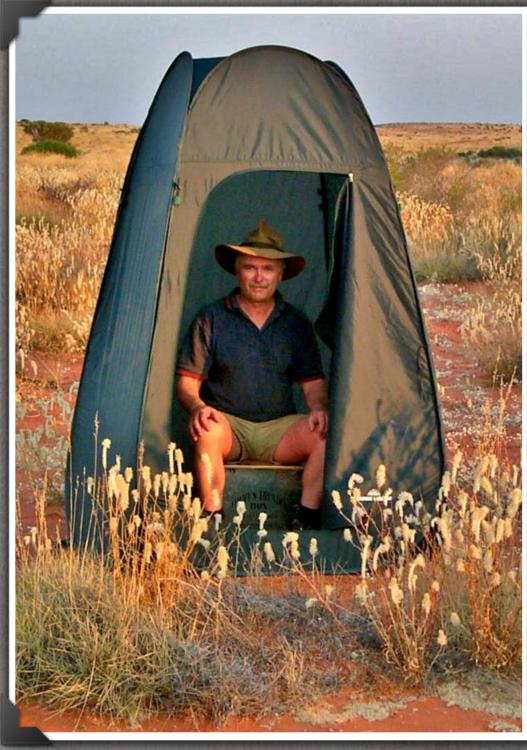


- EPIC PHOTOGRAPHERS -



# **Outdoor Toilets**

- ePic Photographers -

This small gallery depicts outdoor toilets in their numerous fashions. It also explores a few of the more common family friendly slang terms used for toilets in Australia.



### **Night Pan**

Also referred to as a Bed Pan, Potty or Bed Chamber, it was a small pan small enough to slide under a bed, and suitable for relieving one's self on. By using a pan, a person could avoid going outside in the cold and dark to relieve themselves.

### Long-drop

A basic toilet seat standing over a deep hole dug in the ground. When the pit was full the hole was capped with earth and a new hole dug, and the toilet seat (and building) was erected over the new hole.

### **Cesspit**

A more permanent pit dug in the ground (perhaps lined with brick or concrete) that was shoveled out periodically by the night soil man. The solids were taken to a remote area and were allowed to dry. Bacterial action broke down the material and it was eventually suitable to use as fertilizer. Emptying of cesspits was malodorous and considered offensive, so was performed only at night, hence the term 'night soil man.'

### Pan

A basic toilet seat standing over a large wooden or metal pan that was emptied periodically by the night soil man.

### Water closet

An indoor room containing a toilet with a seat and a container that held water above a toilet bowl to flush waste away using gravity. Previous systems were all outdoors due to the odours contained therein. The waste was flushed into a septic tank or a township treatment system.

### Septic tank

An onsite underground tank in which anaerobic bacteria digest the solid waste, leaving little residue. Waste was piped from the toilet to the septic tank with the help of water. Semi-treated water leaving the tank is absorbed into the soil via drains. Septic tanks can have their 'digestive systems' upset by chemicals and unintended matter, so use of some cleaning products etc is prohibited.

### **Waste Water Treatment Plant**

Waste flushed into a township system is largely water, with some degree of solids. Lagoons, ponds, and chambers employ both <u>aerobic</u> and <u>anaerobic</u> bacteria to provide a higher level of treatment. Treated water is usually used to irrigate pastures, and the solids that settle in the lagoons can eventually be used as a soil conditioner. Due to the large quantities of waste involved, considerable methane gas is released, and in some facilities is trapped and used as a fuel to operate motors to generate electricity.

Long Drops, Cesspits and pans have been largely superseded by the Water Closet, together with Septic or Township based systems. However some remote areas still utilise Long Drops which are erected though at a slightly elevated level with a special 'composting' chamber below. Other remote systems have a below ground containment chamber which is pumped out regularly and the waste transported to a township system for treatment.

