Follow the D'Aguilar Hwy through Wamuran, Woodford and Kilcoy, until you arrive at Blackbutt. Note – Blackbutt is approx 30 kms past the turnoff to Esk. \*\*

Or – From Ipswich Motorway, turn onto the Brisbane Valley Hwy. Continue through Esk and past the Toogoolawah turnoff. Turn **left** onto the D'Aguilar Hwy 17. Continue approx 30 kms until you arrive at Blackbutt. \*\*

\*\* You will see a War Memorial statue at the end of the shops. Turn **right** at the statue into Hart St. The showgrounds is approx 500 metres on your right.

## Rally Info (Needs, Emergencies, etc)

Rally dates: Official dates: 15 & 16 January 2011  
Arrive no earlier than Wednesday 12 Jan and depart no later than Wednesday 19 Jan.

<b>000 Emergency Details</b>	<b>Post Code</b>	<b>Blackbutt – 4306</b>
	<b>Directions</b>	<b>Blackbutt Showgrounds, Hart Street, off D'Aguilar Highway.</b>

Medical Needs: Timber Town Medical Centre, Coulson St (Main St) Blackbutt. Ph 4163 0023.

Site Contacts: Lyn Argent – Ph 4163 0999 / 0427 543 902 / 0428 908 334.

Club equip required: Kitchen equipment and urns, first aid, PA system, library & souvenirs, fire extinguisher, banner, flags and flagpoles.

Special needs: There may be a shortage of electricity, which is therefore only available for medical or special needs, or on first come first served basis. Please contact Des McLeod prior to the rally if you have a medical or special need. Showers are available.  
You may run your generators **between 10:00am and 4:00pm only** – please consider the noise level for your neighbours.

Rally Marshal Co-ordinator: Des McLeod – If you have a medical need to be close to the amenities, please contact Des on 5494 7832 or 0438 439 376 by the Monday prior to the rally. **If you do not phone and all sites near the amenities have been pre-allocated, a site near the amenities may not be available.**

Pets: Dogs allowed on a short leash only and under the control of owner.

Dump point:: Just outside the showgrounds.

Fees: Site Fees per night: \$5.00 per person unpowered or \$7.00 per person powered.  
Administration Fee: \$3.00 per caravan. Hall Hire: \$2.00 per caravan.

<b>Rally Programme – in brief</b>			(Remember to check the noticeboard at the rally for changes, particularly for any activities on Friday!)		
Sat:	9:15 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 7:30 pm	Morning tea (finishes 9:45 am) Meeting Meet for Tag-a-long Tour Fun Games Night	Sun:	8:45 am 9:15 am 9:30 am 10:00 am	Pay Treasurer Morning tea Meeting Management Committee Meeting
Social games of Disc Bowls all weekend. For a set to play, please contact Barry Gibson.					
Jenny Carroll and friends meet at each rally (time permitting) with their UFOs for a bit of craft and a bit of a chat. Please feel free to join them.					

**Programme Details** The tag-a-long tour sounds really great. Don't forget to pack a picnic lunch, as we'll stop for lunch at Jessie's Well Historical Park Precinct. We'll be shown highlights of the area, returning to the showground around 3:30pm.

## Club News

### Special Notices – PLEASE READ

- Club Membership Fees are due before 28 February 2011. Membership fees are \$40 per year for ordinary membership and \$25 per year for associate membership for 2011/2012.
- There is a QCC General Meeting at Blackbutt on Saturday 15 January. If you have any item to include on the agenda, you must provide it in writing to Secretary, Gwen Egen, no later than 9:00am on Friday 14 January. Remember, a minor issue can be raised at any meeting.
- Secretary Gwen is updating our records. Please contact her to ensure that the membership listing and emergency contacts information for you are correct.
- CCCQ AGM – nominations for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Committee positions close on Friday 25 February. If interested in nominating, please contact QCC Secretary Gwen for a Nomination Form.
- 15<sup>th</sup> National Rally in 2013 at Rockhampton – nominations for the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer close on Friday 25 February. If interested in nominating, please contact QCC Secretary Gwen for a Nomination Form.
- If you have nominated to receive *The Wanderer* by e-mail, it is vital you advise any change to your e-mail address as soon as possible – or you may not receive *The Wanderer*!
- For info on CCCQ, their website address is <http://sites.google.com/site/caravanclubsqld/>.
- All persons on a QCC rally site, i.e. both members and visitors, must sign the Attendance Book.

