The Journal

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www.accsa.asn.au

Association of Caravan Clubs South Australia

Celebrating 49 years of service to Caravanning in South Australia

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ACCSA Mission:
To promote caravan clubs to the general public represent caravan clubs at a public and industry level, and assist all members to safely enjoy the caravan and camping lifestyle.

President's Report, February 2025

Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a great New Year.

By now all clubs will have had their first rally for 2025 hoping you're all enjoying the company of fellow caravanners within your clubs.

Thanks to the 4 clubs and their members who volunteered on the ACCSA stand at the Caravan & Camping SA Show. Let's hope all clubs who are seeking new members benefit from this event. Special thanks to Graham Brown and Sandra Anderson who helped set up the display, and the Carefree and Southern Cross members who volunteered to judge the Show displays at the Caravan & Camping SA show.

2025 will be a bit less hectic for the ACCSA committee with the only major events this year being the 2 Caravan & Camping Shows and the 19th National Caravan Clubs Rally to be held in Mudgee NSW. It is great to see a good representative from SA attending the event from 29th September – 7th October 2025.

Could I please remind all clubs to send their rally reports and expenditures to Lesley Davis ldavis@outlook.com.au for inclusion in the bi-monthly journal.

In closing it would be great to see more clubs involved in the ACCSA delegates bi-monthly meeting to be involved in the decisions and future of ACCSA, these meetings are held as zoom meetings, even if we have a face to face to have all clubs involved. If delegates are unavailable, it would be appreciated for a club representative to attend.

Yours in Caravanning

John Anderson
ACCSA President

ACCSA's stand at the Caravan and Camping Show.

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Southern Cross Caravan Club

Location of Rally: Moana Caravan Park

Date of Rally: 27 Nov—2 Dec 2024

No of Vans: 18 **Cabins:** 4 **No. of Adults** 41

Expenses Incurred:

Park fees per night: $50 (Cabins: $180)
Total site fees: $3780
Other expenses (food, entertainment, fuel, etc)$8,000
Total spend: $11,780

On arrival: Meet by friendly management and allocated sites. People with dogs in allocated area.

The park and surrounds: Most sites nice size and grassed, very clean amenitites. Very small camp kitchen so set up club gazebos.

Things we did at this rally:

MOANA XMAS RALLY REPORT Reporter — Sandy
Wednesday Nov 27th
Some caravanners went to Moana earlier than the Rally proper to enjoy a longer time out. Ian and Jenny arrived in their new van and spent the time in learning what worked and what didn't. They also showed us how to load and unload electric bikes from the front frame of the van. Impressive!!
Thursday Nov 28th
The weather was favourable and most of the caravanners arrived on this day. Those with dogs had their own special area. After setting up and decorating their vans, all assisted in setting up the gazebos ready for our Xmas celebrations and enjoying each others company over BYO dinner.
Friday Nov 29th
The morning walkers did their thing whilst others slept in and than just sat around chatting, chasing the shade and drinking coffee and enjoying free time.
Saturday Nov 30th
The morning walkers did their thing again and joined us for morning tea until we all frocked up a bit to have a Xmas lunch at the Aldinga Hotel. The meal was paid for by the club and the menu included Xmas turkey roast and Xmas pav,cake & Bread & But-ter pudding. A really delightful meal and it went down a treat. We missed a few members who had other commitments or work and unable to attend.
We all went back to camp and eagerly waited for Father Xmas so that we could get our pressies and sit on his knee. Let's face— we are after all—big kids at heart. I think Father Xmas had a good time too!!
This merged into happy hour and the evening meal—not that we needed too much after our big lunch.
Sunday Dec 1st
We had our usual Queen's Brekky at 9.05am and then did the"Tizer Quizz" where we excelled ourselves with a score of 42—the best we have ever done. Some went off to the Christies Beach markets or visited the Op Shops in Beach Road and enjoyed free time until happy hour where the boys dismantled the gazebos. The weather was kind to us so we were able to enjoy the sunshine, walk on Moana Beach and have our BYO meal together.
Monday Dec 2nd
Most of us had to pack up and head home after our last 2024 rally. All agreed that Moana was a good caravan park. It was our first time there as they previously were not pet friendly.

Recommended or not: Yes.

