



Where the Victorian Goldrush began

CLUNES TRISTATE 2016

Proudly hosted by the Jackaroo Club of Australia, Victorian Branch Inc.



Welcome to Newsletter number 3. With Christmas and the New Year fast approaching, we hope you manage to stay in control and thoroughly enjoy your time with friends and family.

Registration and merchandise order forms will be sent to your inbox during early January. That will give you about a month to figure out what you want and to send all the details back. Registrations and orders close on Friday 19 February 2016.

Getting to Clunes

Clunes is most easily reached from the Western Freeway near Ballarat, which will suit the members from SA and Victoria. For those from NSW it's a bit of pot luck, perhaps cutting across to Shepparton and Bendigo then either Castlemaine, Maldon or Maryborough. All of these towns are worth exploring and cater for tourists well. On the other hand, there are plenty of minor roads if you want a more "interesting" route.

Preparing for the weather

We feel it is only fair to mention the possibility of windy weather at Clunes. During our monthly planning weekends there have been occasions where the wind was a bit of a challenge, so when you pack your gear at home, consider a windbreak. The prevailing wind comes from the valley to the south. See the town map attached.



Powered sites

There are approximately a dozen powered sites available. Priority will be given to those with a medical need on a first in basis. Most power points are 10 amp, so the use of high powered appliances such as air conditioners is not permitted for safety reasons.

Generators

A section will be set aside for those who rely on generators. Generators will only be allowed to be run between 8am and 8pm.

Water points

There are several taps located around the site, however we advise you to arrive with your tanks full. Joining hoses together or carrying a bucket or two may be necessary if you need to top up your water tank. The town water supply is ok for drinking.

Facilities

The showgrounds has a small toilet block with two unisex showers attached. We will be supplementing these with portable units. In total there will be 4 showers and 12 toilets.

Phone coverage

Both Telstra and Optus provide acceptable coverage on site. Inside a building or caravan, reception may be marginal.



Trips

There are many trip options from which you can choose. For the walkers, there is an excellent stroll to the top of Mt Beckworth, which provides great views out to the wind farm near Ararat and over the township of Clunes. A very special feature once at the top is the "lollypop pine." For the wine lovers there are some lovely vineyards to visit. For the keen 4WDers, there are some medium and difficult trips to test out your capabilities.



FYI, a certain person was happy to try out his winch twice on the Smythesdale trip.

"Welcome to Country"

When you arrive for **the start of our event on Thursday 24th March**, you will have time to savour the produce from the area and appreciate the diverse skills of the locals. It is anticipated that the following will be in attendance on the Thursday afternoon:

- Mt Beckworth Wines
- Ballarat Mushroom Farm
- Kyirong Emus
- Inglenook Dairy
- Goldfields Farmhouse Cheese
- Duncan McHary Custom Boot maker
- Wild Trout Downunder & Gordon Hat Shoppe
- Clunes Spinners and Weavers
- Harrop Engineering
- Jenny Ealey

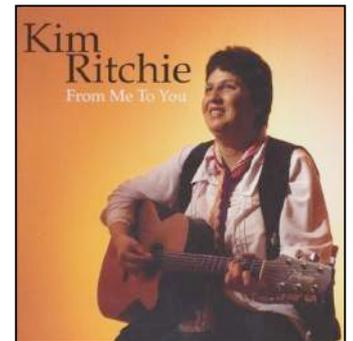
This event will go for several hours, so you will have plenty of time to sample the produce, talk with the traders, mingle and acquaint yourselves with friends from previous events.



Colin Driscoll, bush poet, will entertain us on Saturday night.



Country and variety singer, **Kim Ritchie** is booked up for Sunday night.



Sunday activities

The choices for Sunday are quite open-ended. There are two organized activities including a walk to the top of Mt Beckworth and a gold detecting experience at Quartz Mountain with tips from expert Craig Horner. Those who are serious prospectors can obtain licenses from Coiltek Gold Centre in Maryborough or hire equipment for detection either before or after Easter.



Do it yourself trips have been devised to cater for the hundreds of places we couldn't include in our program. Each registration will receive an amazing array of possible destinations.

Sponsorship

We have many generous sponsors for our event. Please support them wherever possible.

Harrop Engineering



On The Road magazine



Tyrepliers Engineering



Statewide 4x4



Mapworks



ARB Keilor Park and ARB Thomastown



BCF store in Taylors Lakes



DINNER THEME – “1860 to Booktown”

The Clunes Booktown Festival returns on Saturday 30 April & Sunday 1 May 2016, with 20,000 people expected to attend along with 72 book-traders from across Australia.

So give some serious thought to how you can get into the swing of things and dress up for our Sunday dinner, with something from this very wide topic - “1860 to Booktown”



For further information please contact Greg Moore on tristate2016@gmail.com or 0412 750 299.