### Special General Meeting – December 2010

- Club Membership Fees will increase for the 2011/2012 year to \$40 per year for ordinary membership and \$25 per year for associate membership.
- The current system of information shown on the Membership List that is issued to all members will continue. This means that members' names, addresses, phone numbers, etc., will be issued to other members, unless the member specifically requests otherwise. Members are reminded that they are not authorised to show/give these lists or part thereof to anyone, without written permission from the Management Committee.
- A decision at the April 2010 General Meeting regarding QCC running a separate Ladies' and Men's Disc Bowls Competition has been withdrawn. Future Disc Bowls Competitions will be as organised by the Entertainment Co-ordinator and the type of competition will not be pre-specified.

### Future Rallies

#### 2011 Rally Sites

Feb	12&13	Crows Nest Caravan Park	Aug	13&14	Nambour Showgrounds
Mar	12&13	Kenilworth Showgrounds	Sep	10&11	Canungra Scout Camp (bush rally)
Apr	9&10	Dayboro Showgrounds	Oct	12-19	CCCQ State Rally, Maryborough
May	30/4-2/5	Pittsworth Showgrounds	Nov	12&13	Coolum Caravan Park
Jun	4&5	Darlington Park (bush rally)	Dec	3-4	Gatton Showgrounds
Jul	9&10	Killarney Showgrounds (tentative)			

**Please ensure you check the list above each month in case there is any change.**

## Caravan Safety

Neil Chesney spoke to us at length on some caravan safety issues that have been brought to his attention. Thank you, Neil, for sharing this information with us.

A number of drawbar failures have recently been reported on caravans between the Hayman Reece bracket and the front cross-member. What is the cause? We have to understand that the Hayman Reece bars create additional stress on the drawbar. Firstly, the drawbar must be manufactured to withstand this additional stress that the bars create. Secondly, it depends on the tension the bars place on the drawbar. Whatever the cause, however, it is very important to include inspection of the drawbar for cracks as an integral part of our regular caravan checks. Should a crack be found, usually in the bottom chord of the drawbar, the entire drawbar must be replaced. Welding the existing drawbar is okay as a temporary measure, but long term it will most likely only shift the problem.

Electronic Stability Control (ESC) is coming onto the market in new motor vehicles. Please be aware that at this stage it is unknown how the ESC affects the workings of the caravan brakes. So, if you are buying a new towing vehicle, please be aware.

Many caravanners attach their safety chains in one long loop, which is a very unsafe practice. Safety chains must be shackled in such a way that they do not at any time allow the drawbar to come in contact with the ground if the coupling becomes disconnected from the car.

It is now mandatory in NSW that vehicles with Electric Breakaway Systems (over 2000kg GTM) must have an audible or visual system in the towing vehicle that proves the caravan brakes can hold for the required 15 minutes. It is only a matter of time before this is mandatory in Queensland. More on this when it becomes available.

## GoVia

It has come to my attention that if you are registered to use GoVia on the tollways, you should register your caravan and/or trailer separately from your towing vehicle. The reason is that, if the transponder (electronic windscreen reader) fails to work when you travel a tollway, a photograph is taken of the front and back of your vehicle. If the front and back registration numbers do not match (i.e. if you are towing a caravan/trailer), it creates a problem. Remember, this is only if the transponder fails to work.

However, to avoid possible messy explanations with authorities and potential fines, it is better to register your caravan and/or trailer in addition to registering your towing vehicle for toll. You can do this either by phone (1300 46 842) or internet ([www.govia.com.au](http://www.govia.com.au)). There is no fee for registering your caravan/trailer and it will not cost you extra in toll. The caravan/trailer can be registered against a number of towing vehicles.

## Member News

### New Members & Member Milestones

Please welcome new members, Terry & Carolyn Coxall, who were inducted at Beaudesert. We hope to see them at many more rallies in the future.



**Peter & Lorraine Perry**

We also welcome back Peter & Lorraine Perry, who have returned to the best club in Queensland, which of course is the best state. They first joined QCC in December 1999, but had to leave the club and Queensland when Peter was transferred to NSW. In their earlier life with QCC, both Peter and Lorraine were very involved members, Peter having been Convenor and Lorraine Secretary.