Club Rally Reports

ADELAIDE CARAVAN CLUB

Location: Nuriootpa

Date of Rally: 7-11 November 2024
No of Vans: 18 **Adults: 36**
Expenses Incurred:
Park Fees $46
Total site fees: $3100
Other Expenses: $1800
Total spend at rally: $ 4900

On arrival: Check in was smooth as most had paid in advance.

The park and surrounds: As usual, the park was well maintained. We were in the section nearest to the oval. Most sites were well grassed but a couple were a bit dirty due to overuse. We used the camp kitchen down by Section A. The pool looked inviting but the weather didn't perform until the Sunday!

Things we did at this rally: This was our AGM rally so we were all interested to see just who would put their hands up for the various positions due to the retirement of many long-serving members. We had dinner on the Saturday night before the meeting in the Vine Inn who gave us the use of the Hoopman Room again. Dinner was very tasty and the meeting ran smoothly. We welcomed a new group of volunteers to guide us for the next 12 months.

As usual, we had a mix of weather, resulting in us using the camp kitchen for happy hours and long tables on the Thursday and Friday nights. On Sunday, we were able to sit out around the vans for BBQs etc.

During the day, we made trips to Wohlers in Tanunda, visited wineries and distilleries, the bakeries in Nuri and Tanunda, the market at Angaston on Saturday, op shops and other local attractions.

Recommended: Yes

Location: Port Hughes

Date of Rally: 5-9 December 2024
No of Vans: 17 **Adults: 32**
Expenses Incurred:
Park Fees $45
Total site fees: $3000
Other Expenses: $2000
Total spend at rally: $ 5000

On arrival: We arrived on the hottest day of the year and waited patiently to get our site allocation.

The park and surrounds: We were in the shady but dusty part but all together. Amenities were very clean. Great camp kitchen with air conditioning, but poor acoustics. Fantastic swimming pool (which was well used on Thursday and Friday). Great boardwalk to the southern beach which was delightful.

Things we did at this rally: This was our Christmas rally so we went to the camp kitchen for happy hours and long tables but ate out at the Tavern on Saturday night for our Christmas show. Food was well received and all had a great time.

We had fun sitting out around our vans each evening and made visits to Moonta Bay, Moonta mines, op shops, bakeries (one which had a pasty—one end the usual, other end apple pie).

We also had a decorated van competition which caused some fun.

Recommended: Yes

Above: Winners of the best decorated camp site with their prize. Right: One of the best entries.

Location: Lake Albert CP, Meningie

Date of Rally: 30 January—3 February 2025
No of Vans: 17 **Cabins: 1** **Adults: 33**
Expenses Incurred:
Park Fees from $42-47 (lake front dearer)
Total site fees: $2750

On arrival: Check in was smooth as most had paid in advance.

The park and surrounds: This park is really well looked after. Sprinklers are always on and the grass is lush green, especially on the lakefront sites in the B section. The amenities are among the cleanest we've ever experienced. Camp kitchen is huge—has fans for hot weather, slow combustion stove for cold weather and tables and chairs as well as BBQ (bit slow), ovens etc. The ambience of sitting looking at the lake and the pelicans takes some beating!

Things we did at this rally: We walked to Freshies each morning for our coffee/breakfast/cake. Also walked into town to the foreshore area to visit the bakery, butcher and coffee shop. The op shop was checked out by most. We had a few kayakers on the lake and went out to the golf club and hotel for dinner.

Lots of opportunities to socialise and catch up on what had happened over the Christmas break. Plenty of shade for what turned out to be a hot weekend.

Recommended: Yes.

LeftL How to keep cool in Meningie!

Below: Nature provides the entertainment.

