





Issue: 11/2020

Email: editor@gldcaravanclub.com.au QCC - Established 1949

November/December 2020

President's Report - Nov/Dec 2020

nother great rally and social gathering and at a We had our club meeting and welcomed third-time great location; Goombungee.

Tuesday 10 Nov. Arrived after lunch, set-up, then checked-out the hall and amenities. Caught-up with Welcome to you all and we know that y Brian the caretaker who was very helpful. 14 vans time with the Queensland Caravan Club. arrived and after happy hour, the evening was spent playing cards.

Wednesday 11 Nov. Four of us departed at 5:30am for golf. All members attended the Remembrance Day Thank you Les and Brenda for selecting a most worthy

Service in town, at which Di and I laid a wreath on behalf of QCC (many thanks to all the members who crocheted poppies for it). Following the Service, most members attended the Pioneer Arms Hotel where the RSL put-on lunch which comprised \$2.00 ham and steak burgers. Thank you.

Afternoon saw four ladies attend golf while Alf Hinson and I assisted Jenni McGowan on the gate with the COVID admin. Many thanks, too, to all of the members who helped Jenni who is

doing an splendid job for the club in her new role. 24 close games in front of a large crowd of supporters? everyone stayed for the full State of Origan game. wonder why.

Thursday 12 Nov. Our rally marshals, Dennis Edney and Murray McGowan, were busy with incoming vans while I set-up the hall for the card-making, sewing, craft classes as well as for the meetings. I then went for a drive to Oakey and noticed that the country is looking good after the recent rain.

Bev Green held her card-making class and most gathered for happy hour later in the afternoon.

Friday 13 Nov. Another 20 members played golf on an interesting course. Some light rain was keeping the We had our management temperature down. committee meeting and thanks to Merv Kahler for attending all the way from Pittsworth as a day visitor.

Yvonne Robbins had her sewing class; Sue Baker her pastel drawing class, and Marg Hiller had a craft class. Thanks girls. The afternoon saw some ladies practising Doug and Dorcas Burt. Following, there were about 30 disc bowls. Happy hour as always, a top time for a members sitting in the shade with a few cold drinks chat, drink and a relax. That night more members enjoying a wonderful afternoon. 18 vans remained went out for dinner while others played cards.

Saturday 14 Nov. Awoke to a beautiful sunny day. For Wishing members, family and friends safe travels the Club morning tea, we had fresh scones which were and a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, made by the local Country Women's Association. Our Prosperous and fulfilling 2021. See you at Kalbar convenors, Ray and Gail Caddies, provided a nice in January.

addition by adding jam and cream to the scones. Thanks to all.

visitors, Elizabeth Holmes, Linda Flewell-Smith and Fay and Greg Bell as new members to the Club. Welcome to you all and we know that you enjoy your

Les and Brenda Usher presented Yvonne Robbins with the perpetual 'Golden Tow Ball' award for her work and contribution to the Club over the past year.

recipient for this award. Les and Brenda were the 2019 recipients of the Golden Tow Ball award, and generally, it is the outgoing holder of the award selects the new ent. The general who recipient. meeting followed.

The afternoon saw the Ladies Disc Bowls Champion -ships, and many thanks to Gibson and Barry his helpers for setting it up. And just how good were the girls with lots of skill and

members went back to the pub for dinner but not The final was a ripper of a tight match between Linda Jones and Yvonne Robbins. With sideline members very entertaining. yelling support; it was Congratulations to the winner, Linda Jones, and all of the ladies who played.

> That night, George Lacey had a video music night in the hall with a wonderful variety of music videos. Some were amazing. I will never forget the superb voice of 10 year-old girl, Amira Willighagen, who sang solo at an André Rieu concert. Unbelievable and so adorable. Some of the videos were also quite humorous. Thank you George for your huge effort in entertaining such a large crowd of members.

> Sunday 15 Nov. Morning tea (more scones), then our Club meeting. It was so good to catch-up with so many wonderful members. Eight of us went to the Meringanden Hotel for lunch. Excellent large meals and service. Although the weather was hot in the afternoon, we played disc bowls and finska; thanks to overnight. A total of 56 vans attended the rally.