Merv & Barbara Cook have been awarded for reaching 50 rallies! Merv thanked everyone who helped make the good times.



**Terry & Carolyn Coxall**



**Merv & Barbara Cook**

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**Birthdays – January**

*Happy birthday to you*

1 <sup>st</sup> Les Buckley	12 <sup>th</sup> Elva Stacey	15 <sup>th</sup> Bryan Davies
1 <sup>st</sup> Keith Burgess	12 <sup>th</sup> Jeanette Walker	20 <sup>th</sup> Terry Park
1 <sup>st</sup> Ian Egen	13 <sup>th</sup> Kevin Day	21 <sup>st</sup> Yvonne Lowrie
5 <sup>th</sup> Syd Forster	13 <sup>th</sup> Bill Waycott	25 <sup>th</sup> Pauline Norris
5 <sup>th</sup> Dennis Lowe	13 <sup>th</sup> Elaine Whittaker	30 <sup>th</sup> Brian Sheehan
7 <sup>th</sup> Warren Hiller	14 <sup>th</sup> Don Campbell-Stewart	31 <sup>st</sup> Gwen Egen
11 <sup>th</sup> Dawn Dukes		

**Anniversaries – January**

*Happy anniversary to you*

5 <sup>th</sup> Sue & Rod Kopp	10 <sup>th</sup> Jenny & John Carroll	16 <sup>th</sup> Elaine & Paul Whittaker
9 <sup>th</sup> Irene & Ron Cuthbert	15 <sup>th</sup> Sue & Gordon Baker	30 <sup>th</sup> Beryl & Sid Goddard

**Other News**

Our sunshine lady, Denise Waycott, needs a little sunshine herself. She has had a stint inserted, but still managed to come to Beaudesert very soon afterwards. We were pleased to give her a lovely spray of flowers, hopefully helping to bring a little sunshine back.



Terry Jorgensen has had an operation on his nose. He visited us at Beaudesert and said that the operation went well.

Margaret Colston has been unwell. She is on the mend and it was good to see her at Beaudesert.

We expected to see Val King at Beaudesert, but unfortunately she had hurt her back. Hopefully you'll be back on your feet again soon.

Kathy Kearney planned on coming to Beaudesert in the van with Val. However, she was still very keen to come and so bought a tent, camping nearly underneath Des & Jenny McLeod's annexe. We're pleased you came Kathy.

6.30 pm on 18th November announced the arrival of Pippi Rachael, Ken & Del McNab's second great granddaughter. "Parents and grandparents are doing well", so I'm told.

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## E-mailing *The Wanderer*

We have commenced sending *The Wanderer* by e-mail to those who choose this method. At present 97 are e-mailed, and I am pleased to report that the process is going very well.

An advantage of receiving *The Wanderer* by e-mail is that often it will be received 3 or 4 days before those posted. Another benefit to many travelling members is that you can receive *The Wanderer* while you are on the road, without waiting for your mail to be on-forwarded. And, I trust, *The Wanderer* is visually more pleasant in colour.

Some members voiced concerns about their e-mail addresses being public. Consequently, the e-mail addresses are entered via "b.c.c.", thus ensuring the recipients' anonymity. We always try to satisfy our members' requests.

I enjoy making *The Wanderer* as attractive as possible. This is easier to do when I'm not limited to using only black and white – it's amazing what you can do with a little bit of colour. Of course, I have to select colours that will also print well in black and white.

What do you think of the electronic *The Wanderer*? I'd love to receive your comments.

We all know that it is a great cost saving to the club when we e-mail *The Wanderer*. But, I wonder if you realise how much work it saves the Editor. So, I thank you for the opportunity to make *The Wanderer* look more attractive, at the same time relieving me of much of the laborious folding of all those bulletins.

*Wendy Gibson*

## And Santa Came to Beaudesert

69 caravans, including two visitors, came to our December rally to celebrate QCC's Christmas Party in Beaudesert.

Beaudesert is like an old friend; we all know it so well. This has always been an excellent site for us, with lots of facilities.

We were in a different hall this time and the "new" hall is a bit smaller than the "old" one, but the "old" one was far too large for our needs anyhow. The new hall had oodles of space and all the facilities we would ever need. It's got my "thumbs up".

