ABN 62 842 468 219

A Van Advocate

Sydney-Central Coast A Van Group Inc.

The Club for all types of A'Vans

August 2026 — Presidents Report

The colder weather is now upon us and hope everyone is keeping well and warm.

The last event was to Bathurst and what a great time everybody had with Beverly and Bronwyn our local members arriving at our first afternoon gathering in the caravan park with a goodies bag of information for everyone, on various locations to visit.

Included in the program was a wonderful dinner at Bronwyn's home and a barbecue lunch at Beverly's home. We had 2 vans staying in the caravan park, Bill and Chris and myself. Linda, David and Dianne stayed in 2 cabins.

In June we had our Winter Picnic at Maree's home with a good attendance of around 20 members.

I'm sure everyone had a blast with some fun games organised by Maree and lots of yummy treats from our ladies who excelled in the kitchen.

Our next gathering is Jimmy's Beach hope to see you there.

Ken Groves. President.

Christmas Dinner — 28th November, 2026

At this stage we have only 8 vans booked for the Christmas gathering.

The committee is in the process of organising the Christmas dinner and a tentative booking has been made at The Entrance Leagues Club on Saturday 28th November, in a private function room. A $400.00 holding deposit has been paid but we have to confirm by the end of August if we wish to continue with the booking.

The cost is $60 pp for a 3 course meal and our club will subsidise an amount of probably $20 pp.

If you would like to attend this event please contact Chris as soon as possible so that alternative arrangements can be made if there are insufficient numbers attending.

Contact Mobile: 0438 881 670 or email christinejjohnstone@yahoo.com.au

Winter picnic at Maree's on 13h June

This was a well attended day with 18 members and 2 visitors, Victor and Cheryl Osborne (and a friend of Marie's).

The weather was lovely for a winter's day, so we were able to sit outside.

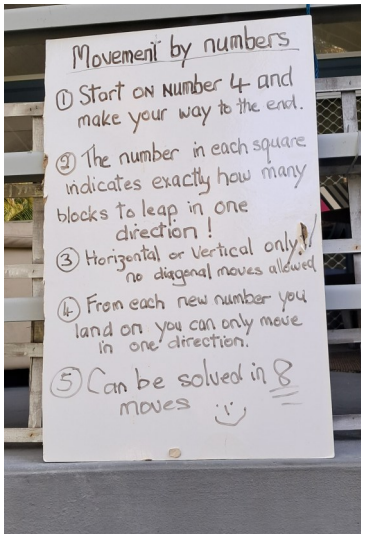
There was catch up with talk of trips and plenty of laughter and home cooked treats for all.

Again Marie produced lots of fun with games as usual, most members participated, which had many of us confused and scratching our heads, then realized some squares had the wrong number (HA HA).

A big thank you to Marie for allowing us to invade her home once again.

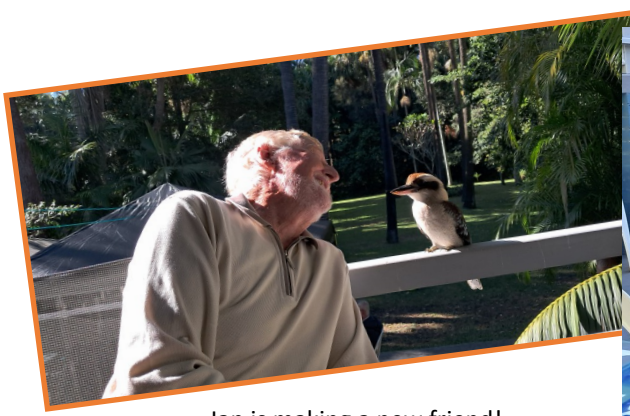
Looking forward to gatherings for the rest of 2026.

Elaine Baker



The games we play!!!

Catching up with old friends.



Ian is making a new friend!

Boggabri—Marianne Linn 24th –27th April, 2026

Rupert and I set off for Boggabri on the beautiful Black Stump Way, stopping in the lovely town of Coolah for lunch. We arrived at Drovers Camp a day earlier than planned and were able to see some of the hard work that goes into making this event such a success.

The next day, we drove to Narrabri to see the amazing Sawn Rocks, a 31 km drive from Narrabri walking along a well -maintained 750 m track.

On return to camp we found some other members had arrived. By the end of the day, we had joined eight members, two potential members and one friend, bringing our group to 13, pretty good number considering the fuel situation.