President Paul







With President Paul Brearley, QCC welcomes new members Elizabeth Holmes (top left), Lynda Flewell-Smith (top right) and Fay and Greg Bell (below left). Yvonne Robbins with her 'Golden Tow Ball award. Les Usher, the previous award holder (below right).

ILAWA

oogoolawah is about one hour north west of

Brisbane and is a centre for gliding and parachuting, and in the past, the centre of a dairying industry. Cressbrook Creek, a tributary of the Brisbane River, passes through the town as does the Brisbane Valley Highway.

The district was originally known as Cressbrook after the Cressbrook Station operated by James Henry McConnel. The town took its present name Toogoolawah from its former railway station, which was named in November 1903 using the name Tugulawah proposed by McConnel, the name of the McConnel's residence at Bulimba in Brishane

Toogoolawah is derived from the Aboriginal words 'dhoo' (a generic term for tree) and 'goo/lawa', meaning 'crescent shaped' or 'bent like a crescent moon'.

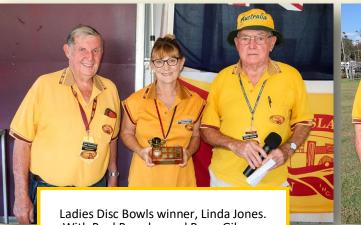


What is now Toogoolawah town was surveyed privately when Cressbrook estate was subdivided and sold as dairy farms in 1904. The town plan was not registered with the survey office until 1st June 1909. The extension of the Brisbane Valley railway line from Esk to the new town (18.69 kilometres) was opened on 8 February 1904.

A condensed milk factory was built shortly after the railway station was opened. The factory was closed in 1929, after Nestlé moved all its condensed milk production to Victoria, resulting in the town's population decreasing by half.

Toogoolawah is a real country town. It is only small and it services the local farming community. Lake Wivenhoe and Lake Somerset are not too far away and they are very popular fishing spots for the locals. Located five kilometres from Toogoolawah is Watts Bridge Memorial Airfield which is without doubt the premier recreational airfield in South East Queensland. The original runways and buildings were built in 1942 as part of Australia's World War II defence program. After the war, the airfield was no longer required by the ADF, so the buildings were removed and the airstrips returned to their previous agricultural use.

In the 1980s, a small group of dedicated recreational pilots re-discovered the airfield and undertook the enormous task to return the airfield to its original glory. Today the airfield is used by sport and recreational aviators and encourages the public to come along to their events throughout the year.





With Paul Brearley and Barry Gibson.

The finalists of the Ladies Disc Bowls Competition, Yvonne Robbins and Linda Jones. With game organiser Barry Gibson and Paul Brearley



Sue Baker's pastel art class.

Bev Green's card-making class.



QCC Wanderer - Goombungee/Toogoolawah

Rally Programme for Toogoolawah			IMPORTANT
Thursday 03 Dec	6:30am 1:00pm 6:30pm	Walkers. Card Making (Bev Green). Page 11. Dinner (own arrangements).	 <u>* 'COVID Tracing applies</u> <u>and body temperature</u> <u>taken on arrival at the</u> <u>gate checkpoint.</u> <u>Remember</u> to check the rally noticeboard for any last minute changes to the published programme. <u>Remember</u> to sign the attendance book as soon as possible after arrival. <u>Remember</u> to indicate your planned attendance to the next rally by checking (ticking) the rally attendance sheet located at the Saturday/ Sunday meeting. <u>Remember</u> to add you rally expenditure to the expenditure sheet. Kindly give a hand to stack the chairs and to sweep the hall following the Sunday meeting. Many hands make light work.
Friday 04 Dec	6:30am 7:00am 11:00am 1:00pm 2:00pm 4:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm	Walkers. Golf. Management Committee Meeting. Sewing Class (Yvonne Robbins). Page 8. Christmas Craft (Margaret Hiller). Page 8. Bowls. \$15.00. (please register on sheet in hall). Annex Happy Hour (Richard Van Wyk). Page 6. Dinner (own arrangements). Carols by Caravan (Wendy and Barry Gibson). Page 7. Bring a plate for supper. Tea and coffee provided. Bring your cup.	
Saturday 05 Dec	5:30am 6:30am 8:00am 8:45am 9:00am 9:30am 11:00am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Bicycle ride along the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail to Yinbun Rail Tunnel (Jim Thorpe). Page 11. Walkers. Tai Chi (Lyn Hill). Cutting of Christmas Cake. Morning Tea. Club Meeting. Art Class. Painting with Pastels (Sue Baker). Page 8. Happy Hour and nibblies in the hall. Christmas Dinner and entertainment (surprise). Prize for best decorated table. Alcohol permitted. Page 11.	
Sunday 06 Dec	6:30am 8:00 8:30am 9:30am 2:00pm 4:00pm 6:00pm	Walkers. Tai Chi (Lyn Hill). Pay Treasurer. Meeting and rally wrap-up. Nana-Nap. Happy hour. Dinner (own arrangements).	 * 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 Toogoolawah, join-in and participate.

