Association of Caravan Clubs, SA Inc.

The Journal

www.accsa.asn.au

November
2016

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Next Delegates Meeting

Wednesday
December 7th, 2016
at **7.30pm**

Guest Speaker from CMCA discussing "Leave No Trace"

Walkerville RSL Hall
98 Walkerville Tce
Walkerville
All Welcome!
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE BEFORE THE MEETING
Next Meeting 1 Feb 2017

Celebrating 40 Years of Service to Caravanning in South Australia

Editor: Keith Thompson
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The Association of Caravan Clubs, SA has, as it's **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 CHATTER:

INCREASING MEMBERSHIP

A number of Clubs have expressed an interest in increasing their membership. The greater number of members that we have in ACCSA increases our ability to represent caravanners. It is also important that the Association gain recognition from the Caravan and Tourist Industry.

We have applied to the Caravan and Camping Industry for a site at the Caravan and Camping Show on **Wednesday 15th to Sunday 19th February, 2017** . This will provide an opportunity to re-establish a working relationship with the Caravan and Tourist Industry Association.

In the event we are able to acquire a site and your Club is interested in providing members to be rostered at the site during the four days please advise me with their details and their preferred time and dates.

It is also necessary to forward details of a contact person within your Club to be provided to persons registering an interest in joining a club.

This information is required by the 31st of December,2016.

VALE

It is with sadness that we advise the members of affiliates of the Association of Caravan Clubs of S.A. of the passing of Albert "Bert" Rix. Bert was a Past President (1980-83) of the South Australian Club and was awarded Life Membership in 1995. Bert was well known for his achievements working with ACCSA and was President of the First National Caravan Rally held at Mildura 1971/72. At the 15th National Rally at Rockingham, Bert was presented with a Certificate acknowledging his attendance at the 15 rallies held since its inception. Bert's distinguished association with Caravan Clubs will be hard to surpass.

Safe Travelling.
Graham Brown,

FROM THE EDITOR:

Our sponsor at Cara-Rest Supplies has advised that 'The Great Outdoor Christmas Sale' is on, see page 13. Call in to Cara-Rest Supplies at 64 Grand Junction Rd Kilburn for the catalogue and to see their other specials.

The cold and wet weather seems to be over for now and we can look forward to better caravanning conditions, although we must now be alert to extreme fire danger days and avoid travelling into or staying in areas when they are likely to be affected by bushfires.

NOTE:

PLEASE SUBMIT CLUB REPORTS FOR THE FEBRUARY JOURNAL **BEFORE 22 JANUARY, 2017.**

BAROSSA VALLEY CARAVAN & CAMPING CLUB

October Rally: at McLaren Vale, 14-17th October 2016	8 Vans, 2 Visitors Sites $36 per day. Food, petrol, etc. $700

8 vans arrived for rally, with other members visiting over the weekend. Forty A-Vans were also at the park. Saturday morning, we went to Willunga markets where there was a good selection of local foods & produce. "a great country market". Excellent lunch at cottage bakery. Back at the park we had happy hour & combined dinner with lots of lovely salads & desserts for all. Dinner was held in the well-equipped camp kitchen.
Sunday rained heavily, lunch at McLaren Vale hotel, Hotel meal was good value for the money, average cost for main course $20. We then moved on to the visitor centre for coffee & cake again, good value, well worth visiting.
The McLaren Vale caravan park is clean and tidy with plenty of lawn area, with park host being client orientated

November Rally: at Morgan, 2nd-5th November	12 Vans, 2 Visitors. Sites Approx $1500. Food, Petrol, Cruise etc., $1500 (Powered sites, $34 a night)

On Saturday members visited many of the attraction Morgan has to offer including Morgan Wharf, Landseer Museum and others. That afternoon we had a game of disc bowls preparing for the State Rally, Saturday evening saw nineteen members boarding the Barrungal for a two course dinner cruise on the Murray entertained by Peter Goers and Anthony Lamond cost of $55 a head, what a great night.
The Caravan park is relatively small, clean, good amenities, with nice new camp kitchen and BBQ, and swimming area. The park has both lawned and metal sites. Unfortunately, a down side is that some of these sites are three deep, not allowing a van to escape in an emergency.