### CHAMBER POT

A pot stored near or under beds and used as a toilet during the night



OLD CHAMBER POT AS SEEN AT THE HISTORIC LAKE VIEW HOUSE AT CHILTERN



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## DUNNY

Australian slang for toilet













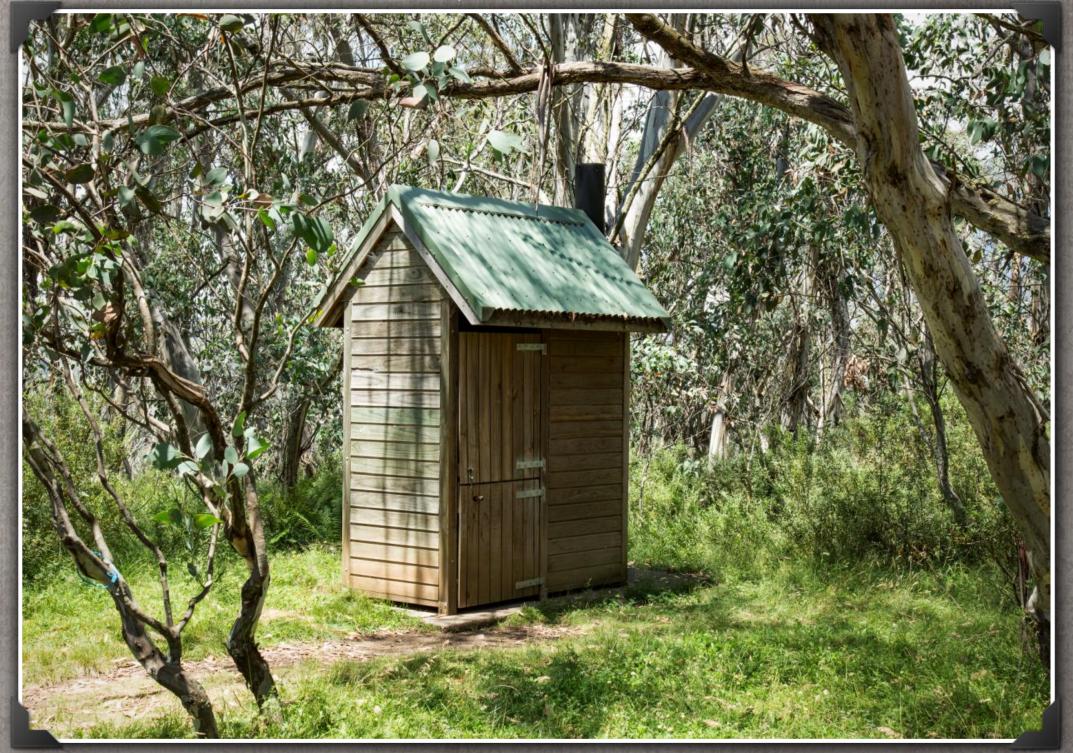
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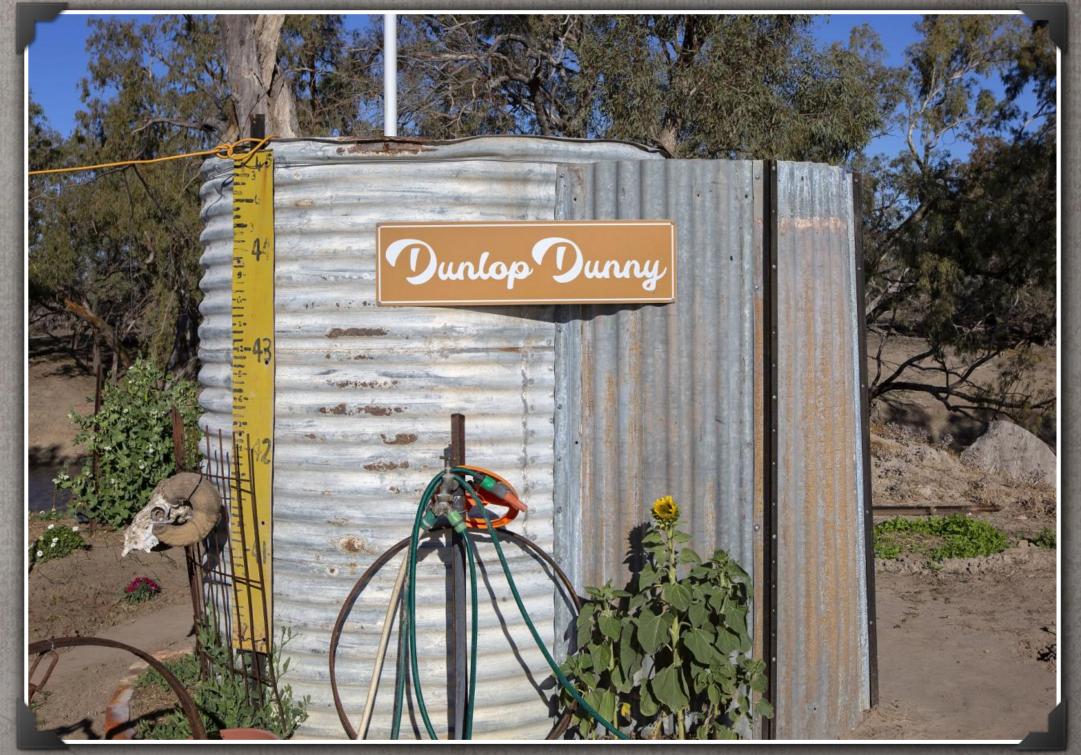




