

Issue: 05/2020

Then official newsletter of the Queensland Caravan Club Inc



Email: editor@gldcaravanclub.com.au

QCC - Established 1949 **May / June 2020**

President's Report - May/June 2020

ur rally this month was to be at Pittsworth, but no one turned-up. A pity as Pittsworth is always a top place to have a rally with a very good venue in a great little town with lots of friendly people; but we will be back. Mark my words!

I do hope all my fellow members are well and are and very thankful for coping with this new world of corona virus that. restrictions and I am very-much looking forward to when we can all get back together at a rally. Our next rally should be at Samford in June, but unfortunately the rules still do not allow us to get together just yet.

Nice to see the Queensland Government bringingforward Stage Two of the restrictions from 10th Implementation of Stage June to 1st of June. Three on 10th of July will be the big one when gatherings of up to 100 people will be permitted.

Wondering how is everyone filling their time and has anyone started to plan future trips? Di and I want to do a trip down the coast to Melbourne and maybe over to Tasmania sometime next year or perhaps the year after. We would love to know what other members might have plans for.

Should any members have achieved a special project at home or have a good or interesting story to tell, do let Lance know by email or post it in the Queensland Caravan Club Facebook page.

I have been busy doing all the odd-jobs at home that I have always said, "no time to do that!", but

no excuse now, so all jobs are now done. Need new plans!

has been cleaning-out cupboards doing some and sewing, and we are both in good health

Speaking of odd-jobs; once had a mate who had a little dog named

'Carpenter' who was always doing little odd-jobs around the house. Busy little fellow!

Sadly, we had two members who have lost a son; Yvonne Robbins and Daryl Kays. We send our deepest sympathy to you both for your loss.

Remember we still have a while before we get through this difficult time, so as members, we are all one big family and we need to support each other. Feel-free to ring anyone even just for a chat. Similarly, I am always available if you need a chat or a bit of a laugh. Most important is to stay safe and obey the rules for there is a light at the end of the tunnel; we are halfway there.

Look after each other and take care.





From our most devoted Secretary



Great news in that the Committee has decided that the Esk rally, 5th - 11th August, will go Talks have taken place with management at the Esk Caravan Park who are very keen to have QCC.

Most importantly, members will be required to book in advance with a booking fee of \$39.00 applying. Unfortunately, the booking fee in nonrefundable, however, should you cancel, it will be held in credit for one year. Bookings may be

made by contacting the Esk Caravan Park on 07 5424 1466.

The Esk rally will be an important rally for the Club as it will allow the Club to hold its belated AGM which was to be held at the Pine Rivers rally in April. More about the Esk AGM in the upcoming editions of the QCC Wanderer. Beautiful PicturEsk Jewel of the Brisbane valley'

Member Profile ~ Pat and Greg Mander....

was born in in the UK and came to Australia in 1956 and Greg was born-and-bred in Ipswich. We both did our primary and secondary schooling in Ipswich and were at the same high school at the same time, but didn't know one another.

After Greg finished school, he started work as an apprentice electrical fitter and mechanic for Queensland Rail where he ended up working for forty-four and a half years. I worked in the Commonwealth Health Department for a number of years till after we were married and our children came along. Later I worked for Education Queensland as an admin officer at a high school for twenty-two and a half years. This was at the same high school that we both attended and which our two children also attended.

Greg and I met in 1967 and were married in 1969. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary last year while we were in Western Australia for the National Rally. We have two children; a daughter



Kim who is married, but unfortunately, with no children, but who does have two lovely fur kids. And a son, Mark, who is also married and has given us two gorgeous little grandsons who are the light of our little family. We lived in Ipswich for over 40 years before moving out to the Lockyer Valley when we retired.

We have been caravanning for almost 26 years now and just love spending time in our van and travelling around visiting many places. We have been very fortunate to have been able to travel all over Australia and are looking forward to getting out-and-about again very soon and are also looking forward to attending the next National Rally in Barmera, South Australia, in 2022.

We started clubbing in 2002 and thoroughly enjoy being members of a caravan club. We really look forward to attending club rallies every month and catching-up with the many friends that we have got to know.

Our lives have been truly enriched being able to make so many lovely friends throughout our caravanning journey and something which we hope to continue doing for many more years to come. Thank you for making us feel so welcome in QCC - we are looking forward to sharing many happy times together.

Pat and Greg.



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& J. A. Happy Birthday to you for June 2020 & J. A.