Next Rallies: December: Kapunda, January: Lunch at Lyndoch Hotel

CARAVAN CLUB OF SA INC

November Rally at McLaren Vale	5 Vans

There were 5 vans at the successful McLaren Vale Rally. Gary and I were the first ones to arrive and after setting up Gary decided to try to get our satellite dish working. He was still trying when Doug and Diane arrived about an hour later and still trying when Bob and Mary arrived another half an hour later. Bob and even a few other park residents joined in trying to find the satellite but in spite of all their efforts our normal TV aerial went up! Peter, Jane and family arrived next then Gary and Janette just after 8.

On Saturday morning, most of us went into McLaren Vale but Peter was the only one to buy wine although we all bought something at the shops. In the afternoon, we played a couple of games then just sat around and relaxed. We went to the Red Gum Chinese restaurant in the evening, where we had a nice meal and Gary & Janette's delightful 4 year old grandchild Olivia kept us entertained with her comments.

We had to be out by 10 on Sunday so, apart from Gary & Janette who had paid for a late checkout, we were all on the road early after a pleasant walk around the park.

Norma D.

Next Rallies: To be advised

ACCSA 2017 STATE RALLY
AN UPDATE on the 2017 STATE RALLY,
to be held at the Loxton Caravan Park on 4th - 8th May, 2017

The next ***State Rally Planning Committee meeting*** will be on **Thursday 19th January 2017** at the **Elizabeth Playford Lions Club** Den at the corner of **Hilcott & Figsbury Streets, Elizabeth North,** @ **10.00am**

The Planning Committee are progressing with the plans for the State Rally in May, 2017. There has been a strong focus on supporting the local community and we encourage you as members of ACCSA to throw your support behind this venture.

The current committee consists of the following members;

Graham, Jacquie Brown and Keith McAloney - Carefree Caravanneers

Frank Gratton and Reg Merritt -Elizabethan Caravan Club

John Baans and John Anderson - Southern Cross Caravan Club

Jeff Gaskin - Barossa Valley Caravan Club

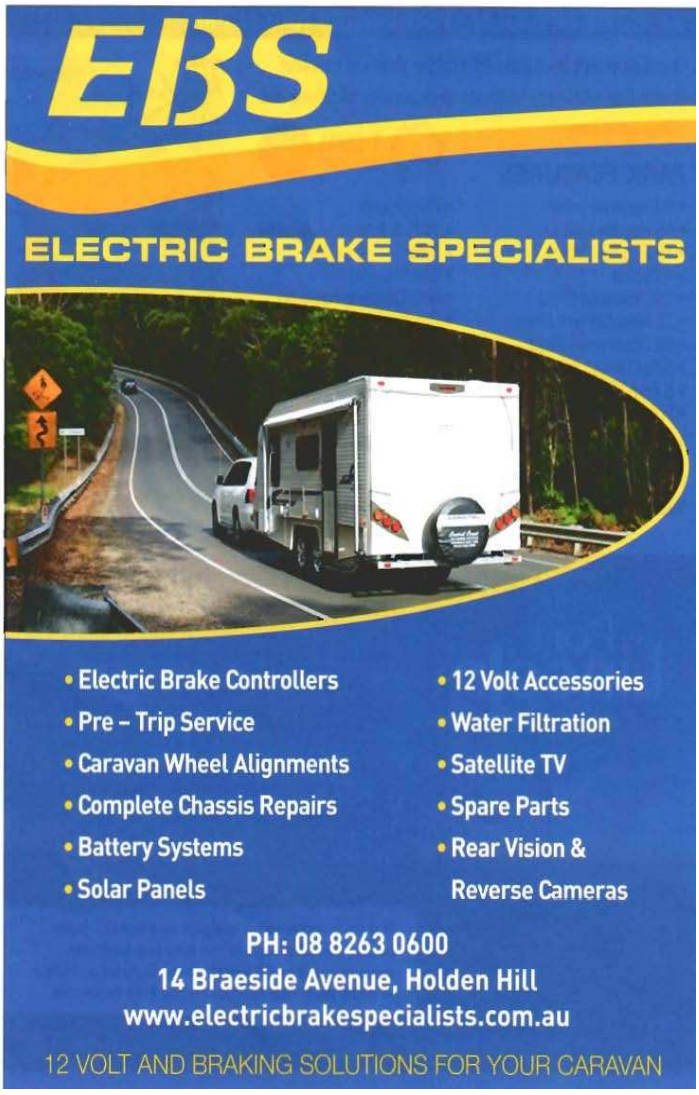
In addition, we are consulting with Kay Parrotta and Alistair Nixon-Smith of the Riverland Caravan Club seeking their local knowledge and advice on preparing the program.

The registration forms will be distributed in December and we seek your co-operation in completing the form and returning it as soon as possible to assist in the planning stage.