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## OUTHOUSE

Australian slang for outdoor toilet



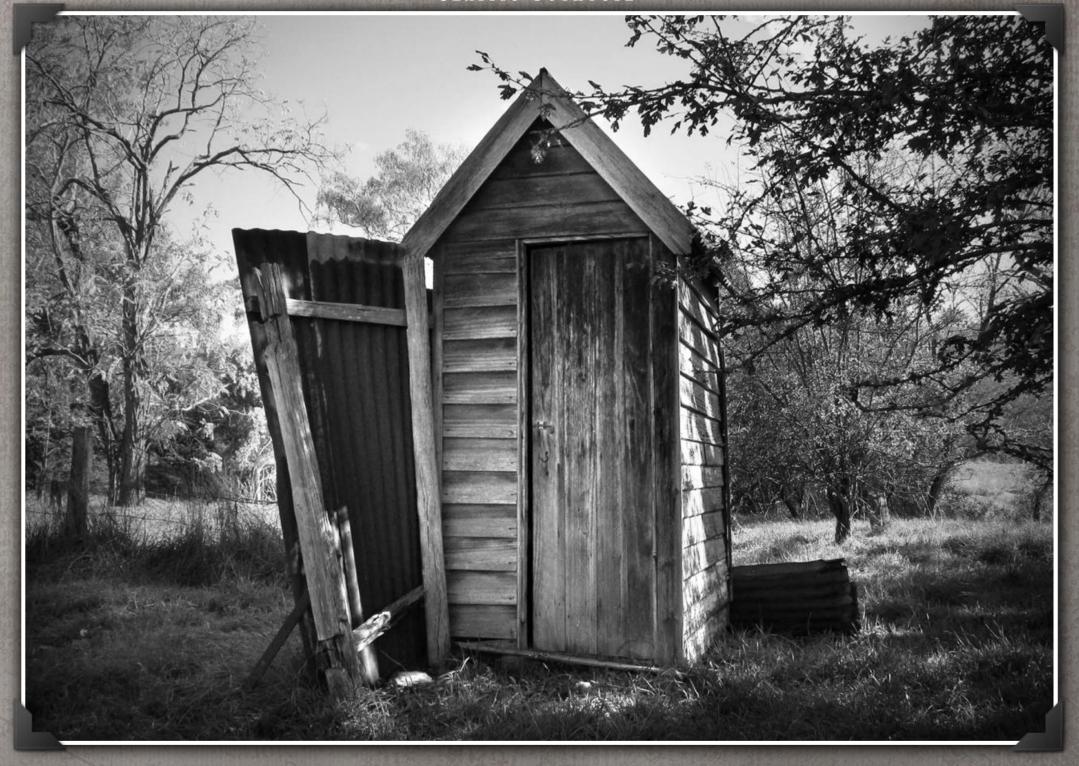


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### CONVENIENCE

Australian slang for toilet due to their convenience





















