Association of Caravan Clubs, SA Inc.

The Journal

www.accsa.asn.au

May
2016

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ACCSA Delegates Next Meeting

Wednesday
June 1, 2016
at **7.30pm**

Coffee will be available from 7.00pm

Walkerville RSL Hall
98 Walkerville Tce
Walkerville
All Welcome!

Celebrating 40 Years of Service to Caravanning in South Australia

Editor: Keith Thompson
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PRESIDENT'S CHATTER:

THE STATE RALLY - A PROGRESS REPORT

The State Rally is set for 4th - 8th May, 2017 and planning is progressing well. We have had a positive response from the Loxton Community. The Tourist Information Centre there has provided detailed information that will assist in providing resources and entertainment at the Rally.

We are also in discussion with the Loxton Caravan Park as to what services they are able to provide that will reduce the total cost for the members attending the Rally.

It has been confirmed that the refurbishing of the ablution block at the Loxton Park will be completed by the time of the State Rally.

A number of the Clubs have notified their support for the Rally but there are some outstanding and it would be appreciated if those that have not replied do so as soon as possible. We are also seeking new ideas as to what activities members would like to be made available during the four-day event. So please if you have such suggestion please contact your delegate or contact me by email or telephone.

The establishment of the Safety Group will be included in the Agenda for the June meeting and hope that we can progress this project.

Safe Travelling
Graham Brown
President ACCSA

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."

FROM THE EDITOR:

ACCSA Flag. Delegates will be asked to seek ideas from their members for the design of an ACCSA Banner or Flag to be used at State and National Rallies.

Information regarding Discovery Parks.
Following some issues with prepayments of deposits, ACCSA has negotiated an arrangement with Discovery Parks in South Australia.
Discovery Parks (SA) will provide a 15% discount for ACCSA Clubs and will not require booking fees or deposits.
Discovery Parks in SA are: Adelaide Beachfront (Semaphore), Tanunda (Barossa Valley), Clare, Lake Bonney (Barmera), Robe and Whyalla.
If you are intending to use one of those parks in the next 18 months or so, please advise ACCSA 1st Vice President (Bob Williamson) of approximate numbers and firm date.
Please contact Bob by email at: 1vp@accsa.asn.au You must advise Bob by the 30th June, 2016 to use this current agreement.
Bob will organise a group booking for your Club and will confirm when done.

NOTE:
PLEASE SUBMIT CLUB REPORTS FOR THE JULY JOURNAL BEFORE 22 JULY, 2016

BAROSSA VALLEY CARAVAN & CAMPING CLUB

April Rally: at Middleton Caravan Park	8 Vans, 1 Cabin Estimated Local Spend: $1400

Beautiful weather helped to make our Middleton rally very enjoyable, eight caravans one cabin. President Margaret, and Graham, came for the meeting and brought with them two visitors. Prospective members were welcomed to the Club.
Friday night's dinner was a shared meal, on both Saturday and Sunday everyone was free to go to places of individual interest along the coast. Several people caught up with friends or relatives living in the area. Large numbers of surfers added interest to our beach walks. Saturday lunch Middleton Tavern good prices with good quality food, some were so impressed that we returned on Sunday. Rummikub was popular with some of the ladies in the evenings. Of special interest on Sunday was Jeff's power point show of photographs from the Club's early days, and also some from the Barossa Valley's history.
The sight and sounds of the Steam Ranger and the "Red Hens" passing to and fro alongside the park on Sunday added to the holiday atmosphere.
The park has green lawns, good size recreation room, clean amenities at a cost of $31.50 discounted price. We thank Jeff and Jo very much for their work in organising the rally.

May Rally: at Berri Caravan Park	10 Member Vans, 1 Visitor Van

All members arrived on Friday and the usual happy hour of meet and greet, followed by the communal evening meal.
The Park is of a high standard and recently upgraded the camp kitchen to that standard, fees per night were $35. Well worth the stay.
Saturday morning walkers followed the river walking trail, then a visit to the farmers market then a picnic at "Martins Bend", where we were introduced to a game called "Corn tossing" - the eventual winners were presented with their bags of popcorn. "Martins Bend" is ideal for free camping along the river with toilets and dump point for a fee of $5 per night with a maximum stay of 21 days.
"Lavender Farm Cafe" for the evening meal was of a high standard and reasonably priced followed by a talk by Lucy about the farm and its origins.
Sunday we visited Loxton to see the pedal cars in action with plenty of spills and thrills and touring around the town.
Monday was pack up day and the weekend was very well run and organised a special thanks to our organisers Ron and Marilyn ROGERS, who put a lot of effort into making the weekend a wonderful experience.

