



# Q.C.C. Wanderer 'Fellowship on Wheels'

Historic Esk Railway Station  
Opened 1886  
Photo: Lance Haslewood

ESK



Vietnam Veterans' Day  
18 August 2020  
Remembering our Vietnam veterans and  
those in support.

**AGM to be held  
@ PITTSWORTH  
in September ...**



**July/August 2020 Edition**



Then official newsletter of the Queensland Caravan Club Inc

# Q.C.C. Wanderer

'Fellowship on Wheels'

Email: editor@qldcaravanclub.com.au

Issue: 07/2020

QCC - Established 1949

July/August 2020

## President's Report - Jul/Aug 2020 ....

I am getting so excited; really excited! Just several more sleeps to go before we converge on Esk for our first rally since March. It's been so long since we have had a rally, I've almost forgotten where we've been or how it all works. "So where was it we went to back in March? Ah, that's right, Allora!" Gawd; so long ago, I had to think about it for a bit!

I am very pleased to see the excellent roll-up for Esk and that we reached the prescribed tally of around 50 vans; give or take one or two. Let's hope the weather is kind and not too chilly.

Esk will be great for it will give us the opportunity to once again get together and enjoy each other's company; at the required physical distance, of course. Having said that, I guess we are all getting a little nervous at the current spread of the virus in Victoria and in some areas of New South Wales, and if it spreads further, will it impact on future planned club activities? Let's hope not, but only time will tell.

As the Esk Caravan Park is kindly providing entertainment on Saturday night, not a great deal is planned from a Club perspective, although Yvonne Robbins will be having her sewing class on Friday and Lyn Hill her Tai Chi classes on both Saturday and Sunday Morning. Not sure about the art class and bowls. Will have to wait and see. Details and requirements for sewing may be found on Page 6 of this newsletter.

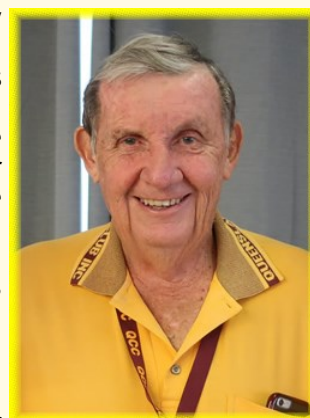
It was great to see many members getting out and about with their caravans over the past month or so, and enjoying the freedom we have so much longed for since the virus hit. Some quite interesting places and destinations were visited and also plenty of photographs and chatter, too, which appeared on Facebook.

I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone of our belated AGM which is planned to be held at the Pittsworth Rally in September. I encourage everyone to attend the AGM and support the Club at this most important time.

With the roads choking-up, and with the great grey nomad push on once again, be careful on the roads and take your time when travelling, including to Esk.

As you realise, not having any rallies makes it difficult to come-up with something to talk about. Not like me to be stuck for words!

Best wishes, good health and safe travels to you all and I look forward to catching-up at Esk next week.



President Paul ....

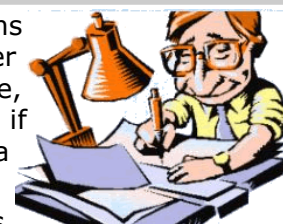
**From the Editor ....** Like the President, I'm getting excited, too, for it means that following the Esk rally, writing the next edition of the QCC Wanderer should be a lot easier. Over the past four months, my dear friend, Mr Google, has been of immense help. One day perhaps I'll get to meet him. However, if it were not for the input of a few, putting the newsletter together would be a lot more difficult.

Over the years, I have been the editor of a few newsletters of the various clubs to which I have belonged, and the job has never been a breeze. In the early days I was primarily a WordPerfect user, the industry-standard in word-processing. The might, and the 'take no prisoners' approach of Microsoft saw the demise of once a very popular package and many other applications to-boot. I swore I would never, ever use Microsoft, but here I am using Microsoft Publisher to compile the QCC Wanderer. What a turnaround? Suffice to say, I have spent a considerable sum over the years on WordPerfect and its updates. I still use it, for in a few ways, it is better in my opinion, to Word. Generally word processors, despite their capabilities, are not suited for newsletters due to their large megabyte file size.