DAVE BENSON CARAVAN CLUB

Location of Rally: Wallaroo Holiday Park

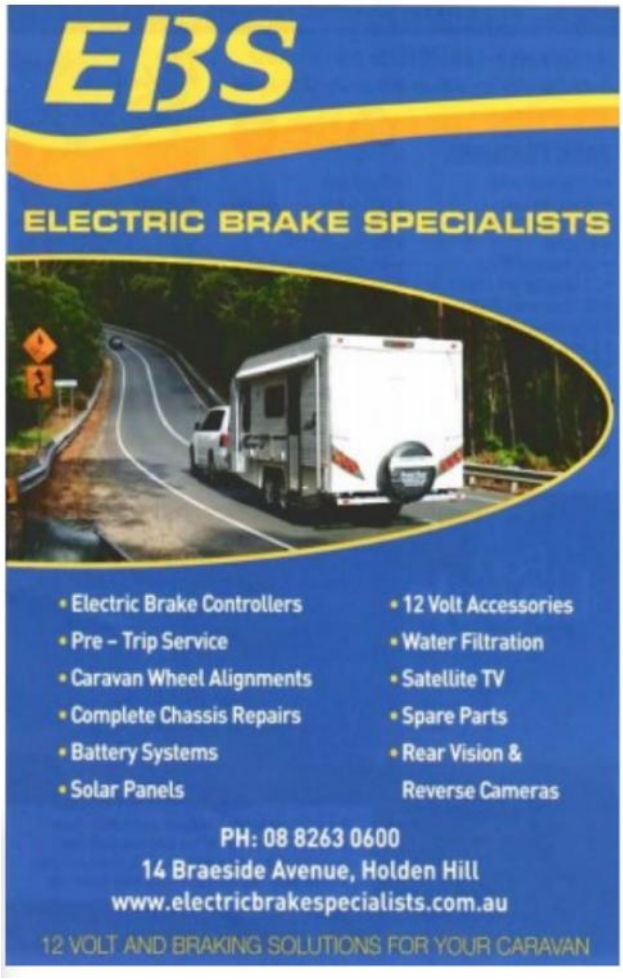
Date of rally: 14-21 February 2025
No of Vans: 7 Vans, 1 Cabin, 1 local visitor **Adults:** 14
Expenses:
Site fees: $44 powered site (10% discount for Gday members
Total site fees: $1960 (+ cabin)

The park and surrounds: A clean tidy park with good facilities and an excellent camp kitchen. The grassed sites are very nice but the others leave a lot to be desired.

What we did at this rally: A good jetty close to the caravan park. Great beach and good grass and shade overlooking the ocean. Plenty of places to drive to and many eating establishments.

Len Deen

Below: North Beach at Wallaroo



Club Rally Reports

BAROSSA VALLEY C&C CLUB

Location: Moonta Bay Holiday Park

Date of Rally: 7-10 February 2025

No of Vans: 10 **Cabins:** 2

Site Fees: Powered sites $42. ($48 deposit deducted from total)
Total Site Fees: $1260 + cabins
Total Expenditure: $6000

On arrival: We had early check in for caravans at 12-00 and cabins 2 pm. This worked a lot better for setting up vans but we were not on lawn. Staff were friendly. Ground staff were out and about and very helpful. The Park map was easy to follow as were the directions.

The park and surrounds: Toilet and shower areas were clean and tidy but as there were only 2 of each in our area you had to wait.
Camp kitchen accommodated all of our group, but the acoustics were extremely bad. Air conditioning or power were not available on Sunday. Such a shame as it was a lovely clean camp kitchen and accommodated our group. The rest of our meetings, games and happy hours were spent under a beautiful tree between 2 vans.

Things we did: We would recommend Capella's Restaurant & Cloe's Café at the Moonta Garden Centre.
Visited hospitality venues, op shops & plant sellers.
Safe travels
Shirley Reljich

Next rally: Normanville 21-23 March 2025.

CAREFREE CARAVANEERS

Location of Rally: Avoca Dell, Murray Bridge

Date of rally: December 2024

The park and surrounds: The park is opposite a reserve which abuts the river front. The park was clean and tidy and the staff very helpful. The meeting room which we utilised for our catered Christmas lunch was just large enough for our 44 members attending, however, the accoustics were a little disappointing. With 40 members present and talking it was very loud.

We had a visit from Father Christmas with Kris Kringle presents handed out by the man himself.

Things we did at this Rally.

Held our Christmas Caravan Decorating Contest. The park managers were the judges and once again the Zeuner's caravan won the competition. Third time in a row for the Zeuner's. Travelled into Murray Bridge and had lunch at the Bridgeport Hotel. Very nice but service was a bit ordinary due to the number attending. Enjoyed entertainment by Ian Coulter who was a one man band. Some Karoke from members but they soon cleared the Hall.

Recommended: Yes

Location of Rally: Minlaton

Date of rally: February 2025

The park and surrounds: The park is very neat the tidy and well kept. Camp kitchen very large and well kept. BBQ's very clean every day.