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## LOO

Informal English word for toilet often used in Australian culture







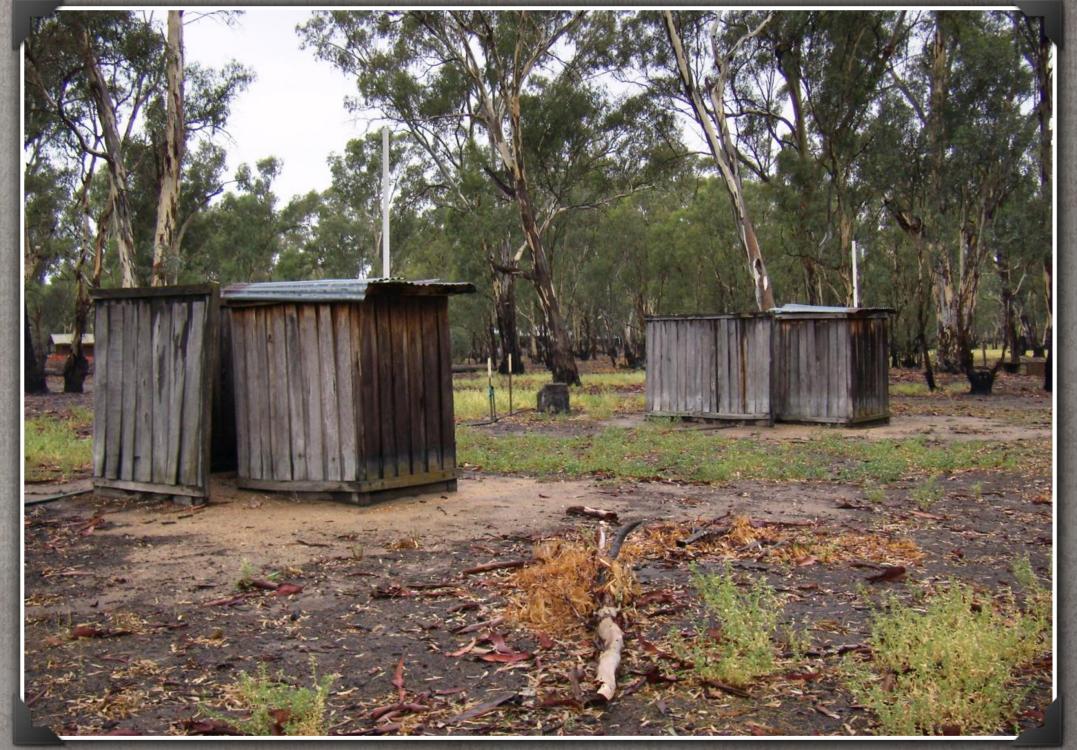


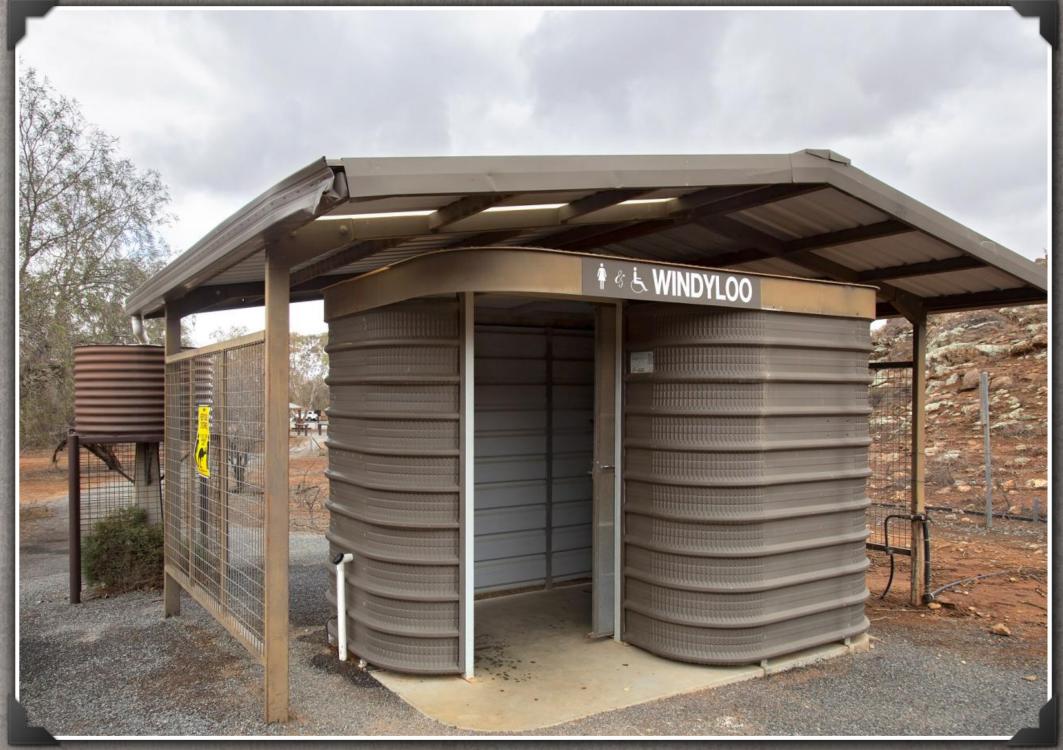
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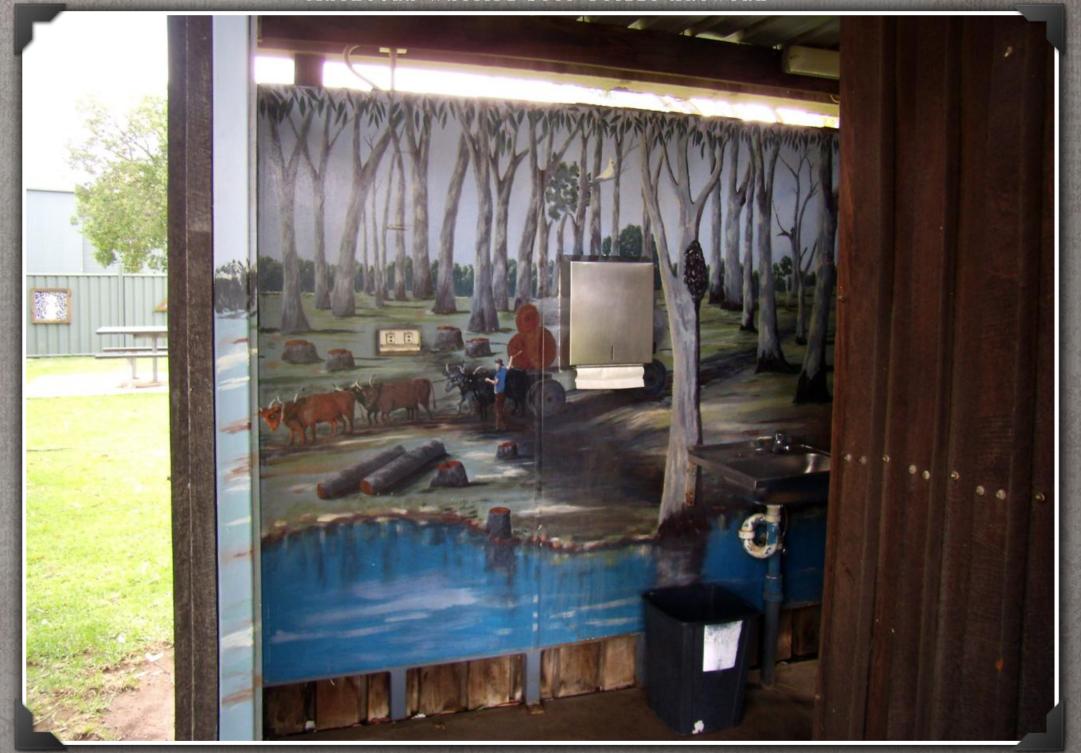












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## LATRINE

American Military term often used in Australia











## JOHN

American term for toilet







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## LAVATORY (Lav)

Derived from the Latin term for washing. It grew to include toilets which have wash basins