Toogoolawah Topics and Good Gen

- <u>ARRIVAL</u>: Body temperature and contact-tracing information will be taken upon entry by venue personnel.
- CHRISTMAS BLING: Prizes for the best decorated Christmas table and the bestdressed, Christmas-themed caravan.
- CHRISTMAS DINNER: Please wear your festive gear and enjoy the Christmas spirit.
- <u>CHRISTMAS CAROL EVENING:</u> Please a plate of goodies for supper.
- ANNEX HAPPY HOUR: Organised by Richard Van Wyk. Members encouraged to host a happy hour at their van. Attendees to each van by ballot.
- <u>VOLUNTEERS</u> required to assist with decorating the hall.
- LAWN BOWLS: Fee of \$15.00 applies. Cash only as there is no EFPOS. Attendees, please sign the lawn bowls attendance register located in the hall.
- ART CLASS: \$7.00 per person. Includes consumables (Sue Baker).
- QCC MEMBERSHIP: Due in January.
- 240VAC LEADS: Be sure to bring both 10amp and 15amp leads to Toooolawah just in case you need one or the other.
- <u>CUT-OFF</u> date for Christmas Function was 25th November.

Toolqoolawah, Friday 4th November @ 7:00pm

> QUEENSLAND CARAVAN CLUB *CHRISTMAS CAROLS 2020*

Hosted by Wendy and Barry Gibson







Come along and join us for a night of Christmas entertainment on Friday, 4th December 2020 at the Toogoolawah Showgrounds hall, commencing 7:30 pm.

There'll be sing-a-long carols, plus other items to celebrate life and Christmas. So, please bring your singing voices (the lyrics of the carols will be up on the screen), or you can just sit back and listen if you prefer. But please wear your Christmas smiles and lots of Christmas bling.

During the evening we'll break for supper – so please bring your cups and a plate of Christmas goodies to share (remember to place your name on the 7 7 7 7 a bottom of your plate).

See you there!

♥ The History of Christmas Carols ♥

Carols were first sung in Europe thousands of years ago, but these were not Christmas

Carols. They were pagan songs, sung at the winter solstice celebrations as people danced round stone circles. The winter solstice is the shortest day of the year, usually taking place in the northern hemisphere around 22nd December. The word 'Carol' actually means dance or a song of praise and joy! Carols used to be written and sung during all four seasons, but only the tradition of



singing them at Christmas has really survived. Early Christians took over the pagan solstice celebrations for Christmas and gave people Christian songs to sing instead of pagan ones. In 129, a Roman Bishop said that a song called 'Angel's Hymn' should be sung at a Christmas service in Rome. Another famous early Christmas Hymn was written in 760, by Comas of Jerusalem, for the Greek Orthodox Church. Soon after this many composers all over Europe started to write 'Christmas carols'. However, not many people liked them as they were all written and sung in Latin, a language that the normal people couldn't understand. By the time of the Middles Ages (the 1200s), most people had lost interest in celebrating Christmas altogether.