Registration Forms will be available in early January, with a closing date of 31st of March. All details regarding costs and the programme will be available then.

For further information, or to put forward your ideas or suggestions for the Rally, please contact either Graham Brown, ACCSA President or Frank Gratton ACCSA Treasurer.

This is YOUR Rally- We would really appreciate YOUR input and assistance.



RIVERLAND CARAVAN CLUB

October and November Rallies

(nearly) at Morgan, Lyrup and (hopefully) Eckert's Creek

Riverland Caravan Club still has members away tripping up north while more recently, the weather has been against us.

October Rally:
We were to have gone to Headings Landing for this rally but changed the venue to Centofanti's property at Eckerts Creek instead.
We only had three vans present but numbers were swelled by day trippers on the Saturday. In spite of the rumours, the yabbies were not biting so we filled in our time by eating, playing cards, bingo, reading and yarning.

November Rally:
Venue for this rally was to have been Kingston on Murray but this was heavily booked for the Riverstock Festival at Moorook. Instead, we went back to Andrew Centofanti's property at Eckerts Creek. More people attended so we finished up with six vans plus day trippers
We had set up camp on the Friday, then went in to the Monash Club for dinner. We had placed our order when we were hit by the worst hail storm to hit the Riverland for many years. It came out in the press later that damage to crops and properties exceeded $110 million. Fortunately, there was no damage to our camp site although some of us sustained property damage at home.

Next Rallys: As well as carrying out our usual activities, we set our agenda for 2017. Once again we will not hold rallies in the summer months but will go to Glossop Hall for lunch in December and to Renmark Council Chambers in January & February. We will then follow our home and away format for the following months.

Greetings from the SA Camping and Motor Home Club of Australia Ltd (CMCA) team.

Yorke Peninsula bush camping sites:
One of our representatives, Roger Hogben, has been working with the Yorke Peninsula Council and this has resulted in the approval of 16 bush camping sites in this tourism hot spot.
Have a look at these links for more information.

http://www.visityorkepeninsula.com.au/camping/places-to-camp
http://www.visityorkepeninsula.com.au/yorke-peninsula-bush-camping#/tours/81621
http://www.visityorkepeninsula.com.au/accommodation/results

There are four RV Friendly Towns on the Peninsula already and we believe this will be a very popular add on for tourists travelling in this part of Australia.
This is a tremendous deal as the camping is for $10 per night or $50 per week at any one of these locations on any day of the week. There are even more deals on offer as well.

More information as it comes to hand.

Regards
Kev Collins

Dump Points:

The new BP [OTR] at Pt Augusta will have a dump point incorporated.

SA Water has available a - 'Portable Domestic Waste Dump Point Guideline' leaflet to assist anyone wishing to install and operate a Portable Domestic Waste Dump Point. The guideline provides information for such persons, who must apply for a trade waste authorisation to ensure proper controls are applied to the facilities use and ongoing maintenance.
For the purpose of the guideline, portable domestic waste refers to wastewaters from mobile homes and portable cartridge type toilets found in caravans. Caravan parks, caravan showrooms, road-stops and other locations may wish to provide a dump point facility to allow people to empty their waste. These dump points may be located within a vulnerable area of our sewerage network or may discharge to a small regional treatment plant.

JAYCO JAYBIRDS SA

November Rally

at Berri Caravan Park, 4th-6th November, 2016

As always Lesley & I, looked forward to catching up with the Jaybirds trendsetters, this time at Berri Caravan Park. Due to our ongoing commitment to support the Australian Government, and all other beneficiaries of the tax system, we finished work early enough to allow us to depart late afternoon on Friday November 4th, and try to make it for happy hour. Thanks to the strong Southerly which created a strong tail wind, we made good time, with little or no traffic to hinder our arrival just after 5pm. The Berri Caravan Park, has such great facilities, excellent clean amenities and well established lawns which provides dust free camping. I give it all the ticks, well perhaps one small issue ...those dam annoying mozzies, ok that's enough whining.

As usual Friday afternoon we circled around for the Happy hour, which extended for at least three hours, when suddenly some realised we need to eat. So it was decided the men would cook the BBQ while the women arranged the shared salads etc. thanks to all who provided many variety of salads & nibbles. The BBQ cooking got off to a slow start, due to so many people who rocked up at the same time, to cook on the two electric BBQ's provided. We had wanted to sit under the paved shelter of the BBQ area; however this was occupied by several other campers, to our disgust. Eventually we all made our way back to the camp, so we could satisfy our hunger. We ate plenty, drank some, and dribbled bulls..t for a few hours, it's amazing how some stores can get stretched along after a few drinks, hey but it makes for a good story and laughter is good medicine. We finished up around 9pm, by then both Lesley & I had a donated enough to the mozzie blood banks and headed off, to bed down for the night.