With Facebook getting ever so popular with Club members, I often wonder if many QCC members have taken the time to visit the Club's website. Unlike Facebook, it is not interactive, but it contains information and photographs which are tabulated and therefore easy to find. A considerable amount of work went into putting the website together, so please give it a periodic glance.

Mea culpa .... such a boring report!

Editor Lance ....



**Next Rally ~ Esk, 05-11 August.** Arrive and depart as per your booking.

**From Brisbane (north and west):** Follow the Brisbane Valley Highway to Esk. The Esk Caravan Park is located at 16 Hassall Street. Proprietors, Jackie and Paul Lawson. Phone: 07 5424 1466.



**Nearest Hospital:** Esk Hospital, 30 Highland Street, Esk. 4312.  
Phone: 07 5424 4600. 24 hours.

**Nearest Doctor / Medical Centre:** Brisbane Valley Medical Services,  
17 Highland Street, Esk. 4312. 07 5424 1144. Open Monday-Friday  
from 8:00am-5:00pm. Saturday 8:00am-12 Midday.  
Sunday closed. (present to Esk Hospital if urgent  
medical attention needed or dial 000).

**Rally Venue Address:** 16 Hassall Street, Esk. 4312.

**Nearest Cross-Street:** Russell and Hassall Streets, Esk.

**Post Code:** 4312.



Club equipment required:	First aid kit, fire extinguisher, banner, flags and flagpoles.	
GPS Coordinates:	<b>DUMP POINT.</b> On site.	
Lat: 27.1419° S	<u>Arriving late or cannot attend!</u> Please let the Secretary know.	
Long: 152.2523° E	<b><u>Please do not drive over power leads or hoses.</u></b>	
Pets:	Permitted.	Dogs must be on a leash. Please pick-up after your pet.
Fees:	Administration fee:	\$3.00. When presenting to pay the administration fee, please endeavour to have the correct amount.

**Esk In Brief ....** Esk is located 100 km north-west of Brisbane via the M2 and the Brisbane Valley Highway. It is 63 km north of Ipswich and about 60 km south-west of Kilcoy. The town was named after the River Esk which runs from Dumfries and Galloway in Scotland to the Solway Firth in England. Esk is an interesting, predominantly timber and veranda-ed, historic town which nestles under Glen Rock and Mount Esk on the Brisbane Valley Highway and is notable for its historic timber shops, churches and houses. The town has a number of significant historic buildings in an area which boasts the remarkable and elegant Bellevue Homestead - a fine example of an affluent Queensland home from the late 19th century.

The town was established to service the short-lived copper mines of Eskdale and Cressbrook Creek. Settlers moved into the region during the 1840s. Mount Esk Post Office opened on 1 February 1874 (a receiving office had been open from 1873) and was renamed Esk by February 1881.

Prior to European settlement the area had been occupied by people from the Waka Waka Aboriginal language group. The first explorer into the region was Allan Cunningham who, on 5 July, 1829, collected botanical samples around the present site of Esk.

For those who enjoy getting active in the outdoors, the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail is a must visit. Explore the disused rail corridor which connects Esk to the towns of Coominya and Toogoolawah.

The old Esk Railway Station was built in 1886 and today it's a popular meeting spot for groups using the trail, as well as history buffs who like to reminisce the days when the old steam trains used to pull into the station.



**The Club Hotel in Ipswich Street - a typical Queensland pub.**

*Happy Birthday to You for August 2020*

02 Terry Coxall	14 Mackenzie Thorogood	25 Colin Fitzgibbon
02 Kem McDowall	16 Eugene Boyle	27 Vicki Hills
05 Linda Reedy	17 Denise Park	27 Denise Waycott
07 Beres Abraham	17 Olive Jones	28 Helen Hornibrook
08 Kevin Gower	17 Margaret Thomas	28 Patrick Hetherman
10 Heather Edney	18 Ray Steele	29 Yvonne Becker
10 Kathy Kearney	20 Paul Bruno	31 Neil Chesney
10 Peter Versace	21 Jim Thorpe	
11 John Rider	21 Des McLeod	