All the local Show Society staff and, in particular, the man on the ground, David, could not have been more helpful.

We had, of course, plenty of rain and there was lots of mud baths around, but all in all everyone seemed to take it all in their stride and get on with having a great weekend.

Although the main show was on Saturday night, music lovers came down to the hall on Thursday and Friday nights to listen to the musicians do their sound checks and have a bit of a music jam.



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Ray Steele says he had 16 players for Friday's "2-ball Ambrose" golf competition, despite the inclement weather. Last year's winner, Carmel Bridges, awarded the "crystal" trophy to the highest scoring team, Steve Langley & George Beresford. Congratulations to you both, and thanks Ray.



**2-Ball Ambrose Winners & "Crystal" Trophies**

Santa arrived on the back of a ute, alighting a little gingerly (staying on his feet I'm pleased to say). He distributed the pressies and lots of Christmas cheer to all with the traditional "ho, ho ho!"



**Santa, Jenny Carroll & Jessica**



**Some of the Revellers**



And how did you enjoy Saturday evening's entertainment? We had Christmas carols and other songs through the evening, with the lyrics displayed on the screen so all could join in the singing. And join in you did. A group of dancers also strutted their stuff.

The evening started out with *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*, performed by QCC's Management Committee (Eric Gall, John Carroll, Del Portelli, Gwen Egen, Sue Baker, Pat Davies, David Judge, Bill Waycott, Des McLeod, Tony Stephenson), accompanied by George Beresford on keyboard.

We were also entertained by:

- QCC Singers – Gordon Baker, Lorna Beattie, Trevor Bromley, Lyn Buzza, Heather Edney, Gwen Egen, Ngaire Gall, Reg & Stella Foster, John Gormly, Desley Hinson, Helen Judge, Kathy Kearney, Bev McCallum, Denise Sheehan, Jan Steele, Sue Stephenson, Margaret Styles and Marion Willmott),
- Solo vocalists – Trevor Bromley, Heather Edney,
- Solo vocalist and storyteller – John Beattie,
- *Transition* – Doug Jones [rhythm guitar and vocals], Keith McCallum [base guitar], John Rawlings [drums], and Marlene Rawlings [keyboard]],
- *The Ramblers* – Roy Bridges [sax] Barry Gibson [trumpet and vocals], Keith McCallum [base guitar], and Jenny McLeod [accordion]],
- and guests of *The Ramblers* – Sue Baker [keyboard], George Beresford [keyboard]],
- And, last, but not least, the travellers to the National Rally performed for the first time their entry for the National Rally.

Whew ... I need to take a breath after all that!



**Transitions, The Ramblers, and guests**

Our very distinguished judges, Rhonda & Shane Cooper from the caravan park next door, chose John & Jan Miers' van as the winner of the decorated caravan competition. Rhonda & Shane's prize was a hamper (donated by Del Portelli & Mike Mulvihill). Congratulations to you both! Your van was outstanding! And we gave our judges a little gift of thanks.



***John & Jan Miers with Decorated Van Prize***

Over two days, Ray Caddies bemused us with one of his "What do you think this is?" items (I think he does it because he doesn't know what they are and hopes someone can tell him!). Guesses around the hall were – tool used for opening high windows, getting mangoes off trees, opening gas lamps. The right answer came from Col Green – it is looped through a bull's nose, for leading the bull. "... And that's no bull".

And we also have to thank Des McLeod for providing and operating the sound equipment and Wendy Gibson for designing and operating the screens on Saturday night.

All of the entertainers deserve a big thank you for the evening. And last, but not least, we thank you, the audience, for contributing to the evening's enjoyment.

During the Saturday evening entertainment, the beautiful Christmas cake was cut by our longest serving members on site, Bob & Barbara Rutherford, aided by their granddaughter Jessica.