Great start to Saturday, with early fog on the water, for those who were up early and had taken the walk along the River's edge, a nice cool start to the morning, most did their own thing on Saturday looking around town, shopping at the local market, or just chilling out in the caravan park. However if you were in the market to purchase property real-estate like Phil & Lin, then you headed off with your cheque book to see what high rise Penthouse you could inspect, in towns along the river Murray. Sadly Phil did not come across any which took his fancy…the search continues, stay tuned for their next property adventure. The Saturday night BBQ went off well, thanks to the warm weather and the new kitchen area, along with four new electric BBQ's, which only needed a touch of the finger (hold for 10sec) to get them started, as I was informed by the knowledgeable Louise. The raffle draw went to Alan & Jan the winners of a tea towel, written on it was a Caravan poem, which Alan read to all of us with perfect diction. The Saturday night shared salad BBQ was in full swing with everyone chatting and telling stories, knocking back a few cold ones, while the girls too were sneaking in a lot more than the guys, judging by the ruckus on one end of the table, this could be heard outside some 70 meters away, it sounded like a pack of wild animals around their kill. This continued right up to 10pm when it was decided by the President, to call it a night and let the other campers in the park get some quiet time too.

Sunday was another great day with bright sunshine, our morning brekkie bacon and eggs with a cuppa was excellent, and I'm sure many others had a similar breakfast on Sunday. While many of us were also packing away their caravans ready for the trip home, except those who had an extended stay.

A wonderful weekend thanks to all who organised this event and many thanks to those who attended to make it memorable.

Next Rallies: December: Wirrina, January: Wellington Hotel (lunch only), February: Milang

If you or a friend is thinking of upgrading your vehicle, please contact John Smith, Fleet Sales, North East Isuzu Ute, 112 Port Wakefield Rd., Burton, SA 5110. Tel: 088280 9899 Mob: 0409 099 413, email: johns@neisuzuute.com.au

Do make sure to advise John that you did so as a result of their support of ACCSA.

JAYCO CARAVAN CLUB OF SA INC

October Rally at Barmera Caravan Park	8 Vans

Only 8 vans attended this rally mainly due to the very bad weather and threats of flooding.
Over all we had 38 Van nights stay at Barmera with 2 other vans spending a couple of nights at Wakerie, and another 2 vans had a couple of days in Loxton on their way up to Barmera. Total expenditure at the park was $730 for site fees plus all the food and entertainment expenses in the area.

The Lake Bonney Discovery Park did not require a deposit for our visit, even though it was a long weekend and the start of the school holidays. Whilst we had a few cancellations due to the bad weather, our members all advised the management prior to the weekend. Even with the bad weather, the park was very busy, the toilets were kept as clean as possible with all the children around, this was an endless job. The older toilet block was very tired and needs a lot of work done to it but the newer block was very good. The camp kitchen was quite small, only just managing to hold our group and whilst there were wire doors to the kitchen there were no solid doors to keep the wind out.
Petr & Gill arrived on Thursday with Joy & Lindsay after a couple of days in Loxton. Reg & Dawn and Tony & Betty were already set up as they arrived the day before. We were very fortunate as the wind and rain was nowhere near as bad as what Adelaide had, but we still had to endure the electrical black out until about mid night.

Happy Hour Thursday afternoon was in the camp kitchen with Betty cooking a chicken in her Cookwell for their tea. Numerous hints were given out to invite ourselves as it smelt so good. Tony was trying to be helpful with the timing of cooking the chicken but was told he was "out of date with cooking"

Friday saw more members arrive and we had a total of 8 vans as a few had cancelled. The Cope's and Worden's had spent a couple of days in Waikerie on their way here. Teresa & Harry arrived with their new van - very nice. Happy Hour in the camp kitchen again and Ed & Julie joined us as they were staying the night, still on their way home from our Rawnsley Park Rally, some people have a good life.