This was changed by St. Francis of Assisi when, in 1223, he started his Nativity Plays in Italy. The people in the plays sang songs or 'canticles' that told the story during the plays. Sometimes, the choruses of these new carols were in Latin; but normally they were all in a language that the people watching the play could understand and join in! The new carols spread to France, Spain, Germany and other European countries.

When the Puritans came to power in England in 1640s, the celebration of Christmas and singing carols was stopped. However, the carols survived as people still sang them in secret. Carols remained mainly unsung until Victorian times, when two men called William Sandys and Davis Gilbert collected lots of old Christmas music from villages in England.

QCC Wanderer - Goombungee/Toogoolawah

'Toogoolawah Pastel Art Class with Sue Baker'



Sue's popular art class is on the program for Toogoolawah, scheduled for 11:00am, Saturday 5th December. To cover the cost of consumables (paper and pastels etc), there will be a modest fee of \$7.00 requested of each participant.

Those wanting to attend the art class should contact Sue in advance so that she can determine the quantity of materials to bring. Sue can be contacted on 0407 549 511.

'Toogoolawah Sewing Class with Yvonne Robbins'

Yvonne's sewing class will combine with the Christmas Craft Session. Some ladies will complete their unfinished table runner while some with sewing machines will be making and decorating Christmas trees with the pattern provided at the Goombungee rally.



'Toogoolawah Christmas Craft Session. Friday 04 December, 1:00pm.'

Hosted by Margaret Hiller, the craft session will comprise the making of Christmas tree ornaments, including a small wreath, Christmas gift boxes and material trees, bells, etc.

Wreath Requirements: please bring the following:

- A round plastic or wooden ring approximately 12cm to 15cm in diameter and 1cm to 3 m wide to be the base for decorating
- Ribbon for bow, along with any small decorations to glue on. Pine cones and other bits-and-pieces will be supplied. <u>Christmas Gift Box Requirements:</u>
- Two or three lavish Christmas cards with which to make the boxes. Also bring:
- Ruler, pencil, pins, needle, scissors, pinking shears, craft glue, glue gun. (DO NOT BUY ANY OF THESE ITEMS. Just bring what you have at hand). There will be some to share.

Please phone Marg Hiller (0407 335 074) if you have any queries.



QCC Wanderer - Goombungee/Toogoolawah

Member Profile ~ Life and Times of Ed and Sylvia Stocker

Hi All, I was born in the university town of Cam- leukemia but came good now 30 years on. We bridge, England, and I have a younger brother. have three children, Jayne, Eddie and Rose-My dear mother was the breadwinner as father marie; seven grandchildren two great grandchilwas bedridden with MS, but we survived alt- dren. hough I was still at school and doing paper rounds and working at a fishmonger on Saturdays and on holidays.

After leaving school, I worked in the glass trade has it all; crocs, sharks, jellyfish, snakes, spias a cutter and glazier. I met Sylvia when she ders, cane toads, so where else would you want was lodging with my next door neighbour. We to live? hit it off and married in 1965. Sylvia is from a Romani family and is the third youngest of seven girls and five boys and was the last to be born in a vardo (wagon).

Our first years of our married life were spent traveling around England finding work. We had an old Bedford truck and 22ft Travelmaster caravan. By then we had two children, and after а while, we managed to save and sell almost everything which enabled us to purchase a piece of land in the village of Caldecote where we

placed two large caravans on the property to live couple of QCC members what the symptoms in whilst we built a house. Although hard work, are. it was built over a period of six years.

In 1980, we successfully applied to emigrate to Australia and arrived in Brisbane in November 1982. We were housed at the Yungaba Migrant Hostel which was located under the Story Bridge at Kangaroo Point. Sylvia, while in a phone box, was bitten by a redback spider so our first day in Brisbane was spent at the PA Hospital.

Three weeks under the bridge was enough, so we brought our first house in Toombul. Over the years, we managed to owner-build two houses and renovate eight before settling-down in Wynnum where we still live.

I worked as a commercial glazier on high-rise buildings and shopping centres and other major projects before advancing to glazing supervisor.