*Happy Anniversary to You for August 2020*

09 Lyn and Les Buzza	20 Jenni and Murray McGowan
12 Laurel and Roger Adams	22 Margaret and Daryl Kays
12 Carol and Kevin Day	22 Bev and Rod Green
13 Margaret and Colin James	22 Margaret and Stan Thomas
14 Sylvia and Eddie Stocker	28 Del and Phil Lowe
19 Bev and Keith McCallum	31 Jenny and Des McLeod



**At the Esk Rally ....**



1. Members must practice social and physical distancing at morning teas and throughout the entire rally.
2. Line-ups or groups congregating around the morning tea area to collect requisites for tea or coffee is be strictly avoided.
3. It is suggested that, for the COVID-19 duration, members bring their own drink and/or food to meetings/morning teas.
4. Members will be required to complete a COVID-19 Facts Sheet as soon as possible following arrival at the rally.



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**Rally Program for Esk ....**

Thursday 06 Aug	6:30am 6:30pm	Walkers. Pub Dinner (own arrangements).	
Friday 07 Aug	6:30am 07:00am 11:00am 1:00pm 2:30pm 4:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Walkers. Golf. Management Committee Meeting. Sewing Class (Yvonne Robbins). Bowls (pending). Happy Hour. Pub Dinner (own arrangements). Cards.	
Saturday 08 Aug	6:30am 8:00am 9:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm 7:00pm	Walkers. Tai Chi (Lyn Hill). Morning Tea. Meeting. Art Classes (Sue Baker (pending)). Dinner (own arrangements). Entertainment as provided by Esk Caravan Park.	 
Sunday 09 Aug	6:30am 8:00am 8:30am 9:30am 2:00pm 4:00pm 6:00pm	Walkers. Tai Chi (Lyn Hill). Pay Treasurer (\$3.00 admin fee). Meeting. Nana-Nap. Happy hour. Dinner (own arrangements).	

**IMPORTANT**

- \* Remember to check the rally noticeboard for any last minute changes to the published programme.
- \* Remember to sign the attendance book as soon as possible after arrival.
- \* Remember to indicate your planned attendance to the next rally by checking (ticking) the rally attendance sheet located at the Saturday/Sunday meeting.
- \* Kindly give a hand to stack the chairs and to sweep the hall following the Sunday meeting. Many hands make light work.

\* Have a UHF radio? If so, please give an inbound call (Ch 18) to the rally marshals so that your site placement may be both speedy, fluid and hassle-free.

\* Enjoy your time at Esk, join-in and participate. There is a lot to see and do in the area.



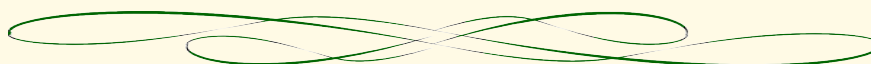
**QUEENSLAND CARAVAN CLUB INC**

To assist our efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we ask of the following:

- If you are feeling unwell, please re-assess whether you should be at the rally.
- Please remember to social distance at all times.
- Please complete the COVID-19 questionnaire provided by the venue or QCC.
- Please wash your hands with sanitiser provided.
- Please minimise what you touch.

Thank You

QCC Management Committee



**For the Interest of Members**

Advising that due circumstances associated with COVID-19, the committee has decided, that, in the best interest to members, there will be no library or DVDs available at the Esk rally.

In addition, it is requested when paying your \$3.00 administration fee and for raffle tickets, the correct sum be tendered.