Woke up to a magnificent day Saturday, plenty of sunshine. Paul & Kaye called in to say hello, many of us walked to the football oval to watch the sheep dog trials, there was plenty of activity on the lake with Yacht Racing, Aqua Trampoline, Boats and fishing. Others went to Loxton and Banrock Station. We have been told that a couple who went to Banrock Station and had a coffee but decided to forgo the cake and bought wine instead. Harry set up his TV outside the van and everyone watched the Grand Final Football. John & Deidre Plummer joined us and also came out to dinner at the Barmera Monash football club. A good meal was had by all.

Sunday most members visited the Barmera Markets set up in the main street and I think everyone could not resist the hot donut van. Others also went to Cobdogla Steam Museum, the Loxton Show and back to watch the Sheep Dog Trials again. Happy hour was under the awning of Harry & Teresa's van.

Monday was beautiful and sunny in the morning but quite windy. 5 vans were left to enjoy a very quiet day. Although a small rally everyone enjoyed themselves and as usual lots of laughter during Happy Hour.
Other areas visited over the weekend also included Renmark, Paringa, Kingston on the Murray and Wakerie, so the Riverland area was supported by our visit.

Next Rally: November: To be advised

COROMAL CARAVAN CLUB OF SA

Coromal Club have had their AGM. Nothing else to report this month.

Next Rally: To be advised

CAREFREE CARAVANEERS OF SA Inc

October Rally: at Renmark Riverbend Caravan Park	11 Vans for 4 Days Estimated spend in the area $6000

The park is very well located right on the river with lots to do, unfortunately the management of the park is about to change hands and the park itself displayed that through untidiness of the area, also the water quality left a lot to be desired, however it is expected that once the new managers take over all will get back to normal. The weather was all over the shop, on arrival 31 degrees, the next day the cold weather and rain set in, luckily for us the following days improved. We had planned well this rally; the Rose festival was in full swing and was patronised by most of us. The free bus to and from the Paringa pub Saturday night for dinner was a big hit as was a visit to the Wilkadene Woolshed Brewery.

November Rally at Lakeside Caravan Park, McLaren Vale	14 Vans for 4 Days and 2 Day visitors Estimated spend in the area >$7000

We were greeted by a Very Friendly and jovial staff on arrival, even better was the fact that we could get in earlier than the 2 o'clock advertised time, already we knew we were going to have a fabulous time. The amenities are excellent, unfortunately the camp kitchen was a bit of a letdown for such a beautiful park; birds' nesting above the BBQ, leaving straw and droppings over the eating area, otherwise a TOP park get the pun. There are plenty of things to do in this town and we as a group did lots of them - the 4 days absolutely jammed pack with lots going on. The club was very well entertained by Pirramirra, Hugo and Maximus wineries and special mention to the Bowling club.

Next Rally: To be advised

DAVE BENSON CARAVAN CLUB

October Rally at Kapunda Caravan Park	7 Vans. Site Fees $25 Night or $150 for 7 Nights. Total spend for sites, meals, sightseeing, fuel, approx $1500

Warm start for the week, on Friday & Saturday, with some sightseeing done at the mine site.

Sunday was our usual Brunch followed by our normal meeting. We then had our AGM with a good contingent of members attending on the morning. Luckily we had the meeting in the camp kitchen as the weather had turned cold, wet and windy. Committee was elected, with all positions the same as previous year. At the end of the AGM all visitors left for home due to the inclement weather. In the afternoon most of us went into town for a visit to the museum located in one of the old churches. Very well set up and plenty of things to see. Then to the mine museum next door but one. Both museums for the one admission price of $3. A most interesting display at both venues. On the Monday a tagalong drive following the heritage trail around town. At the chimney lookout is a whim used to pump water from the underground mine. There is also a metal sculpture of a full size horse used to turn the whim. It is made from all types of scrap meal and is so lifelike to look at. A marvellous welded piece of work. Wednesday we all headed to a members house at Angaston for lunch. Spent a very enjoyable afternoon, having chicken, chips, salad and potato bake. All having a good chat around the table for a couple of hours. Thursday a tour of Sir Sidney Kidman's former home "Eringa". It is now the administration office of the Kapunda High School. We took the 1 hour tour, which was most informative of its 150 year history. Anne Homsey is a very knowledgeable guide, having worked at the school for many years. Gold coin donation. Then lunch at the Sir John Franklin Hotel in town. Very reasonable prices and a big feed on each plate. Happy hour was in the camp kitchen most days due to wet and windy weather, but we did get a couple of warm ones. Caravan park close to town, with a mix of lawn and gravel. A good park with very reasonable tariff.

Friday saw us head home in the rain after a very mixed bag of weather for the week.

