



Far left: CTG's Hyundai Terracan and Cameron camper joined an Aussie Swag, Cub Kamparoo, Kimberley Kamper and Southern Cross among others. This page: Victorian cyber-bushmates meet for the first time to share a campfire ale and a few yarns.

The group plans to have at least one national meet a year

least one of these a year, so that some of the 1800 members can catch up outside the cyber-bush.

Walking along the beach, one could observe a hearty cross-section of the concept of the camper trailer, from the comfort of Roy and Anne's offroad

caravan or Mike and Sheryl's Ultimate to the somewhat simpler accommodation like Rolande and Holly's Dingo (which became the subject of much speculation over breakfast when it leaked profusely), our own Cameron with its 4m bedroom, and right down to Ron's tent.

Greg and Marge brought a Cub Spacematic, Dale was in his Aussie Swag, Tony and Chris were comfortable in their Oryx, and our closest neighbours were Ian and Penny in a beautiful Kimberley Kamper, and Robert in his Cub Kamparoo.

The funniest moment was seeing Ian come barrelling out of his Kimberley early Sunday morning in nothing but his jocks, a cloud of swear words trailing behind him, to chase off two noisy canines that had discovered his rubbish bag and endeavoured to disperse the contents throughout his camp.

Our other companions were Kevin and Karen in their Aussie Swag Rover LX, Jeff, Catherine and their kids in a Dingo offroad and Paul and Leanne in a Southern Cross offroad. Kevin endured our questions about the club graciously, and I never saw Jeff wear shoes of any kind, despite the bitter evening wind coming down the river.

As evening closed down on the Murray, the campfires grew, and the camp chairs moved closer together. With the night wind staved off, people talked about places they had been, places they wanted to go, technical solutions to camper trailer problems and other ephemera.

A sensitive nose might have scented beer, vodka, Baileys and bourbon drifting down the river that night, and the faint eruption of group laughter gurgled intermittently downwind beneath a full moon.

To find out more about the Australian Camper Trailers Group log on to www.campertrailers.org which contains heaps of information and links to other camper trailer related websites. ■