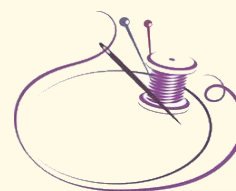


## 'Janome Club' Esk Craft Project with Yvonne Robbins

### 'Mesh Bag'

#### Material and Cuts

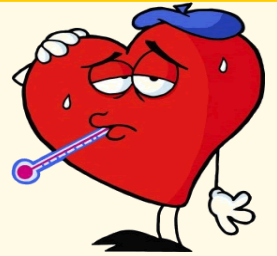
<b>MAIN FABRIC</b>	Cut one 7" strip the width of the fabric. Sub-cut this into two 7" x 14" pieces for front and back pockets. Also two 6" x 7" pieces for the side pockets.
<b>Outside Pockets</b>	
<b>MAIN FABRIC</b>	Cut two 6" x 14".
<b>Top Band</b>	Cut two 6" x 6".
<b>LINING FABRIC</b>	Cut one 7" strip the width of the fabric. Sub-cut this into two 7" x 14" pieces and two 6 x 7" pieces.
<b>Pocket Linings</b>	
<b>FUSIBLE FLEECE</b>	Cut one 7" strip. Sub-cut into two 7" x 14" pieces for the front and back pockets and two 6" x 7" for the side pockets.
<b>STRAPPING</b>	Three yards (108").
<b>VINYL SCREEN</b>	Cut a piece 28" x 36".
<b>PET MESH</b>	



Yvonne has purchased curtain fabric from Spotlight which is a thicker material than cotton for \$8.00. This will be sufficient to make two bags. Should anyone find these instructions difficult, don't worry as Yvonne will assist you at Esk. Those who have a walking foot, please bring it along, and also thread to match your fabric. Ladies, Yvonne has been doing some research with materials to make the mesh bag. As follows: Bunnings has pet mesh at \$30.00 for a 910mm x 2.5m roll which will easily make two bags. In the same aisle, but at the other end, there are 25mm x 10m rolls of webbing which is ideal for the straps. Also enough to make two bags. Remember, if you can find it cheaper elsewhere, Bunnings will beat it by 10%!



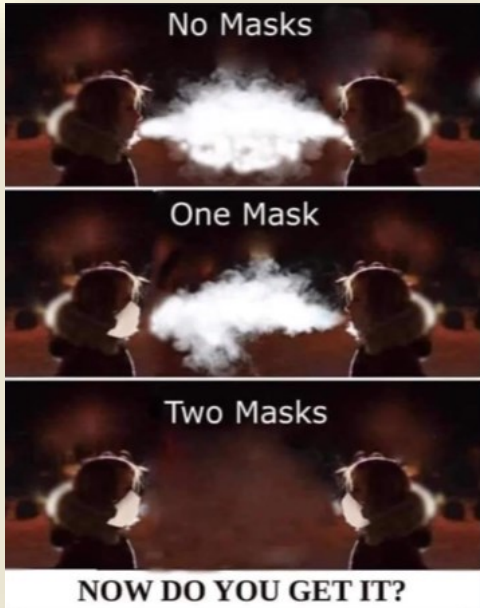
# Sunshine Column



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.

Pam MacDonald, Ray Steele.

Sincere apologies if we have missed anyone.



If the mountain seems too big today, then climb a hill instead.

If the morning brings you sadness, it's okay to stay in bed.

If the day ahead weighs heavy and your plans feel like a curse, there's no shame in rearranging, don't make yourself feel worse.

If a shower stings like needles and a bath feels like you'll drown, if you haven't washed your hair for days, don't

throw away your crown.

A day is not a lifetime, a rest is not defeat; don't think of it as failure, just a quiet, kind retreat.

It's okay to take a moment from an anxious, fractured mind; the world will not stop turning, while you get re-aligned.

The mountain will still be there when you want to try again, you climb it in your own time, just love yourself 'til then.

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## Why are disc brakes not usually fitted to caravans?



**T**hey've been around for years, but if you're banging a drum, you might ask, 'Why are disc brakes not usually fitted to caravans?'