Next Rally: To be advised

ELIZABETHAN CARAVAN CLUB Inc

October Rally at Melrose Caravan Park	11 Vans, 1 Cabin Estimated spend $3,500

Club members started arriving at the caravan park from the Wednesday with the rest of the club members arriving by Friday arvo, all set up and mingling by the 5pm meet & greet, we also had a couple receive their 50 rally badges at the meet & greet. The night grew chilly & most headed back to their vans for tea except a few people stuck it out by the fire they had right alongside their vans, they decided to throw some spuds into the coals for their tea. Saturday started out cool but soon the sun shone thru and it warmed up to a beautiful day. Some went for a walk up the street to check out "Joe's" which was a lovely little shop with lots of giftware, assorted coffee mugs, manchester & Golden North ice-cream's which most had for morning tea. Others went for a drive to Hickory's Run Olive Grove & Café; this overlooked the Flinders Rangers and was quite a view. A few even walked up to see the "Great War Monument" at the base of Mt Remarkable, still quite an uphill battle. Saturday evening, we had dinner at the Melrose hotel which was enjoyable for most. Sunday came around & was quite damp so farewell & goodbye didn't drag on. There were only 3 vans that left to go home on Sunday, the rest stayed on till Monday. Great weekend had by all.

Next Rallies: To be advised

SOUTHERN NOMADS CARAVAN CLUB SA Inc

October Rally at Paringa Caravan Park	6 Vans @ $30 per night. With a 7 night stay we received 1 night free. Total Park fees $1,170.

Our week-long rally at Paringa Caravan Park started on Friday 14/10/16. All together we had 6 vans attended the rally.
The Park is small and is ideal for a smaller group. The amenities were spotless and the owners, Jenni and Tony, are excellent operators. They are most obliging, friendly and helpful, nothing was any trouble. One of our vans had to return home on the Tuesday due a medical episode. Jenni & Tony immediately offered Annette & Graham the balance of their paid nights to be used at another time free of charge.
We had happy hour at 5pm each night and morning tea together each day and after dinner we had a get together and chat. There is plenty to see in the Loxton Renmark Paringa area. As a group we visited Loxton seeing the sites of town including the Tree of Knowledge, the Murray River and The Pines Homestead garden. Lunch was at the Loxton Hotel.
During the week, we visited several beautiful open gardens as part of the Rose Festival and a visit to Almond & Co was enjoyed by our members. Other places visited during the week were the Woolshed & Homestead, Lock 5 and a large quilt display.
Wednesday dinner was at the Paringa Hotel. Our party of 10 enjoyed the meal on offer and had a good night. All members had a most enjoyable week of friendly fun and fellowship together.

November Rally at Normanville Beachside Caravan Park	8 Vans @ $38 per night. Total Park fees $608.

The Park at Normanville Beachside Caravan Park only has nine powered sites available of which we used eight powered sites. We all had happy hour in the Camp Kitchen which was well set out and we were there when Richard received the telephone call to say that Jack Hughes had passed away, with many of us talking about the times shared with Jack & Lesley over his time as a valued member of the club. Margarete asked Margaret if she could send an email to all members to let them know of this sad piece of news. After happy hour we all returned to our vans to have tea and stay in for the night as the cool change had arrived.
Saturday morning arrived quite a bit cooler but everybody went into the Camp Kitchen for morning tea and the club meeting. It commenced with 1 minute silence in memory of Jack Hughes and then we had our normal meeting. After morning tea most of the members went out for drives to Yankalilla, etc. and returned to the park for lunch. After lunch we then had a game of 'Klomp' which was won by Thelma at her first try.
We then met down in the Camp Kitchen for happy hour and also a shared tea where we all bought our own tea to enjoy with all the members. Richard went to the office and they came down and set up a fire for us to enjoy, but unfortunately the area is so large, the heat didn't spread very far, so we all went back to our vans as the weather had turned quite windy with quite a bit of rain. Sunday morning arrived and as some of our sites had been booked for this morning we all packed up and headed home after having a very successful rally.

Next Rally: December: Tanunda Caravan & Tourist Park, January: Port Willunga Tourist Park

ALWAYS AVAILABLE

Aluminium (Screw or rivet fix) @ $15 ea
Self-adhesive vinyl @ $12 ea

Signs available from ACCSA Treasurer
at bi-monthly
Delegates meetings or by mail.
(P & H applies)
Contact: treasurer@accsa.asn.au or
0413 596 852

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MASONIC C & T CLUB of SA

No reports for October and November Rallies.

