

## **RV PARK**

## **CUSTODIAN NEWSLETTER**

### Welcome to 2024 Volume 2 Edition 6

# In this edition: New Heart180 Defib Partnership, dealing with Self-Containment rules at our RV Parks, firepits, and closing apps on the iPad

CMCA is proud to announce it has installed a defibrillator at the CMCA RV Park Bundaberg. This was made possible through a \$1,000 grant from the Bundaberg Regional Council, with CMCA providing the balance of the \$3,000 cost of the unit. CMCA is looking to partner with Heart180, founded by Guy Leach, to supply these units to all our RV Parks and Caravan Parks in the coming months.



Figure 1 Defibrillator unit installed at CMCA RV Park Bundaberg

All Custodians can access the **free online training** in how to use the defib unit, or any other defib unit, through the Heart180 training.

To access the online training click here:

https://customisededucation.thinkific.com/courses/heart 180-defib-course

When you register & get to - Have a coupon?

Enter: VIP

This by-passes the payment section.



Public defib units can be located by downloading the **Defib Hero** app. Then you can search by postcode to find your nearest defib. The more units available, the more lives that can be saved.

#### **Dealing with self-containment issues**

The CMCA Self-Contained Vehicle Policy (SCV) is a document that has been developed to assist travellers in understanding how they can achieve this standard. It is not a government standard but something that CMCA has developed.

The SCV Policy is in line with the CMCA "Leave no Trace" Code of Conduct. Both documents provide the traveller with information about how we expect people to act when on the road or camping, and how they should have their RV setup to meet our requirements. Many members and all nonmembers will not be aware of our Leave no Trace Code of Conduct and expect to be able to do things at our parks that they are "allowed" to do on the road or at other campgrounds.

Even though it may seem mad to turn away guests when our parks are quiet, it is important that our self-containment rules are enforced consistently across the RV Park network. If they are not, this will create issues for other Custodians who do enforce the rules.

Provide help to those who do not have the required setup, offer suggestions on how to become compliant and share the information we have available in print form and on our website and app. Simple solutions like a grey water outlet shut-off tap with flexible hose to a sealable portable container are not expensive and can be purchased at most plumbing or hardware stores.

We have one RV Park that is an exception to this rule. At our Humpty Doo RV Park, grey water is allowed to be emptied onto the ground, but only to new trees and landscaping areas to assist the trees during the dry season and to reduce the amount of grey water being placed in the dump point tanks. Humpty Doo RV Park has 2 dump point units, however these are not connected to a sewer or septic system, therefore they must be pumped out at great expense to the owner.

Since the owner is the license holder of the park, he has requested that we allow grey water to be emptied to the landscaping areas. All vehicles must still be fully self-contained to stay at the park though. The park rules will be updated to reflect this relaxation of the grey water rules within this RV Park.

#### Fire pits and firewood

Many of our parks now have communal firepits for guests to enjoy. These are under the control of the Custodians. The main issue we have is keeping a wood supply up to these fires within a limited budget.

Custodians are encouraged to contact local companies that might have surplus timber pallets (untreated timber) that can be supplied for free for use as firewood. Local CMCA members might also be able to assist with cutting and delivering firewood from their properties.

When we need to use a contractor to supply firewood this can get very expensive. This will be done when no other alternatives are available though, to ensure guests can enjoy happy hour around a fire during winter.



Figure 2 Charleville Custodian Lawrence Webb using the new block splitter to split wood he cut on the property

A word of caution when disposing of the ash and coals from a fire. Even though you may think that they have cooled, it is important to dispose of waste carefully. We have already lost several wheelbarrow tubs and an irrigation line due to melting from hot coals.

A reminder for all is that the fire pit is not to be placed under the happy hour shelter.

#### Closing apps on the Custodian iPad

It is important to regularly check what apps are running in the background on any mobile device. The Custodian iPad is no different, especially when apps have been updated or changes have been made to the iPad settings by head office.

For example, sometimes when the email icon is checked, there will be no emails in the inbox. This could be because after applying changes in the mail settings, Outlook is still Open/Running and not applying the settings, thus the inbox looks empty on the iPad. You may need to close the app and reopen it.

Check out 'how to close apps' in this YouTube link which may assist:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ckxTWPMPzyw

If the 'double tap' on the Home button is an issue for you, use the 'bottom up' swipe approach on the iPad.

#### **Custodian Profile**

Phil and Vicki Merlo (Q134044) currently at CMCA Flax Mill Caravan Park Boyup Brook



Figure 3 Vicki and Phil Merlo (Q134044)

"We started travelling 12 months ago, sold up everything we owned and hit the road. We have been to the NT, FNQ, SA and now WA. We are here in Boyup Brook for 2 months, meeting some wonderful travellers and generally having a good time" they said.

"After here, we intend to visit the south-west and then travel north to Broome. Then it's back to QLD for Xmas with the kids, before we move on again."

"It's been good here, but itchy feet have us ready to explore other areas. We would like to thank the CMCA for giving us this opportunity and if the stars align somewhere else, well who knows!"

#### **Custodian Vacancies**

Temora NSW: 5 August – 16<sup>th</sup> September

Railton TAS: 17<sup>th</sup> September onwards

Batchelor NT: 10<sup>th</sup> September – 31<sup>st</sup> October

Penola SA: 22<sup>nd</sup> October – 4<sup>th</sup> November

If you are interested and able to assist, please call Emily on 02 4978 8788 or email <a href="mailto:emilyking@cmca.au">emilyking@cmca.au</a> as soon as possible.