

## **Inaugural Last Carriage Club Overnight Trip Thursday and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and 11th February 2022**

### **Day 1**

After a very busy morning on and off a train and three coaches because State Rail is not running trains to Lithgow and Bathurst at present, we finally checked into our motel in Bathurst. Lunch was at the original Black Stump Hotel at Trunkey Creek; delicious food plus free wine was had by all.

From there we visited Abercrombie House for a tour. What an amazing house with 50 rooms built in the style of a Scottish Castle in 1827. It sat idle for 50 years and was ransacked. It was purchased by the Morgan family and has now been restored (a work in progress). After the self-tour of the house, we had a lovely Devonshire tea in the ballroom.

We then adjourned to Panorama Motor Inn for Happy Hour and evening meal, which was a huge country dinner.

### **Day 2**

After a hearty breakfast at the Motel, we toured around the city and drove around Mount Panorama driving circuit, certainly different in a bus, those tight corners were certainly an experience. Bathurst is a lovely thriving city with the heritage buildings well looked after and beautiful to see.

Next was a drive to the sleepy, historical village of Millthorpe. Pretty and quaint buildings. Talking to shop owners that are still trading, times have certainly been very tough and still are for them because of Covid. Most of the retail only opens on weekends now with a few luckily open when we were there. From there, running to a strict timetable with the warning that we would be left behind if late, we headed back in Bathurst to catch the State Rail coach to Lithgow. There we caught another bus to Mount Victoria to catch the intercity train, alighting at Blacktown where we caught our train home to Richmond.

It was a hectic two days, hopping on and off buses and trains, but everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, thanks to Graham's organisation. We are now looking forward to a three-day trip in September.