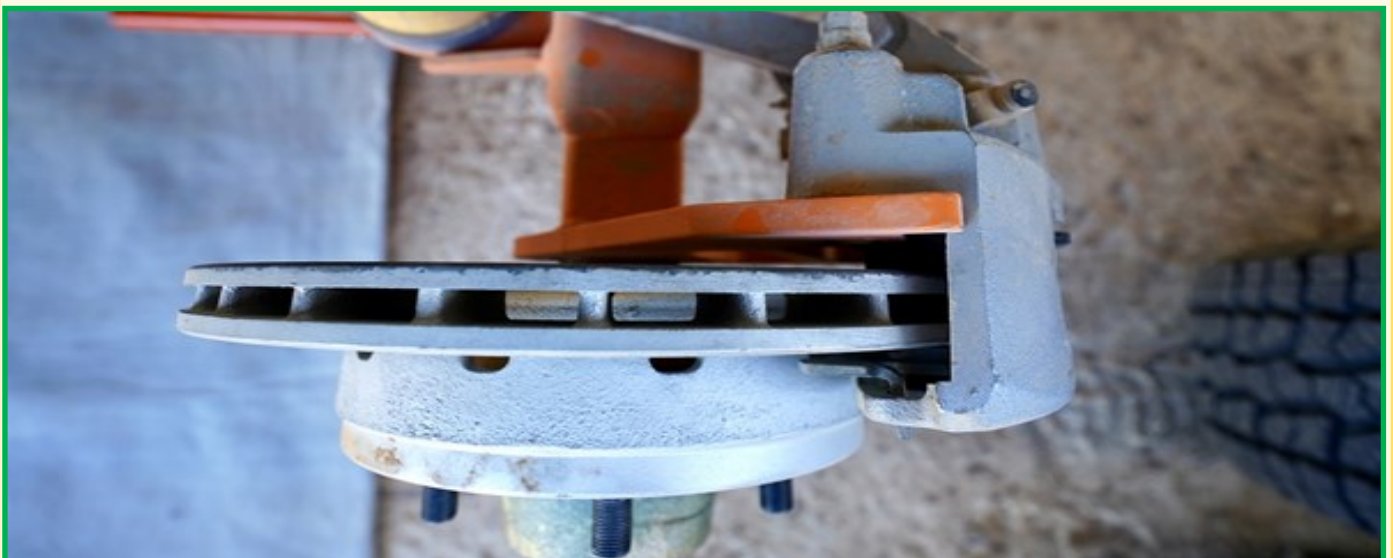
Given the widespread use of disc brakes in our towing vehicles you might wonder why the technology isn't used widely in caravan hardware. It's rare to find a van straight from the factory with disc brakes, and as drum brakes have been working fine for most people since the 1970s, why change?

Certainly, disc brakes offer better braking performance, but that comes at a cost, one that's not readily accepted by the industry, that needs to keep manufacturing costs down and, in general, consumers want cheaper vans.

The drum brakes found in most caravans are electrically operated. Any trailer over 750kg needs brakes, over-ride or electric, and anything over 2000kg needs brakes on each wheel, which is usually electrically operated drums but occasionally more complex hydraulic/air disc brake systems.

The electric drum brakes are simple in design and operation, but they're also basic in the either fully on or fully off status they deliver. That's why the operation can be clunky or jerky, and of course, there's adjustment and maintenance that we'd wager isn't as thorough as it should be in many cases. Drum brakes may be adjustable, but do many owners set them up correctly with their electric brake controllers, or do they dial up the controller for simply more stopping power?

Essentially, what it comes down to is force. And the force required to operate the hydraulically-operated brake calipers used in disc braking. When cars first appeared on the road and had foot-operated drum brakes, you could push your brake lever and you'd stop. When discs arrived, with a







caliper, the force required was beyond that of your average human leg, so the brake booster was born.

A brake pad has a much smaller surface area in contact with the brake disc than a brake shoe within a drum, and so when it receives its electrical signal to activate its brake duties it does so well. So does the caliper but it requires a much greater amount of force that is provided by the booster/actuator set-up and that's the expensive and more complex tech that stops most manufacturers from opting for hydraulic discs on their vans right from the drawing board. Not to mention that the vacuum pressure required to activate a

brake booster, runs directly from your vehicle's engine.

It's also worth remembering that braking systems are installed in line with prevailing manufacturing design standards, VSB1, so it's not like you're relying on technology that's not up to the job. In any event, if you're not invested in your braking performance due to lack of knowledge, then it's worth finding a skilled brake technician.

The electric drum brake does work very well in tandem with AL-KO's ESC which is one area you want seamless integration.

The drum brake also doesn't enjoy water crossings, and if you're a full-time off-roader then the maintenance for these terrain-supplied contaminants such as dust, water and mud may direct you to the disc brake option (or a better maintenance program).

The electro-hydraulic disc brake set-up is offered as an option from a few van manufacturers that utilise systems from AL-KO and Cruisemaster. As well as off-road-oriented electric drum brake options, AL-KO has two air over hydraulic braking modules for caravans with disc brakes used in dusty conditions. These systems store compressed air in a pressure chamber, allowing instant brake application. The iQ7 Outback and iQ7 Xtreme also incorporate breakaway technology and are designed to "significantly improve stopping performance".