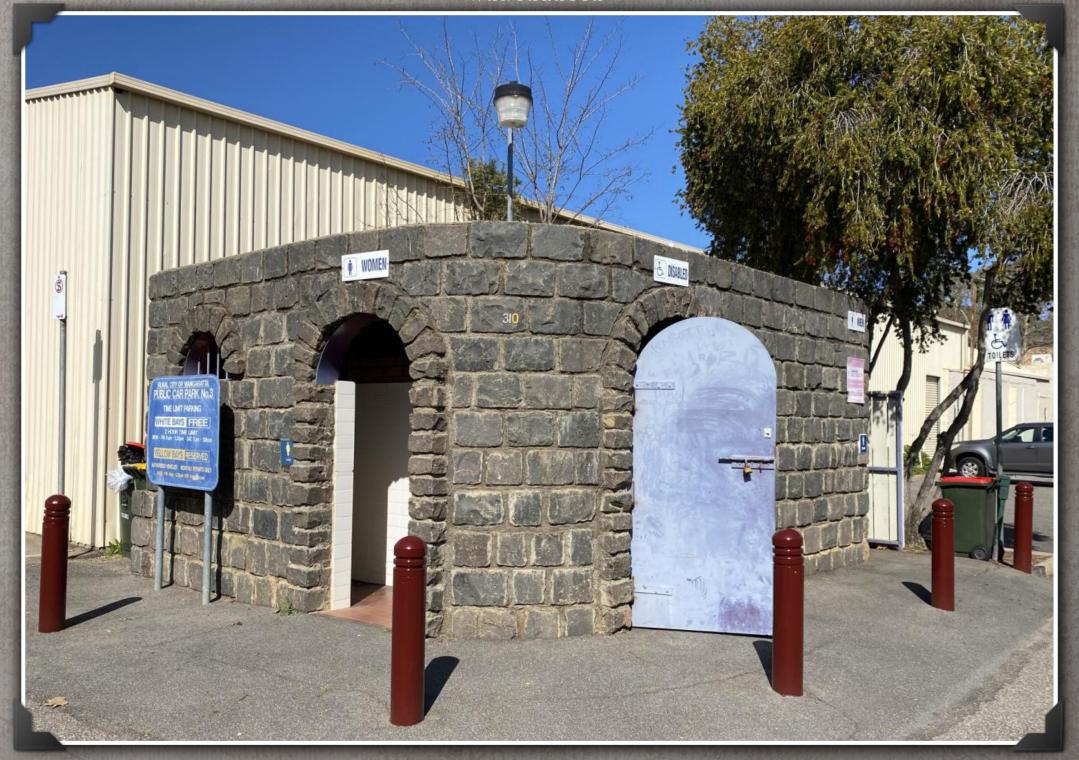






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### PRIVY

First used in England and short for 'Private'







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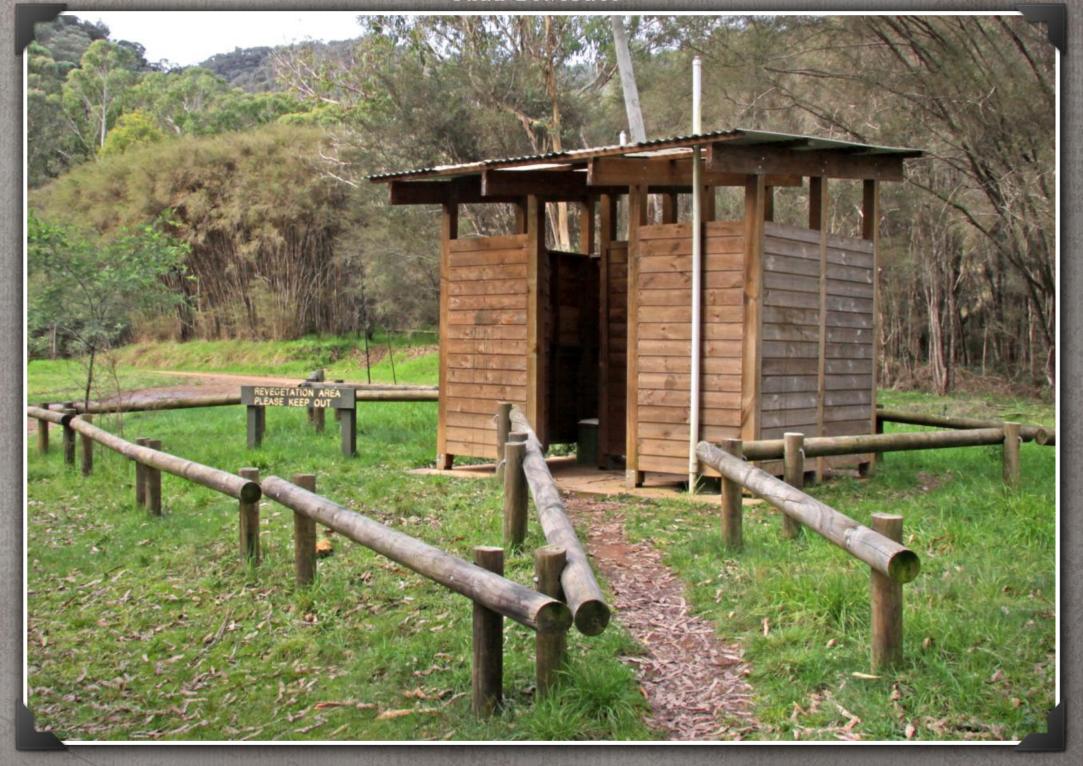
## LONGDROP

Australian slang for toilet, taken from the long-drop toilet where a seat was positioned over a deep pit





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# WATERCLOSET (WC)