Next Rallies: Roonka (June), Luncheon (July)

CAREFREE CARAVANEERS OF SA INC

April Rally at Halls Gap Caravan Park	13 Vans Estimated Local Spend: $8,000

Our first attempt at an interstate rally and am happy to report it a huge success. 13 vans attended for 5 days in the magnificent Grampians, arrived on a Monday to a very warm welcome by all the staff at the park, the weather was warm days, cool nights, the use of fire pits at most sites also made for very pleasant evenings. The facilities were kept clean and tidy, the camp kitchen a little small but we did manage to put on a club breakfast using their facilities. Each day was filled with lots to do, so much so that the organisers had far too much to choose from, the tag along to the wineries, Stawell, and surrounding areas, the scenery in the Grampians is spectacular as is the Mini Golf, Glass blowing, Barney's woolshed lunch, the Zoo, Karl's soup kitchen and the many walks around the town; what a magnificent place, enough of that! Hopefully it will be done again.

What started out as a "let's try and see rally" turned out to be thoroughly planned and enjoyed by all.

Next Rallies:

ACCSA 2017 STATE RALLY 4th - 8th May, 2017

Affiliated Clubs are asked to provide one of their members to represent them on a sub-committee to plan the next ACCSA State Rally. The sub-committee will report to the ACCSA Executive and will be tasked with determining the time, place and programme for the State Rally. It is envisaged that they will meet 3 or 4 times a year and will assist the Executive with final implementation of the programme.

Please ask among your members and forward name(s) to:

Graham Brown, ACCSA President at : president@accsa.asn.au

Tips and Tricks

RALLY Reporting Guidelines

Thank you to all the Delegates, Editors and others who send in Rally Reports for inclusion in the Journal. Your descriptive and often humorous accounts are welcomed. The reports can provide a useful resource of current information for other Clubs when they are planning their future rally venues and their activities when in a particular locality.

To make the reports more consistent and to help other clubs, it would be helpful if your report could include some specific details regarding the park, such as cost, if discount is available, cleanliness, camp kitchen facilities (or not), rec rooms, management and any facility that may be specific to the park such as fire-pits. Also, please indicate where and when your next rallies will be.

For some months now, ACCSA has been collecting data regarding the amount of money that caravanners spend whilst on rallies throughout the state, and many of the Club reports contain that information.

The aim is to be able to provide objective evidence to various local, State and National bodies regarding the value of our business to the local communities.

Clubs are asked to assist by providing good estimates of costs including park fees (number of van nights by site fees), approximate spend in the community e.g. cafes, local food and fuel purchase, markets, sightseeing, etc., but not including expenses incurred at home.

ACCSA will collate the data and present a summary of it regularly in the Journal.

Your Club's assistance in both of the above matters will be appreciated by all.

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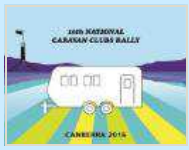
The Association of Caravan Clubs, SA has as it's mission

"*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.*

To fulfil this Mission the Association:

- Holds regular meetings of delegates from affiliated Clubs
- Presents guest speakers to inform delegates & members about subjects of interest
- Publishes a newsletter for circulation to ***ALL*** members of all affiliated clubs
- Keeps Clubs informed on changes in road rules or developments in legislation which may affect caravanners
- Has, as sponsors, a number of local business who offer savings to ACCSA members
- Sources affordable Public Liability Insurance from dependable and recognised insurers to cover all member Clubs
- Is a member organisation of the National Association of Caravan Clubs, with a director on the national board.
- Represents its membership to all levels of government on matters concerning the caravanning community
- Encourages relationships with caravan parks, their owners & managers to facilitate improved experiences for member clubs
- Conducts a State Rally every 2 years, encourages and contributes to the National Rally every 3 years and takes a leading role and hosts the National Rally in turn (next in 2022).



When and Where is the next National Caravan Clubs Rally?

The 16th National Rally of the Caravan Clubs of Australia, will be held at the Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC), situated on Flemington Road Mitchell, in the Australian Capital Territory, from Monday 19 to Wednesday 28 September 2016.

EPIC is just a short distance from the main Canberra city centre. This is a modern complex with large comfortable buildings at visitors disposal.

All evening activities at the rally will be held in a large air-conditioned building. This building may be familiar to visitors as it was the National Tally Room in the recent federal election.

RALLY COSTS

The total cost for this Rally is $400.00 including the registration fee of $30.00. Everything you need will be on site. There is even a service station and a McDonalds attached to the site.

More information can be found at

http://www.16thnatcaravanrally.org.au.

JAYCO CARAVAN CLUB OF SA

March Rally

at Berri Riverside Caravan Park

Our Berri rally officially started on Friday 11th March, but as usual some of our members started arriving on Wednesday 9th and the last of our members left on Wednesday 16th. Overall, we had 27 members book in for 121 van nights, spending approximately $3900 in park fees, with a dinner at the golf club on Saturday night costing another $800, so with other consumables like lunches, market purchases, fuel, coffees and cakes and general purchases we managed to make a significant contribution to the local economy for this week.