- 03 Karon Stevens
- 06 Linda Van Wyk
- 06 Tom Davis
- 06 Shane Graham
- 08 Lorraine Lowcock
- 09 Barry Lander

- 11 Jan Munro
- 13 Denise Farrell
- 14 Julie Swift
- 16 Bob Tebbit
- 19 Ian Bamberry
- 20 Margaret James
- 20 Jan Miers
- 22 Ken McNab
- 23 Denise Sheehan
- 26 Bev Green
- 28 Sylvia Stocker
- 29 Col Green



611 Happy Anniversary to you for June 2020 611 1

- 03 Dawn and Graham Dukes
- 04 Shirley and Graham Sheehan
- 05 Di and Paul Brearley
- 06 Gayle and Peter Johnston



- 07 Linda and Richard Van Wyk
- 11 Bev and Harold Liley
- 14 Denise and Ian Farrell
- 25 Sue and Tony Stephenson



From the Editor. Thank you to those same few who again contributed to this month's QCC Wanderer. The QCC Wanderer vs Facebook! Not a criticism, mind you, but it surprises me to see that members are quite liberal to post topics on Facebook, but not so liberal at contributing to the Wanderer. "Why is this so?", as the American physicist and television personality, Julius Sumner Miller, would continually say. Dunno;

Ah ... I've just had a little Julius Sumner Miller brainwave which leads me to a very short lesson in English. What is the difference in the meanings of the words 'continual' and 'continuous'? Best described/explained in

graphics: 'Continuous' = _____ and 'Continual' = _____. Hope this makes sense? I'm somewhat bored as is evident. Very difficult to write a report when there is nothing to write about.

Must say that I am looking forward to the Esk rally in August. Also looking forward to going to Sydney to seeing, for the first time, our new grandson who was born in early May. September maybe; unless I get a key to the border gate earlier.

The Jeep and the Lotus are both fired-up and ready to go. Both serviced and in top shape, although the van's two batteries are probably on the way out. Will survive on 240VAC for time being. Thinking of replacing the original Hardcore batteries with 'Full River' batteries which seem to have a good rapport. Not interested in lithium. Buying these would mean starving for six months!



Selecting the Best Tow Vehicle

Contributed by Barry Gibson

A layman's view on the selection of a suitable tow vehicle to legally tow a large caravan.

First lets be honest. Vehicles are designed to be load and passenger carriers with most of the load located between the front and rear wheels and rated by the manufacturer accordingly.

They are not designed to carry approximately 10% of their rated load capacity behind the rear bumper and then tow a caravan that can double the combination mass.

In other words selection of a tow vehicle is going to be a compromise.

What are the considerations for the towing vehicle?

<u>Tare or Kerb Weight.</u> The mass of the basic empty vehicle; no load, no driver or passengers, no accessories and often only 10 litres of fuel.

<u>GVM (Allowable Gross Vehicle Mass).</u> Weight set by the vehicle manufacturer; tare plus full tank of fuel, all accessories, canopy, tow bar and hitch, tow ball load, load, driver and passengers., etc.

<u>GCM (Allowable Gross Combination Mass).</u> Again set by the vehicle manufacturer; fully laden vehicle and laden caravan.

Rated Tow Capacity. Again set by the vehicle manufacturer. Note the tow bar and tow hitch fitted to the vehicle must also be rated and certified for the tow ball mass and caravan aggregate trailer mass (ATM) to be towed.

Another consideration; Rear Axle Load. This can be a concern with dual-cab utes where the bulk of the load and all of the tow ball mass is over the rear axle. In most cases it is impossible to spread the load to the front axle.

<u>Petrol or Diesel.</u> The new turbo intercooled diesel motors usually produce more torque (pulling power) at lower revolutions and are more fuel efficient when towing heavier caravans.

Automatic or Manual Transmission. Personal choice I guess, although I believe the newer computer-controlled multispeed automatic gearboxes provide more relaxing driving and towing always changing gears when needed. They also allow smooth movement from rest and easier manoeuvring especially when reversing a caravan.

The motor must be powerful enough to allow the vehicle and caravan combination to go with the flow in traffic, ie., to keep-up and not be a mobile slow roadblock. Power and torque of about 150kW and 500Nm are suggested.

Caravans also have mass or weight limits which may be set by the chassis manufacturer and the caravan manufacturer and specified on compliance plates on the chassis and caravan.

<u>Tare Mass.</u> The unladen mass of a caravan, no load, no water. no gas, no camp gear or bedding or food etc.

<u>GTM (Gross Trailer Mass)</u>. Is the gross legal mass supported by the wheels of a loaded caravan when it is coupled to a tow vehicle.

<u>ATM (Aggregate Trailer Mass).</u> Is the maximum legal loaded mass of a caravan when it is not connected to a tow vehicle. (GTM + TBM). Note caravan load includes gas, water in tanks and in hot water system and toilet, bedding, food,

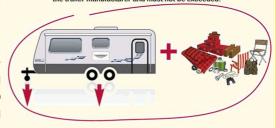
GVM - Gross Vehicle Mass The maximum allowable total mass of a fully loaded motor vehicle. It consists of the tare mass of the vehicle plus the load (including passengers and the towball download).