A European term for a room with a flushing toilet





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#### TOOT

Australian slang for a toilet



NOTE THE FLOOD LEVEL ON THE INNAMINKA CAMP GROUND TOILET NEAR COOPER CREEK



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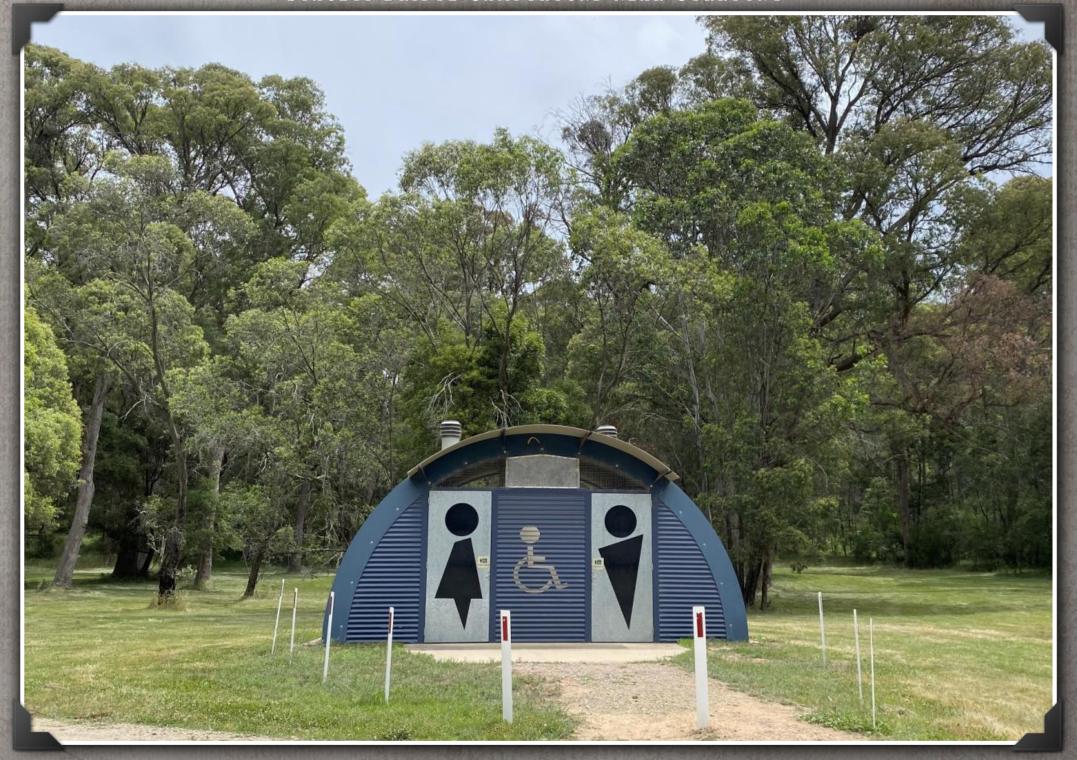