During the long Anzac weekend, we had a blast enjoying country music, checking out the antique machinery, antique cars, whip-cracking show, dog events and even participating in the yabbie race.

The group also took many organised tours of the various pastural properties in the area, one tour included a lunch at the interesting Baan Baa Hotel, which welcomes patron camping throughout the year.

On Friday night, we had a pre-booked baked dinner followed by skits and a hypnotist before heading back to our vans.
On the last day, we were tempted by interesting items at the market, which attracted lots of day visitors for just $5 a day.

We managed to enter two teams in the Trivia Quiz but were beaten by a younger team.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the company, the variety of entertainment and decided it was a well-chosen destination by our event coordinator Chris for April. We would like to thank the members who joined us for your great company

Joan Shorrock, Max Hubbard, Kevin and June Spencer, Ken Groves, Linda Heffer, and Laurie and Erica MacCormack.

The dampers being cooked on an open fire were delicious.

The dog jumping event was very entertaining.

The "Brains Trust" waiting for trivia questions.

Bathurst Gathering Summary (20–27 May)

Nine members attended the Bathurst Gathering, with two vans in the caravan park and others staying in cabins or joining locally. We also had Maree come for the weekend only. Locals, Beverley and Bronwyn hosted and met up with the group throughout the week.

Bathurst, founded in 1815 and known as Australia's oldest inland colonial settlement, offered plenty to explore. Members visited the historic city centre, Keppel Street's churches and cafes, and drove the Mt Panorama circuit despite heavy fog. The Railway Museum was a highlight, featuring *"the largest public HO model railway in Australia portraying the Great Western Line between Tarana and Bathurst during 1950's–60's."*

A 200km trip on Friday included Sofala and Hill End, *"two of Australia's most historic gold mining towns… featuring original architecture, historic pubs, mine relics and active fossicking."* Scenic lookouts at Bald Hill and Beaufoy Merlin capped off the day.

Saturday included the Lions Farmer's Market and a tour of Abercrombie House. Dinner at Bronwyn's home featured generous hospitality and a memorable apple-pie joke.

Sunday brought a relaxed walk along the Macquarie River to the River Café. Monday's visit to Wattle Flat included a restored 1800s cottage and a sausage sizzle at Perthville.

Weather was mostly crisp and sunny, with Tuesday's drizzle perfect for museums, galleries, and cafés. After a farewell happy hour, members headed home Wednesday—ready for a rest and perhaps a diet.

A warm thank you again to Beverley and Bronwyn for their excellent itinerary and hospitality.

Chris with a little help of AI

Abercrombie House

Lunch at Sofala

Dinner at Bronwyns'

Welfare Report:

Diane Luttrall has advised that everyone is well, as she has not heard from anyone to the contrary.

If you are aware of anyone having health problems of any sought and want to share this with other members, please contact Diane so she can ring them with a little bit of Club cheer.

Also if you know of anyone celebrating an important event in their lives e.g. Birth of a grandchild or great grandchild; wedding anniversary; occasion birthday (that's one ending in 0) Diane would also like to hear from you.

Diane Mobile: 0457 881 936 or email: david.diane1967@gmail.com

Up-coming events - 2026

August 26th—September 2nd—Jimmy's Beach CP Coorilla Street Hawks Nest (Host needed)

Tag-along — 14th Oct-Friday 23rd October

14-17th Queen Street, Uralla CP

17-20th Dorrigo Mountain Holiday Park

20th - 23rd Timbertown Camp Ground

(Host needed)

Christmas Gathering and A.G.M.

Wednesday 25th November—Wednesday 2nd December

Toowoon Bay Holiday Park

1 Koongara Street, Toowoon Bay

After booking your site please advise the club you are attending by completing the form at sccavanners.com/gathering-attendance.html

Hosts wanted. If you are attending any of our gatherings, you may like to be a host. Just gather information either from the internet or Tourist Information and suggest to fellow travellers places to visit or organise a night out or a coffee morning tea. The choice is yours.

At Maree's winter picnic we met our newest member—Cheryl Walker.

We wish Cheryl lots of happy Avan memories with our club.

A memory from Swansea gathering 2013

For Central Coast Residents the link below may be useful. It is a booklet of services available on the Central Coast. The lines of the index will take you to the appropriate service when you click on them. Any questions please ring Kevin on 0404 007 672

http://tinyurl.com/directoryCC

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