GCM - Gross Combination Mass



ATM - Aggregate Trailer Mass

The total laden weight of a trailer, which includes the tow ball mass and whatever you add as payload (eg. water, gas, luggage). The ATM is specified by the trailer manufacturer and must not be exceeded.

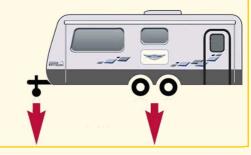


GTM - Gross Trailer Mass



Tare Mass

The unladen weight of the complete new trailer as delivered from the factory (including any factory fitted options)



drink, clothing and camp gear, annex walls and flooring, generators, and any external tool boxes or pole carriers added to the caravan.

Tow Ball Mass. The mass carried by the tow vehicle though the tow hitch when the caravan is coupled to the vehicle. The tow ball mass is usually about 10% of the caravans ATM. Thus a 3000kg caravan could be expected to have a tow ball mass of about 300kg. The tow ball mass is supported by the jockey wheel or other jacking system when the caravan is uncoupled from the vehicle.

All of the above must be considered when choosing a vehicle to legally and safely tow your caravan. For Example, most of the dual-cab 4X4 utilities have a tare mass of

2000kg to 2200kg, a GVM of 3000 to 3200kg, a GCM of about 6000kg, a tow ball mass of 300kg to 350kg and a tow rating of 3100kg to 3500kg.

At first glance it seems all is fine, but

Assuming the dual-cab vehicle is loaded for caravanning and travel.

GVM. Tare 2100kg, full tank fuel - 60kg, canopy - 80kg, bull bar - 50kg, winch - 35kg, fridge -20kg, camp gear - 100kg, drawers - 40kg, carton drink - 15kg, driver and passenger - 150kg, tow bar and hitch - 20kg, tow bar mass - 350kg. Total - 3020kg.

Should we wish to tow a 3500kg ATM caravan with 350kg tow ball mass the ute would be at or over maximum GVM of 3000kg. Note: A 3500kg ATM caravan would have a tow ball mass of about 350kg, therefore GTM 3500-350 = 3150kg.

The combination mass (GVM - 3000kg and caravan GTM - 3150kg). Total 6150kg would exceed the GCM rating of the vehicle.

This suggests it may not be possible to legally tow a 3500kg ATM caravan with a fully loaded dualcab ute.

Should the caravan be smaller with an ATM of 3000kg and 300 kg tow ball load the figures improve.

Vehicle GVM now 2950kg and caravan GTM 2700kg. Total = 5650kg.

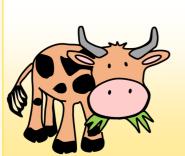
Both vehicle GVM and GCM would be legal.

Large 4X4 Station Wagons. The popular Landcruiser wagon is considered to be a premium tow vehicle with a 3500kg tow rating, a 350kg tow ball rating, and a GCM of 6850kg, but it does have a potential problem with GVM with a 3500kg / 350kg caravan.

Vehicle tare of 2630kg, fuel - 100kg, bull bar - 50kg, winch -35kg, fridge - 20kg, drawers - 40kg, driver and passenger -150kg, tow bar and hitch - 20kg, camp gear - 100kg, tow ball mass - 350kg. Total 3495 kg which is about 150 kg over vehicle GVM of 3350kg.

I understand there are after market suspension upgrades available to increase the GVM of these vehicles.

Good luck with your choice of vehicle. Did I here someone say



<u>RESTOCK THE FARM</u>

You are required to restock the farm. You must purchase exactly 100 animals (at least one of each animal type) and spend exactly \$100.00.

Animals are priced at:

- Cows \$10.00 each.
- Pigs \$1.00 each.
- Chickens 8 for \$1.00.



The weight imposed on the tow vehicle's tow ball by the coupling.



Articles from 1994

I have been spending much of my COVID-19 lockdown time reading through a lot of old QCC documents. I came across these ones from the March 1994 edition of *'The Wanderer'* that I thought I'd share with you. There is no mention of who wrote them.

Now tell me — do either of these relate to you?

Wendy Gibson Your Archivist



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Thought for the Week—It pays to listen

When they gave out brains, I thought they said "trains" — And I missed mine!

When they passed out looks, I thought they said "books" — And I didn't want any!

When they passed out noses, I thought they said "roses" — And I ordered a big red one!

When they passed out chins, I thought they said "gins" — And I ordered a double!

Boy am I a mess!

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What Is a Grandmother?

A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own.

She likes other people's little girls and boys.

A Grandfather is a man Grandmother. He goes for walks with the boys and talks about fishing and other stuff like that.