Sunseeker caravan with an AL-KO disc brake option fitted

You need to work out whether the cost impost is worth the benefits.

### What are the benefits of a disc brake system on your van?

Well, improved brake feel and operation, over what can be a bit harsh drum-brake bite. The disc set-up copes better with off-road use and is definitely a better brake in pure stopping power. Importantly, discs are less prone to brake fade in the way that a drum might on long downhill sections or arduous conditions.

And fade is caused by heat, so heat dissipation, especially on very heavy trailers, is vital and ventilated disc brakes do this very well. If you own a light van or trailer, then the financial considerations mean the heat dissipation from your wallet might outweigh the need for discs on your 1500kg camper-trailer.

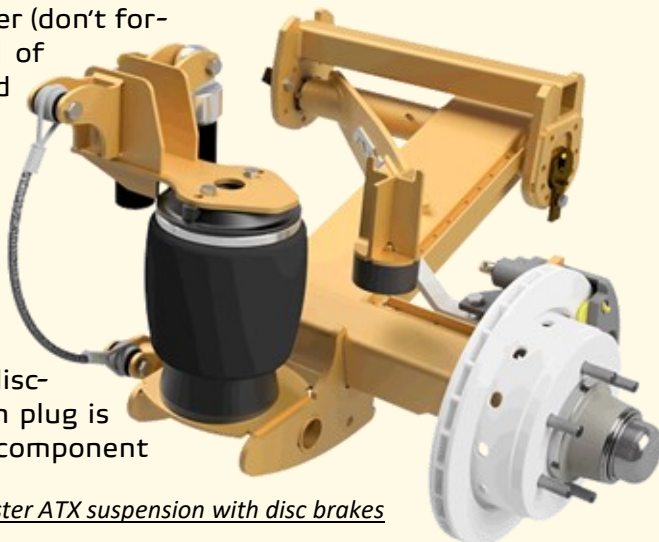
### And the downsides?

Unless you can buy a second-hand van with disc brakes already installed you're going to be up for a price penalty. Indicative hardware pricing alone was \$2000 for a single axle and \$3500 for a twin-axle hydraulic disc brake set-up as part of a full suspension from Cruisemaster. The system is much more complex and requires hydraulics and different electrics, and there are, as with drums, mainte-

nance items and consumable brake pads to consider (don't forget drums and shoes are consumables too). And of course, there's the brake fluid that must be flushed every two years.

Discs at some point will require machining plus you still need a mechanical handbrake, but some disc-brake kits supply this part. Cruisemaster, for instance, mentions its handbrake doesn't rely on hydraulic pressure as fluid is susceptible to temperature variations.

Another point to mention here, though, is that a disc-brake system will lock on as soon as the Anderson plug is disconnected meaning you have you breakaway component sorted.



*Cruisemaster ATX suspension with disc brakes*

**Conclusion**

Essentially, the bottom line is don't under-brake your trailer. For the most part (and budgets), the tried and true electric drum brakes will do the job just fine. Make sure your brakes are maintained and adjusted to suit the loads you're carrying and cleaned after off-road use. If you're on the very heavy end of caravan models, carry a lot of gear, and do all this off-road a lot then you may want to specify disc brakes from the outset. However, Cruisemaster's ATX and XT suspension can be swapped out from electric drum brakes to hydraulic disc brakes as an aftermarket option. However, if it's important to you from the outset, then budgeting for disc brakes to be included on a new van could be off-set by initially doing without an accessory or option that could be added later on.

If discs aren't for you, keep banging that drum and enjoy your brake!



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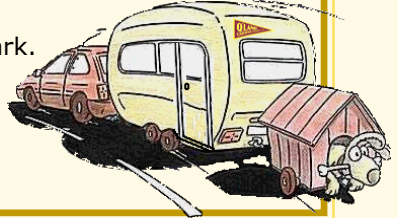
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Photographs of members may appear in the QCC Wanderer, its website or on its Facebook Group. Should a member not wish for this to occur, then the member should inform, in writing, the Secretary and the photographer. Whilst all care will be taken to comply with a member's request, no guarantee may be given that his/her photograph will not appear. Any such appearance will be totally unintentional.