Things we did: We were lucky the weather was over 40 degrees the day before our rally commenced, but was kind to us for the next four days. We enjoyed a BBQ for dinner the first night with shared salad. We visited Barley Stacks Winery for a tasting in the afternoon.

Morning tea of scones and jam and cream for Valentines day. Lunch at the Port Vincent Hotel. Egg and Bacon Rolls for breakfast and played a very competitive game of ladder golf, disc bowls and finska. Dinner of left over sausages, bacon, rolls and patties. On the last day some members went crabbing and fishing at Port Giles. Not much luck only one squid and two or three garfish.

Recommended: Yes.

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Southern Cross Caravan Club

Date of Rally: 6-10 February 2025

Location of Rally: Lake Albert Caravan Park, Meningie

No of Vans: 19 **No of Cabins:** 2 **No. of Adults:** 39

Expenses Incurred: Park fees per night: $42.30 Cabins: $160

Total site fees: $4175

Other expenses (food, entertainment, fuel, etc): $3440

Total spend: $7615

On arrival: Quick check in as all had made final payment before arrival, check in sheet at office with all detail, site number, toilet and gate codes.

The park and surrounds: All sites nice size and grassed. Very clean amenities. Good camp kitchen. We used the grassed area by the lake, great ambience. Short walk to pub and town.

Things we did at this rally:

Thursday 6 February 2025
Most arrived in the afternoon and set up to sunny conditions much more pleasant than what we've all experienced in previous days of 40 deg. The countryside is very dry and region in drought conditions. Long Table dinner after Happy Hour overlooking Lake Albert.

Friday 7 February 2025
The morning was fresh with sun appearing for our Long Table Morning Tea by the Lake. Thanks to those who warmed the scones in their ovens. All brought out their best cups and saucers, tablecloths, floral arrangements and a variety of hats for the occasion. Many walked to town for a shop wander or drove to see local points of interest. Our Committee Meeting was held in the afternoon followed by Happy Hour on the back lawn trying to escape from the wind but to no avail. We all enjoyed BYO Dinner and evening in the Camp Kitchen.

Saturday 8 February 2025
Woke up to a very pleasant morning with light breeze and sun shining. A quick Morning Tea in the Camp Kitchen to discuss the Coorong drive route for the day. 10 vehicles and CB radios set off in convoy towards Narrung where we stopped for a view at the Point Malcom Lighthouse before crossing the Murray by Ferry to a very nice camping area and toilet facilities with quite a few campers, were told 24 vehicles overcrowded that night. A visit to Raukken Aboriginal community, Church on the $50 note, very tidy community town with a few murals. Then off to Mark Point Landing for lunch break where there was a windmill and historic long stone water trough and tank. This was a well maintained camping area by National Parks. After lunch we headed to Long Point on Lake Alexandrina and views of the Coorong where we saw a seal resting on the jetty and many black swans, it was very blustery conditions so all returned to their cars for the trip back.
Happy Hour in the Camp kitchen, there were 39 of us who enjoyed our pre-ordered dinner at the Meningie Hotel that evening. Afterwards we returned for more socializing and a drink in the Camp Kitchen.

Sunday 9 February 2025
Warm and overcast morning by the Lake for our Long Table Queen's Breakfast. Followed by Morning Tea & Tizer Quiz in the Camp Kitchen. Score for Quiz 41. The morning enjoyed by a few short walks around the Park and nearby Oval, then sat for a chat under the shade of gum trees by the lake watching groups of pelicans "squadron, pod or brief" and other birdlife. By 1pm most walked over for a refreshment drink at "Freshies" Café. We then had to do a little physical exercise of disc bowls for the afternoon. Disc bowls continued during Happy Hour and for some dinner while others decided to hitch up and eat inside. Again, in the Camp Kitchen afterwards.

Monday 10 February
Beautiful sunny morning with calm waters on the Lake, we could have easily stayed another day but packed up to head home following our first Rally for 2025 and all agreed a great rally.

Recommended or not: Yes

Next rally location & date: Port Vincent Foreshore Caravan Park 13th-17th March 2025

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Monday 29th September to Tuesday 7th October 2025
All attendees must depart on Wednesday 8th October, with the exception of volunteers.

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