Next Rally: To be advised

SOUTHERN CROSS CARAVAN CLUB INC

October Rolling Rally at Various Caravan Parks	VANS: 6, for 10 nights Total spend $5437 Estimated

We were at the **Padthaway Caravan Park** 17th to the 19th. Rally sites were $30. Padthaway is a small town and also a small but very neat and tidy caravan park which has recently changed owners. The nice couple managing the park are doing a great job in the up keep. The sites are not regimented but are set in and amongst the trees and bushes. The camp kitchen is a good size and the ablution block was very clean. The plastic flowers and the incense in the men's toilets were a nice treat. There wasn't much to do in the town but we managed to have a nice lunch at the Henry Drive Winery which is about 10 kms up the road to Naracoorte. We toured the area, visiting Keith and Bordertown. All our people were given costing sheets. We spent $1,319-21 in the Padthaway area.

Our next stop was at the Big 4 **Naracoorte Caravan Park**. Site fees were $33 and we were there from the 20th to 23rd of October. Dogs were permitted but had a separate area from the rest of us. The camp kitchen was large and modern with two BBQs inside with a range hood over them. There was also a large TV on the wall. The ablution block has been upgraded to a very modern standard. Naracoorte is a lovely town and we stocked up supplies there. Had a meal on the Friday night at the Naracoorte Hotel and were lucky to strike schnitzel night. Drove to the Bool Lagoon but found that the board walk to the hides were closed as the water in the lagoon were lapping the board walk. We noticed that the surrounding land was soaked with the recent rains. Most paddocks had lakes or large pools on them. Had lunch at Penola in the bakery. In all, we dropped $2,854-61 in Naracoorte and area.

We left Naracoorte on the 24th of October and made our way to **Meningie** to the **Lake Albert Caravan** park with only 5 vans as one couple had dropped off to visit their daughter in Robe. Site fees were $27. We were there for only 2 nights. 24th to the 26th. Enjoyed the large grassy sites there. The mozzies were plentiful this year. Had morning coffee and cakes in the bakery in town and had a dinner in the Hotel there. The meals there were good but no salad bar and they charged 50 cents on the menu for a bread roll. Have never struck that before. Our ladies found a few bargains in the op shop. In all we dropped $1,263-10 into the local economy.

November Rally at Hahndorf Resort Caravan Park	9 vans, 1 visitor. Site fees $38. (Big 4 members had their discount taken off.) Estimated Spend: approx. $3,200.

The Park looked a treat. The facilities are excellent. A certain amount of fitness is required to traverse the terrain there. Most members had arrived by Thursday afternoon and settled in. Some members attended the German Arms Hotel for dinner.
Friday we set up 3 of the Club Gazebos due to lack of flat ground. At 4 pm. we gathered under the shade of a large gum tree to hold the Presidents Meet & Greet when a storm hit the area. There was thunder, lightening, rain & hail stones. We rushed to our Gazebos and were trapped there for about 30 minutes before we could rush to our vans. No damage was caused as the hail stones were only the size of peas, not like just up the road at Mt. Barker, the size of golf balls. We all managed to make our way to the Old Mill Hotel in Hahndorf for a nice all you can eat meal. On getting back to the park, the rain had stopped and all was calm right up to about 10 pm. and then the wind storm hit.
Saturday morning we found that our 3 Club Gazebos had been blown over by a strong gust of wind. There was quite an amount of damage. We managed to disassemble them. We have since learnt that the ACCSA Insurance only covers third party. Our members were upset about that and request that the Club looks at other insurance options. Management of the Caravan Park were fantastic and gave us the keys to the Conference Centre for the rest of our stay, which was good as the weather remained cold, wet and miserable right up to Monday morning when we all left to go home.
Our members did manage to get out and about, visiting Hahndorf, Woodside, Mt. Barker and Meadows.

Next Rally: December: Port Vincent.

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WANDERERS CARAVAN CLUB of SA Inc

October Rally at Wallaroo North Beach Caravan Park	21 Vans, $33 per night (+4th free) Approx spend in the area: $5027

The official start to the rally was on a cold windy Friday but most of the Wanderers had arrived the previous Thursday when the sun was shining. Unbelievably some air conditioners were on full. What a change of weather for Friday!! The heaters came out again full blast. Nevertheless 22 members and visitors (Lyn and John's friends from Buffalo, USA) turned up for the weekend which turned out to be a very successful rally. The Friday night dinner was held at the Moonta Hotel. Everyone would agree that the meals were excellent and were enjoyed by all.