2020/2021 QCC Rally Calendar ....

- Sep 09-15 Pittsworth (Showground) AGM.
- Oct 07-13 Nanango (Showground).
- Nov 11-17 Kyogle (Showground).
- Dec 01-08 Toogoolawah (Xmas/Showground).
- January Kalbar.

- February Imbil.
- March Standown Park.
- April Pine Rivers.
- May -
- June -
- July Kenilworth.



Committee Contacts ...

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President	Paul Brearley	0428 104 989	president@qldcaravanclub.com.au
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Webmaster	Lance Haslewood	0414 295 888	webmaster@qldcaravanclub.com.au

The Spread of COVID-19 Is Based On Two Factors:

1. How Dense The Population is
2. How Dense The Population is

**Silly You!**

You thought dogs were hard to train. Just look at all the humans who can't sit and stay.

Having some states lock down and some states not lock down is like having a peeing section in a swimming pool.

**Silly You!**

You thought dogs were hard to train. Just look at all the humans who can't sit and stay.

How LONG is this social distancing thing supposed to last? My husband keeps trying to come into the house.

People start coughing and worry they have the coronavirus, I cough and just pray I don't pee myself...

I'm so excited to take the garbage out. I wonder what should I wear?

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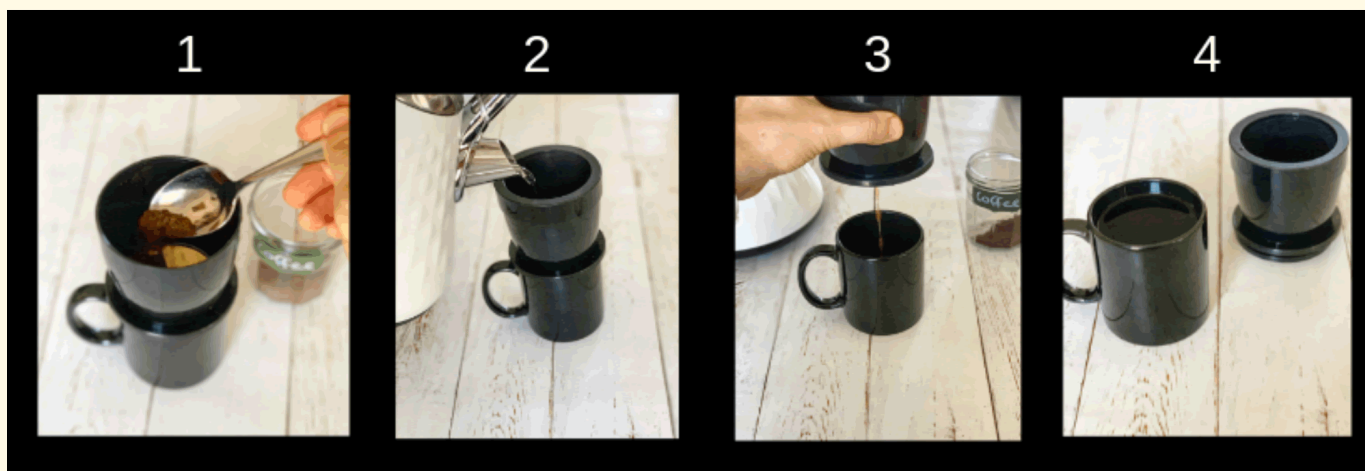
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## A Little Poem For Seniors, so true it hurts!

Another year has passed And we're all a little older.  
 Last summer felt hotter And winter seems much colder.  
 There was a time not long ago When life was quite a blast.  
 Now I fully understand About 'Living in the Past'  
 We used to go to weddings, Football games and lunches..  
 Now we go to funeral homes And after-funeral brunches.  
 We used to go out dining, And couldn't get our fill.  
 Now we ask for doggie bags, Come home and take a pill.  
 We used to often travel To places near and far.  
 Now we get sore asses From riding in the car.  
 We used to go to nightclubs And drink a little booze.  
 Now we stay home at night And watch the evening news.  
 That, my friend is how life is, And now my tale is told.