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#### **PORTALOO**

Australian term for a portable toilet









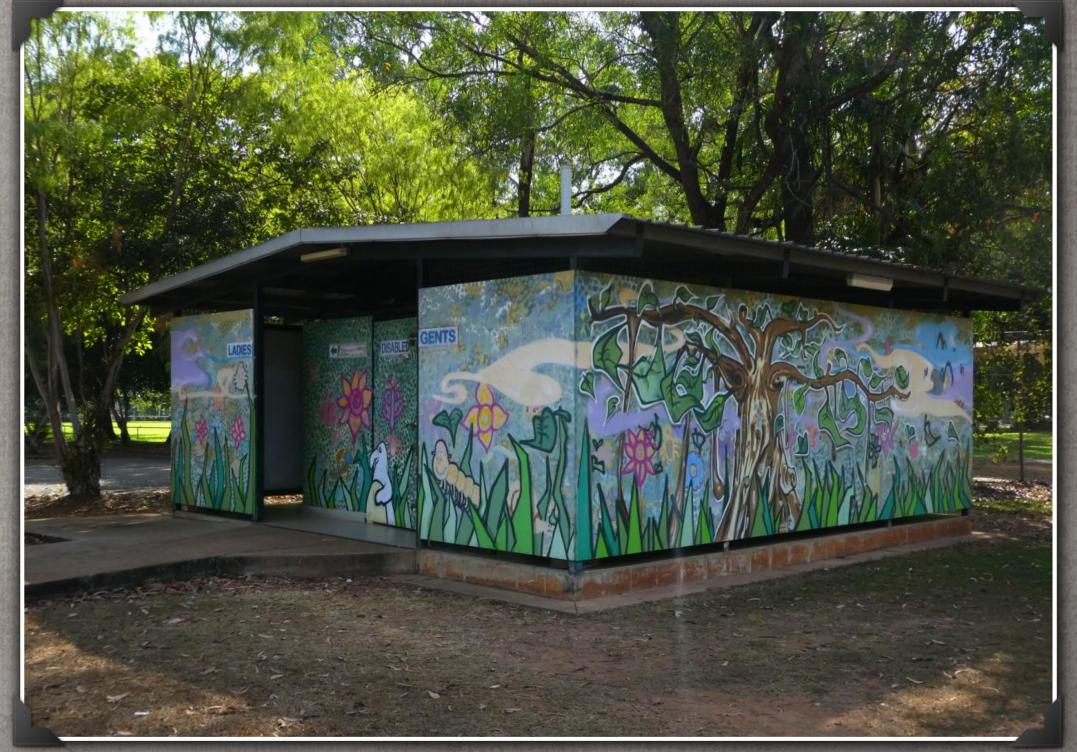


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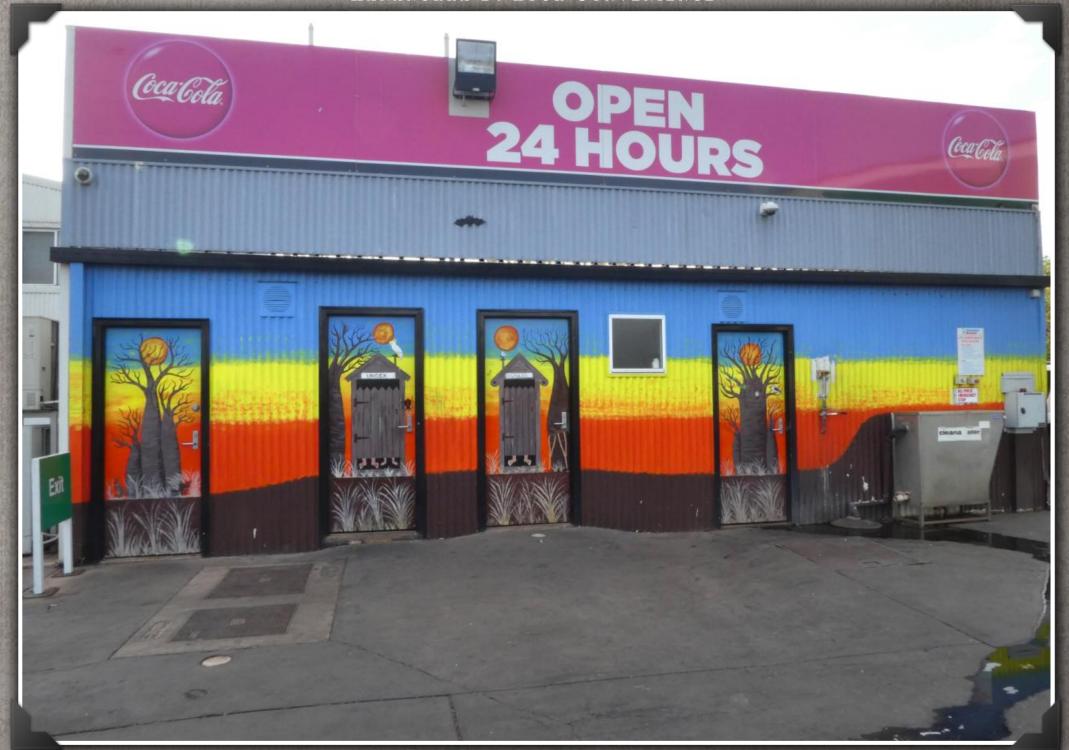
## ARTISIC

Artistically Decorated Australian Toilets





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## HIGHEST TOILET IN AUSTRALIA

The highest toilet in Australia is at Rawsons Pass near the summit of Mt Kosciusko.



MAINLAND AUSTRALIA'S MOST WESTERLY DUNNY (STEEP POINT, WA)



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#### 'epic'

epic - (adjective) Surpassing the usual or ordinary. ePic - (noun) Illustrated by electronic pictures.



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#### ePic Photographers

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