Saturday brought more chilly winds but did not deter the group as they set out on a 'Follow the Leader' tour of various points of interest in the Copper Triangle first stop being the Wallaroo Heritage and Nautical Museum. Outside the museum stands the Tiparra Lighthouse, which was initially at Tiparra Reef and was an operational lighthouse from August 1877 until 1995 when its service was largely replaced by a light tower located on Warburton Point. Driving along past the lighthouse, grazing land and grain silos were visible along the road as well as the Poona Mine and Wheal Hughes copper ore sites. The area of Moonta, Wallaroo and Kadina became known as Australia's Little Cornwall because the early miners who emigrated to the district were of Cornish descent. It is also known as the Copper Triangle. Next stop was the Moonta Mines Tourist Railway, a popular choice for members who no doubt found the guided tour fascinating on the narrow gauge rail. Other members looked through the Moonta Mines Museum which is located in the former School and displays the Cornish miner's lifestyles from mining, costumes, photographs and memorabilia. The Old Sweet Shop was a favourite and was the former Moonta Mines Post Office built in 1946 selling old fashioned sweets and drinks such as ginger beer and sarsaparilla. Moving along to the Moonta Mines Uniting Church, which was of particular interest as it is a replica of the Wesleyan Chapel in Truro, Cornwall and was built in 1865. The church seats 1,250 parishioners. It has a magnificent gold and turquoise painted pipe organ with 610 pipes which were installed in 1888. It still has the original paintwork. We were fortunate to hear lovely 90 year old 'Margaret' play the organ beautifully for us. I don't think she wanted us to leave as she kept on playing and playing – her thoughtfulness was very much appreciated by all. The Miner's Cottage and Heritage Garden were on the list but unfortunately we were too late as the cottage had closed. Our final stop was the Moonta Coffee Barn on the Moonta/ Maitland Road. This gelataria was bombarded by our group who couldn't wait to sample all the different varieties of gelato and ice creams. Janette and Franco have run this business for some years and there are B&B cottages for rent as well. Staggering to our cars we headed back to the caravan park where more food was yet to be consumed. Many thanks to Steve and Gloria for organising an interesting drive and, for some of us, a trip down memory lane. At happy hour Bill and Joan brought a bucket of crabs for everybody to share. Delicious!! The caravan park owners were generous in providing a sausage sizzle for the members which went down well with a few reds. Thanks to North Beach Caravan Park for their generosity. What with sweets from the Old Sweet Shop, gelatos, ice creams, coffees from The Coffee Barn, crabs from Bill and Joan, sausage and patties from the caravan park - we're glad that the salads made up for a healthy afternoon!!

Sunday morning tea was a get together and farewell for Wanderers heading off for home. Many members stayed on for extra nights to further explore the Copper Triangle, including the Open Garden at Kadina. With so many attractions in this lovely area, it was hard to leave and we hope that the Club will book this venue again.

November Rally at Mannum Caravan Park	Vans: 18. Park Sites $34.00 per night. Approx spend in the area: $4180

Pretty much perfect weather for this rally at the lovely Mannum Caravan Park. We had to confirm our bookings early as the "All Steamed Up - Engine, Blacksmith & Mannum Fresh Water Classic Boat Festival" was a major event happening over the weekend, and the park was fully booked. As Mannum is a pet-free park, some of our members elected to stay at a private property on the outskirts of Mannum - Mannum Heights, as it became known, but that didn't significantly affect the club activities for the weekend. Friday arrivals were setup in good time for Happy Hour, followed by a meal at the Mannum Community Club, which was also full - some latecomers waited well over an hour for their meals, but the staff did a good job and all were eventually satisfied.

Saturday was the day for visiting the festival, providing all day entertainment for the princely sum of $5 a head entry fee, then back to the park for our general meeting, happy hour and a bbq tea. The evening entertainment was held at the Mannum Lions Den, with a very interesting visual test of our geography knowledge and a Christmas themed puzzle.

Sunday saw quite a few leaving, but those that stayed on either made use of their weekend passes and revisited the Festival or lounged about enjoying the park, the weather and each other's company.

Next Rallies: December: Mt Compass C.P.; January, Mt Barker C.P.

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FROM THE SECRETARY'S INBOX - Some items of General Interest to Caravanners

The Swan Reach Country Music Festival will be held on the weekend prior to the ACCSA 2017 Annual State Rally.

We include a copy of the Swan Reach Country Music Brochure so that members have the opportunity to attend there in the week before the State Rally.