I was with Pilkington Ltd for 22 years before retiring. struck in 1994 when our oldest daughter died check the PSA level, followed by the 'finger' inafter giving birth a week earlier (embolism). serted where the sun don't shine; that's all there She had two children by her first marriage. Life is to it, and you don't even have to have a mamchanged with Rhyanna and Pete bringing-up a mogram! five and three year-old, doing school and sport runs, being mum and dad again. They were great kids. Rhyanna, at 12 years of age, got Ed, Sylvia and Rawnie Stocker.

Sylvia and I retired in 2008, rented the house, and took-off around Australia for two years travelling through all the states. But Queensland

Now we are at the stage in life where the brain makes promises the body cannot keep and travelling takes place between medical appoint-

ments.

Sylvia has had some serious health issues and is still struggling, however, when at home, or if she's not in hospital (must like the food and the service), spends her time making patchwork quilts and runners etc., and walking our little dog, Rawnie.

After overcoming prostate cancer some years ago, I have been asked by a

Generally, an increase in PSA (prostate specific antigen) level is a good indication something is not right, or you are up going to the loo several times a night with a stop-start or slow urine flow. Or not going at all! It's not old age, it won't go away or get better, so why do men leave it so long before seeing the doc? Scared? Early diagnosis is the key to a good recovery.

A high PSA may not mean cancer. Treatment these days may take several paths with many options, and even the operation, if needed, can be performed by robotics (Robotic Prostatectomy).

Biopsies are by MRI scan under a general anaesthetic where small tissues are taken for analysing. Not seeing the doc, and if it is cancer, once it leaves the prostrate, can be frightening and difficult to treat. So all you fit-and-healthy ageing men, do yourself and your partner a big fa-Sylvia sold real estate until disaster vour and get checked-out early. A blood test to

Have a happy life and safe travelling.



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<u>COVID REQUIREMENTS</u> <u>QUEENSLAND CARAVAN CLUB Inc</u> <u>Toolgoolawah Rally</u>



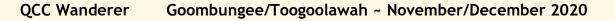
- Body temperature contact-tracing information will be taken upon entry to site by venue staff.
 - To assist QCC efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we ask of the following:
 - Feeling unwell or have cold or flu-like symptoms? Please do not attend the rally.
 - COVID Tracing Form to be signed on arrival at the gate checkpoint after satisfactorily answering the following questions. <u>Have you?</u>
 - \Rightarrow Returned from overseas in the past 14 days.
 - \Rightarrow Been required to be in self-isolation or self-quarantine.
 - \Rightarrow Been previously diagnosed with COVID-19.
 - \Rightarrow To the best of your knowledge, been in close contact with a person who has a reported or suspected case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
 - \Rightarrow Been in a COVID-19 hotspot (as defined by the Queensland Chief Health Officer) in the past 14 days.
 - \Rightarrow Had or have/had a fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or other cold/flu like symptoms in the past 72 hours or are otherwise unwell. If so, <u>STAY AT HOME.</u>
- By answering <u>YES</u> to any of the above questions, you will not be permitted into the rally facility and you may be referred to the local health authority.

NOTE: This information is for contact-tracing purposes only and maybe shared with police or the Department of Health if required. The venue is required to retain personal details for up to 56 days.

- Members are asked to provide their own masks.
- Please remember to social and physical distance at all times.
- Please cleanse your hands regularly with the sanitiser provided.
- Please minimise what you touch.
- Line-ups or groups congregating around the morning tea area to collect requisites for tea or coffee is to be strictly avoided.
- Please go easy on the biscuits!

For the Interest of Members

Advising that due circumstances associated with COVID-19, the committee has decided in the best interest to members, only DVDs and library books will be available at the Toolgoolawah rally.



'Toogoolawah Card-Making with Bev Green'



Bev's project for Toogoolawah will be making 'Craft Boxes'

REQUIREMENTS/TOOLS REQUIRED FOR CLASS: Pencil, scissors, metal ruler (metric preferred), eraser, scorer (Cheap Shop sells these), double-sided tape, 6mm (Reject Shop sell this) \$2.00 or \$2.50 approximately, metal craft knife with spare blades (Cheap Shop), adhesive tape with dispenser, A4 cutting mat or similar. The class commences at 1:00pm Thursday 03 December.