Grandmothers don't have to do anything except to be there.

They are old and they shouldn't play hard or run.

It is enough if they take us to market where the pretend horse is, and have lots of cents ready; or if they take us for walks, they should slow down past things like pretty leaves or caterpillars.

They should never say "hurry up!.

Usually Grandmothers are fat, but not too fat to tie your shoes.

They wear glasses and funny underwear.

They can take their teeth and gums off.

Grandmothers don't have to be smart, only answer questions like "Why isn't God married?", and "how come dogs chase cats?"

Grandmothers don't talk baby talk like visitors because it is too hard to understand.

When they read to us, they don't skip pages or mind if it is the same story once again.

Everyone should try to have a Grandmother, especially if you don't have television, because they are the only grownups who have TIME.



Sunshine Column

To those who have endured the loss of a dear one, ill health, hospitalisation, surgery or misfortune; the very best wishes to you all. We are thinking of you.

Yvonne Robbins, Daryl Kays. Pam MacDonald, George Lacey





You may experience irritability and pain in the hands and wrist...and that's just from trying to get the cap off."

MHO WW IS

Can you identify this QCC member?

I am three-score years old plus 10.

Listed below are the vehicles which I have owner

- 3 Holdens.
- 1 Bedford truck.
- 1 International truck.
- 2 Ford Cortings.
- 2 Ford Falcons.
- 1 Toyota Crona in this (ane!)
- 1 Toyotan Gurrys.
- 1 Toyota Corolla.
- 2 Toyota Hilux ute's.

- Mozdofina
- dri
 - 2 Nissan four-wheel drives.
- 3 Toyota four-wheel drives.
- 3 Boats of various descriptions.

Answer will be published in the May edition of the QCC Wanderer.

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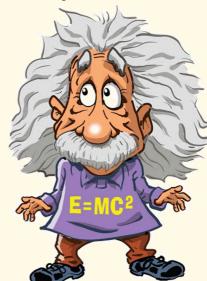
EINSTEIN'S RIDDLE

- 1. There are five houses in five different colours. In each house lives a person with a different nationality.
- 2. The five owners drink a certain type of beverage, smoke a certain brand of cigar, and keep a certain pet.
- No owners have the same pet, smoke the same brand of cigar or drink the same beverage.

The question is: Who owns the fish?

FACTS

- The Brit lives in the red house.
- The Swede keeps dogs as pets.
- The Dane drinks tea.
- The green house is on the left of the white house.
- The green house's owner drink coffee.
- The person who smokes Pall Mall rears birds.
- The owner of the yellow house smokes Dunhill.
- The man living in the centre house drinks milk.
- The Norwegian lives in the first house.
- The man, who smokes Blends lives next the one who keeps cats.
- The man who keeps the horse lives next to the man who smokes Dunhill.
- The owner who smokes Bluemasters drinks beer.
- The German smokes Prince.
- The Norwegian lives next to the blue house.
- The man who smokes Blends has a neighbour who drinks water.



SOME STATEMENTS by Dame Margaret Thatcher and Sir Winston Churchill. Some pithy statements from each of the above. Sources are from Google.

Contributed by Rodney Metcalfe

- Churchill was known for some of his short statements. Who could for-1. get:
- Never in the field of human endeavour have so much been owed by so a. many to so few, and
- Ь. I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat.

In addition –

- Politics is more dangerous than war, for in war you are only killed once.
- d. War is mainly a catalogue of blunders;
- An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile, hoping it will eat him last. e.
- It has been said that Democracy is the worst form of Government, except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time. f.
- Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality that guarantees all others.
- g. h. Some men see things as they are and say "why" . I dream things that never were and say "why not".
- 2. Dame Margaret Thatcher (known as the Iron Lady):
- In politics, if you want something said, ask a man, if you want anything a. done, ask a woman.
- You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it. b.
 - When people are free to choose, they choose freedom.
- d. I love argument. I love debate. I don't expect anyone just to sit there and agree with me – that's not their job.
- Disciplining yourself to do what you know is right and important, although e. difficult, is the highroad to pride, self- esteem and personal satisfaction.
- 3. A couple of others - Napoleon and President Ronald Reagan, respectively:
- In politics, stupidity is not a handicap. c.
- Government exists to protect us from each other. Where government d. has gone beyond its limits is in deciding to protect us from ourselves.

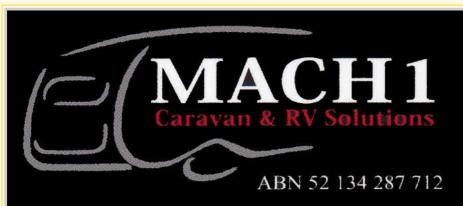


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