So, enjoy each day and live it up...

**Incredible** Before you're too damned old!

Oh! Pooh...I'm so worried.. said piglet, in a trembling, fearful way. Pooh replied: Don't be frightened little friend, what is it that worries you most? - Piglet gulped, shook his little head and said: 'It's the wozzels, heffalumps, shitehawks and tossers that won't stay home - they are killing people Pooh!' - Pooh sighed, his head bent forward in a sad way... 'I know, he said.... Trouble is you can't cure stupid can you..... xx





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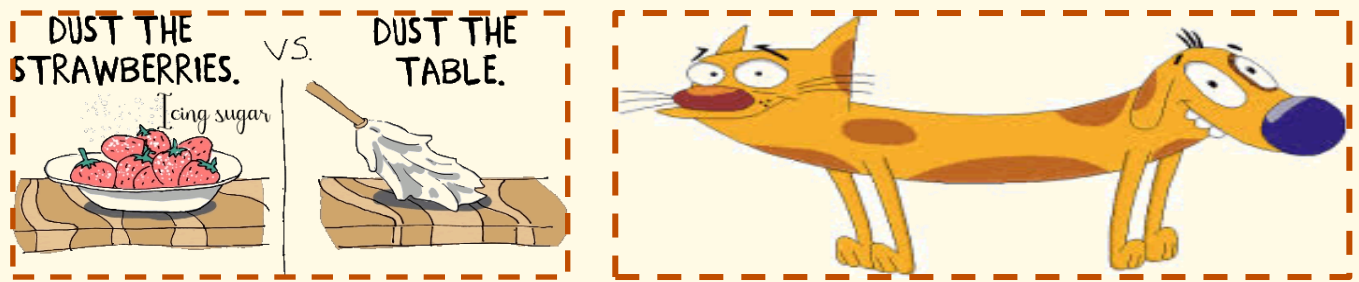
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*Enlighten you English. What is a 'Conronym'? It's a single word with two opposite meanings. Here are some examples:*



1. **Apology:** A statement of contrition for an action, or a defence of one.
2. **Bolt:** To separate by fleeing or to hold together (as with a bolt).
3. **Bound:** Going toward a destination or restrained from moving.
4. **Buckle:** To fasten together (with a buckle) or to bend or collapse from pressure.
5. **Cleave:** To adhere firmly and closely or to split apart.
6. **Clip:** To fasten (as with a paperclip) or to detach with shears (clipping your hair or your hedges).
7. **Consult:** To give advice or to get advice.
8. **Custom:** A common practice or a specially made item.
9. **Dust:** To cover something with a fine power or to make something clean by brushing or removing dust.
10. **Enjoin:** To order someone to do something or to prohibit someone from doing something.
11. **Fast:** Firmly fixed and unmoving or able to move rapidly.
12. **Finished:** Completed or destroyed.
13. **Garnish:** To add decorative touches (to food or drink) or to take/withhold from (as in wages).
14. **Handicap:** An advantage given to equalize chances of winning (as in golf) or a disadvantage that makes equality difficult.
15. **Leave:** To rent property or to offer property for rent.
16. **Left:** Departed or remained behind.
17. **Model:** The original, perfect example or a copy.
18. **Off:** Not operating (turn off the light) or operating (the alarm went off).
19. **Out:** Visible (the stars are out) or invisible (the lights are out).
20. **Overlook:** To watch or to fail to notice.
21. **Oversight:** Watchful, responsible care or a mistake made due to forgetfulness or poor supervision.
22. **Peer:** A person of nobility, or an equal.
23. **Peruse:** To skim or to read very carefully.
24. **Ravel:** To separate or to become entangled.
25. **Rent:** To lease something or to offer an something for lease.
26. **Sanction:** To boycott or to approve.
27. **Screen:** To hide or to show (like a movie).
28. **Seed:** To seed a watermelon is to remove seeds. To seed a lawn is to add them.
29. **Strike:** To hit or to miss while trying to hit.
30. **Trim:** To add (decorations) or to take away (extra hair or fabric, for example).
31. **Wear:** To endure or to deteriorate.
32. **Weather:** To withstand or to be worn away.