Should those attending require further information, please ring or text or Bev on 0418 881 890 prior to the rally.

QCC's Christmas Toogoolawah rally is shaping-up to be a good one. Due to the virus, there will be a couple of minor changes to our regular Christmas routine in that there will be no 'Secret Santa' or 'Santa Photoshoot' this year.

> There is, however, plenty on such as our Friday evening Christmas Carols (Carols-by-Caravan) hosted by Wendy and Barry Gibson. Bring a plate for supper. A full plate! Our scrumptious Saturday night Christmas dinner will

surely be a winner. This, or course, will be complimented with entertainment. There will be a prize for the best Christmas-themed decorated table as well as a prize for the best decorated caravan, camper or motorhome. Go for it!! Should there be an unlikely late comer, here are the Christmas dinner costs: Members - \$15.00; Children (to 16 yrs) -\$10.00; Guests - \$20.00.

On Saturday morning (early), Jim Thorpe has organised a bike ride along the rail trail to Yinbun Rail Tunnel. Not to be missed. Naturally you'll need a bicycle or at least be a fast and fit runner!

ENTREM

Please refer to the program for other activities such as Tai Chi, Annex Happy Hour, Art and Craft Classes, Walking, Golf, Lawn Bowls, Nana Nap and more.

QCC Membership:

Toogoolawah

• Just another gentle reminder that QCC membership fees are due in January. Those members wishing to pay early, may do so. Please see the Treasurer. Social: \$25.00 - Full: \$50.00.



QCC Facebook Group:



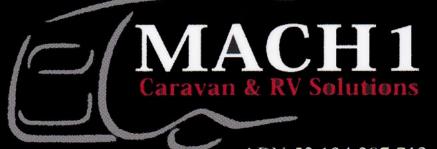
• QCC members who use the Club's Facebook Group are urged to be familiar with its policy statement. Please do not suggest to friends to join the Group as it is for members only. Such requests will be promptly declined. We have a very vigilant admin team! The URL (address) is: https://www.facebook.com/groups/228176857695884/

QCC Website:

• Yes, the Club does have a website! Rally pictures, newsletters and other information may be found there. The URL is: https://www.qldcaravanclub.com.au







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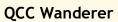
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www.qldcaravanclub.com.au

RVDAILY The Dos and Don'ts of Grey Water Controversy

Just because it goes down the sink doesn't mean it's harmless. There are ways you can be a water-wise camper and not be in a grey area! Here are the dos and don'ts with grey water.

I have a confession to make. I've never really understood what the big deal was with grey water. As far as I was concerned, any water that gets soaked into our parched earth has got to be better than tossing it down the drain. But for many caravanners, that's the last place grey water should end-up.

It just seems whenever the subject of grey water is raised online or around a campfire, it turns into a real battle, such is the level of emotions the subject seems to arouse. I just couldn't understand it.



Then we started living full-time in our caravan and I started to notice a few things. Smells from drains, grey water from other nearby campers, and it compelled me to look into the grey water issue a bit further. As a result, I've had a rethink into my attitude and it's about time all of us did the same.

What is grey water?

Grey water is essentially any domestic wastewater that doesn't originate from a toilet. That includes wastewater from washing machines, kitchen sinks, bathroom sinks and showers. Waste that originates from a toilet is called 'black water'. In a domestic or household environment, it is possible, and often desirable, to divert grey water onto our gardens and lawns. Depending on how your household plumbing is arranged, you can select exactly what wastewater source to divert. In a caravan or motorhome, that is not generally possible.

Why is it a problem?

Probably the biggest issue with grey water is that it doesn't stay grey for very long. Whether you have a grey water tank or not, any grey water that is stored or remains in the plumbing of your RV, will turn to black water within 12 to 24 hours. Maybe even quicker in the heat of the Australian summer. This is due to the growth of bacteria that starts off in medium concentrations but multiplies rapidly in the warm and confined conditions.

