



Can Upper Lachlan become “RV Friendly?”

COULD Upper Lachlan attract more tourists with recreational vehicles by becoming part of the “RV Friendly” network?

And what does it take to be a part of the scheme?

Manager of Operations Mr. Luke Moloney will prepare a full report for the June meeting of Council, following preliminary discussions at the May meeting.

Upper Lachlan has taken the first preliminary step by the installation of a “dump” site at the Crookwell Caravan Park which will allow caravaners to empty their wastes into the sewerage system.

The possibility of becoming “RV Friendly” was raised by Cr. James Wheelwright: “Can we apply for this to be an RV Friendly Shire?”

Mr. Moloney replied: “Yes - the other requirements are not onerous.”

To a question from Cr. Malcolm Barlow as to whether Taralga could be included, Mr. Moloney replied that when an earlier application had been made from Crookwell, the RV organisation had pointed out that there were already dump sites at Goulburn and Yass.

Planning Director Mrs. Tina Dodson said that a dumping point could also be installed at Tuena if matching funding could be obtained.

(Mrs. Dodson has prepared a plan for installation of a septic system to cater for the Tuena Hall, the caravan park and the public toilets, and is seeking a matching grant from Veolia Trust).

Cr. Brian McCormack commented that there was a big flow of caravans into Tuena – which Mayor Cr. Shaw said would most likely move on to Crookwell.

So what is required to become “RV Friendly?”

The program itself is an initiative of the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia, aimed at assisting recreational vehicle owners as they travel around.

The Club believes that RV travellers should have access to appropriate accommodation, including low cost options.

So an RV Friendly town has to meet a set of guidelines to ensure it provides a certain amount of amenities and services for these travellers.

Among the essential requirements are provision of parking within the town centre, with access to the shopping areas short term low cost overnight parking for self-contained RVs, as close as possible to the CBD; access to

potable water; access to a free dump point; provision of short term low cost overnight parking; enough room for large vehicles to manoeuvre.

Listed as desirable are provision of long-term parking for self-contained RVs; access to medical facilities, pharmacies and emergency services; a Visitor Information Centre.

The advantage of becoming RV Friendly: presumably a bigger flow of such travellers into the area, along with their spending power.



Waste point a plan to draw visitors

A DUMP point in Capel officially opened last week with the hope of bringing economic growth to the community and eliminating illegal dumping.

The Campervan and Motor Home Club of Australia donated the dump point unit and WA representative Bevin Martin said it was part of a plan to make travel easier and more accessible for holiday-makers.

"We have donated 40 per cent of public dump points in WA and it is part of what we see as a strategic filling for dump points around the State," he said.

"WA has been known to lack dump points and without this people will dump illegally."

"Now in its third year, the multi-agency action plan is providing a range of new and improved sites, facilities and services to make WA the destination of choice for camping, caravan and RV visitors."

Forrest MHR Nola Marino contributed \$17,300 as part of the Stronger Communities Project and said it gave people a reason to stop and spend money.

Capel shire council chief executive officer Paul Sheedy said a stopover area was planned for 2016-17 as a further incentive for visiting the town.



Capel shire project officer Shahin Mahmud, shire president Murray Scott, Forrest MHR Nola Marino, The Campervan and Motor Home Club representative Bevin Martin, shire chief executive officer Paul Sheedy and Cr Jennifer Scott check out the new dump point facility.



ALTERNATE EXPLORATION

Traditional-style camping and caravanning are among the best ways to experience our great and diverse state, but they are not the only means available to those who wish to do so.

Alternate methods such as farm and station stays, using motorhomes and the emerging phenomenon of 'glamping' are opening up intrastate travel options for those chasing different means of travel to the traditional.

Perhaps you've had a child or two since your last trip, or maybe you're thinking of leaving the caravan at home this time around. If so, the following methods could appeal to you.

Station and farm stays:

A form of agricultural tourism allowing travellers to get away from busy city centres, station and farm stays allow visitors the chance to stay on farms and in rural communities.

A popular option for travellers with younger children, farm and station stays expose the visitor to the ins and outs of everyday rural life, often involving an element of the educational by allowing interaction with animals and fresh produce.

Station stays are prominent in WA's golden outback, along the Coral Coast and in the North West, while a variety of farm stays can be found in the country regions near Perth and in the South West, as well as in the Wheatbelt and outback.

Motorhomes and campervans:

Recreational vehicles such as motorhomes

and campervans are a great way to see Western Australia, particularly for those with the time to stop and enjoy multiple locations along the journey.

An exciting way to travel with families young and old, Motorhomes and campervans

are fun for the whole family, and there are a number of businesses around the state where motorhomes can be rented or purchased.

In addition, the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia maintains a list of RV-friendly towns, with a number of these scattered across WA's coast and inland.

A full list of Western Australia's RV-friendly

towns can be found at www.cmca.net.au.

Glamping:

A relatively new phenomenon with origins in the UK, glamping offers luxury camping facilities to take the edge off of travelling remote, typified by supplied safari tents, comfy bedding and pillows, restaurant quality meals and luxury regional touring options.



Luxury Eco Tents at Sal Salis, Ningaloo Reef Credit: Tourism Western Australia.