***The Cake and Bob & Barbara Rutherford with Jessica***

## **Members Present at the Rally**

Members – Gordon, Sue & Darren Baker; Ian & Gloria Bamberry; Bob & Lyn Barber; John & Lorna Beattie; Bert & Yvonne Beker; George & Merle Beresford; Bob & Betty Blakely; Roy & Carmel Bridges; Trevor & Nola Bromley; Keith & Heather Burgess; Les & Lyn Buzza; Ray & Gail Caddies; John & Jenny Carroll; Neil & Marie Chesney; Colin & Margaret Colston; Merv & Barbara Cook; Bryan & Pat Davies; Kevin & Carol Day; Bill & Ann Dobe; Barry & Pam Easter; Dennis & Heather Edney; Ian & Gwen Egen; Reg & Stella Foster; Frank & Rhonda Gaffney; Eric & Ngaire Gall; Les Gerrard & Anne Eddie; Ken & Joan Gethings; Barry & Wendy Gibson; John & Olwen Gormly; Geoff & Del Gray; Col & Janet Green; Rod & Bev Green; Warren & Margaret Hiller; Wayne & Vicki Hills; Alf & Desley Hinson; Stewart Hornibrook; Gordon Ison; Lionel & Mary Jacobson; Colin & Margaret James; David & Helen Judge; Doug & Eunice Keppie; Barry & Lee Kriedemann; George & Yvonne Lacey; Ross & Bindra Luscombe; Keith & Bev McCallum; Kem & Bev McDowall; Graham & Heather McIlvanie; Des & Jenny McLeod; Ken & Dell McNab; John & Jean Meagher; John & Janette Miers; Peter & Lorraine Perry; Tony & Lynne Pomroy; Del Portelli & Mike Mulvihill; John & Marlene Rawlings; Bob & Barbara Rutherford; Brian & Denise Sheehan; Adrian & Gayle Skinner; Tom & Jacky Smith; Trevor & Ngaire Smith; Ray & Jan Steele; Tony & Sue Stephenson; Bill & Kathy Styles; Peter & Margaret Styles; Bill & Denise Waycott; Bob & Marion Willmott; Ted & Carolyn Wynne.

2<sup>nd</sup> Time Visitors – Steve & Robyn Langley.

3<sup>rd</sup> time Visitors – Terry & Carolyn Coxall.

Day visitors – Doug Jones; Terry & Val Jorgensen; Kathy Kearney; Jessica Window.



## Lucky Winners

Raffle Prizes (all donated by QCC):

- The ten miniature Christmas trees with \$50 vouchers were won by John & Olwen Gormly, Colin & Margaret James, Bert & Yvonne Beker, Bill & Denise Waycott, Les Gerrard & Anne Eddie, Gordon Ison, John & Jenny Carroll, Tony & Lynne Pomroy, Bryan & Pat Davies and Col & Margaret Colston.
- The five Lions cakes were won by Merv & Barbara Cook, Ray & Gail Caddies, George & Merle Beresford, Graham & Heather McIlvanie and Bob & Barbara Rutherford..

Col & Janet Green, Bert & Yvonne Beker, John & Marlene Rawlings, Bob & Marion Willmott and Dennis & Heather Edney were the winners of the Lucky Van Numbers. Each couple have won a free night at the next non-caravan park rally they attend.

### A Word from Your Editor

If any member has performed some act of kindness, or been of help to you or another member of QCC, I'd like to know. Although it may not be expected by them, it's nice to recognise these good neighbours.

If you have any item that you would like to include in *The Wanderer*, please let me know.

Safe driving and see you at Blackbutt.

*Wendy Gibson.* 

### Quotable Quotes

Every house guest brings you happiness; some when they arrive and some when they are leaving – Confucius.

If shared problems lessen the burden, how come we get so upset in a traffic jam? – P K Shaw.

Never have children, only grandchildren – Gore Vidal.

Those who lose dreaming are lost – Australian Aboriginal Proverb.

Alcohol does not make you fat – it makes you LEAN – against tables, chairs, floors, walls ...



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## QCC Contacts 2010-2011

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Secretary:	Gwen Egen	Phone:	07 3355 9168
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Treasurer:	Sue Baker	Phone:	07 5496 7231
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Editor:	Wendy Gibson	Phone:	07 3888 0860
		Email:	qcceditor@acenet.net.au

## Emergency Numbers 2010-11

A – C	Eric Gall	07 3216 2447	M – P	Sue Baker	07 5496 7231
D – F	John Carroll	07 5596 8895	Q – S	Marj Kasper	07 5429 0236
G – J	Del Portelli	07 3813 5046	T – Z	David Judge	07 3289 2291
K – L	Pat Davies	07 3325 2681			



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