Something to Google and read next: 'The unpleasant truth: Grey water, it's not black and white'

Other organic material such as dead skin, hair and food scraps, add their own bacteria and act as food at the same time. This material can get trapped in the bends and crevices of the plumbing causing noxious smells to develop and, depending on where your grey water hose runs-off, can make life for your neighbours

quite unpleasant. There may also be some chemicals in your grey water, such as soaps and cleaning products, that may be harmful to the environment.

Storing grey water

Many campsites require RVs to be fully self-contained. That normally means the ability to store grey water until such time as you leave the area. To store grey water, you will need a tank of some description. Most modern caravans and motorhomes are being equipped with inbuilt grey water tanks that are integrated into the plumbing. Many function by diverting the flow from the grey water outlet into the tank via a manually operated valve.

Alternatively, many owners choose to retro-fit a tray water tank to their RVs while others use an external portable grey water tank. Some are nothing more than a large plastic bottle that collects grey water flow from the outlet while others are purpose-designed and have trolley wheels allowing the wastewater to be easily transported to a disposal site.

If you're using an external or portable grey water tank, it is worth checking to see if the design conforms with the definition of self-contained for the particular campsite you're intending to visit. Many only allow integrated grey water tanks.

Disposing of grey water

This is where the issue becomes somewhat contentious as the rules may vary depending on where you are or even the conditions that exist at the time. Whatever you do, it's illegal to dump grey water onto the road as you drive. In any sense, it's a terrible look for RVers to display to the general public, but your load, liquid or solid, legally stays inside your vehicle. If what you're dropping is now black water anyway, it's going to end up in a waterway somewhere, and the EPA doesn't approve. You may argue that it's diluted but you're splitting



hairs and displaying your attitude to the topic. Don't drop it anywhere but a drain or where directed to on private land.

At Caravan parks

As a rule, most caravan parks will provide a grey water drain where visitors can direct their grey water using their outlet hoses. Some are purpose-built drains into which the grey water hose outlet is inserted. Others may be no more than an open drain in which the grey water hose outlet just sits.

You will also find many caravan parks do not provide a grey water disposal system and, instead, they may simply request you to direct grey water onto the grass or garden surrounding your site. We find it is a

good idea to check with the park reception as to how they want their guests to dispose of grey water. If they are in drought, they may prefer your grey water to flow onto their gardens rather than down the drain.

At free camps

It would be extremely rare for free camping areas to provide any disposal systems for grey water. Unless they are signposted otherwise, grey water can be allowed to run onto the ground. In these cases, you need to be very considerate of other campers in your vicinity and place the grey water hose outlet in such a position that it doesn't affect anyone else around you. You should apply the same courtesy everywhere, really.

Stored grey water

If you have a grey water tank and it is full, you're going to need to dispose of the contents. As we saw earlier, stored grey water doesn't stay grey for long and it is best considered and handled as if it was black water. That means storing it until you reach a public dump point. That is the best way to dispose of stored grey water.

CLEAN-UP YOUR ACT

There's no way we can magically convert our grey water into clean drinking water, but we can make it less offensive and better for the environment.

- * Choose septic-friendly products such as soaps, detergents and washing powders.
- * Keep your grey water systems clean.
- * Pour vinegar and baking soda down drains to clean them.
- Flush grey water hoses after each use.
- * Use commercial grey water tank cleaners regularly.
- * Filter out all solid matter and dispose of it with your regular rubbish.
- * Don't use your RV shower as a toilet, that is, weeing while in the shower.
- * Dry-wipe plates and eating utensils with paper towels before washing-up.
- * Avoid allowing food waste from going down the sink.

So now you know the dos and don'ts with grey water. You can travel safe in the knowledge that you're doing the right thing!

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.



Caravan park water and power pedestal with grew water receptacle.

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Jenni McGowan, Shane Jones and Steve Langley.

QCC members enjoying a drink and lunch at the Goombungee Pioneer Arms Hotel following the Remembrance Day Service.



Heather and Dennis Edney.

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