At Friday night happy hour, we were pleased to see two members who have serious illnesses in their families had made the trip to Berri. The weather was hot but the park was again well grassed with plenty of trees to provide some shade and two beautiful pools (one large & one small) to cool off in. New managers Liz & Roger Clarke also have a function room, which we used for our bi-annual silent auction, which was a great fundraiser for our club. This room is also available for group activities like Trivia Nights, Movie Nights and Game nights, catering can be arranged by Liz & Roger.

Whilst we were there, the park also had visits from a Coffee Van, a Fish & Chip Van and an Ice Cream Van all of which were well supported. Other activities undertaken by our members whilst staying in Berri were trips to the surrounding towns, a tenpin bowling competition and visits to the Lavender Farm. The clubs regular pancake breakfast was conducted on Saturday morning instead of the usual Sunday morning and happy hours seemed to run over into happy BBQ's for many members who sat around enjoying each other's company and watching the magnificent sunsets.

All had a great long-weekend.

The next club rally will be at Keith over the Anzac weekend, with several members intending to travel on to Koroit (near Warrnambool, Vic.) for the Irish festival the following weekend.

April Rally

at Keith Caravan Park (edited from Newsletter)

The rally started early with some arriving on Tuesday and by Friday, the majority of members had arrived and settled in amongst the maze of sites. The atmosphere was cheerful with everyone chatting and catching up.

A highlight of Happy Hour was a very colourful, robust, theatrical demonstration of a new cordless Husqvarna Chainsaw. Although it was super interesting to all the blokes it was also extremely hilarious. We can always rely on our Chainsaw for a good laugh.

On Saturday, everyone enjoyed morning tea, delicious buns and cakes from the local bakery - thank you to the committee for organising this lovely surprise. At Happy Hour, the teams for tomorrow's croquet match were announced - and so the plotting, planning and scheming began. We all learnt new terms like "hoops", "centre pegs", "mallets", "extra strokes" thanks to our expert coaches. It was said that, to get an advantage, some visited the green to check out the bias of the lawn while others took to the internet to get some hints.

Sunday was another beautiful day, with some members walking into town for coffee and others just resting up to get ready for the big Croquet tournament. The afternoon's croquet was a lot of fun, the ladies from the Keith Croquet Club helping out and putting on delicious afternoon tea. The croquet matches were very interesting to say the least and surely many rules were followed/broken but it didn't matter everyone had a good laugh. The shot of the day was an unbelievable ball straight through the hoop from the "Eddie Betts pocket".

The Keith Hotel advertised a Pork Roast for $15 a head so 30 members pre-booked and were looking forward to a lovely roast dinner.

On Monday, the majority of members joined a large gathering of locals for a moving Dawn Service. This was followed by a breakfast of bacon, eggs and all the extras at the Keith Hotel. After such an early start most people were content to have a quiet day, just sitting around, reading and enjoyed the sunshine while few visited Henry's Farm Winery for lunch.

Tuesday was another glorious day but unfortunately time to pack up with most heading for home while a lucky group were heading off to attend the Irish Festival in Koroit. In conclusion it was a fantastic weekend.

People said "what on earth are you going to do in Keith" but as you can see from the rally report - a hell of a lot!

Continued on Page 6

JAYCO CARAVAN CLUB OF SA (cont)

April - Extended Rally - KOROIT IRISH FESTIVAL At Koroit (near Warrnambool, Vic.)	6 Vans

Six caravans made their way to Koroit (16 km from Warrnambool) for the 20th Irish Festival. There was a concert on the Friday night to start proceedings where a hypnotist, Andy Magee, had us all entertained plus there was a set from "The Borderers". A few of the ladies went off on the Friday afternoon to play in the local Euchre competition and although they won some of their games, they found the local competition too fierce (to put it mildly).
Saturday turned out to be a beautiful, warm, sunny day so everyone went to the main street where all the events were held. There was a display of Irish Dancing with people in beautiful costumes; a street parade with penny farthing bikes plus many antique bikes along with floats and classic cars etc. We were entertained by many Irish groups of people in costume and singing and playing interesting musical instruments. Some of the highlights were "The Borderers" group and several bands from Melbourne plus the "Spud Picking and Peeling Championships" and pizza making. Sunday morning we braved the torrential rain and went to the Bowls Club where there was Breakfast and the "Last Laugh" which was a range of jokes told by various people in the audience. Our own "Dennis B" starred with quite a few well told jokes which received many laughs. We all thought Dennis would win the $50 prize but unfortunately, it went to local identities. All in all, it was a fantastic weekend.

May Rally (Edited from Newsletter) at Port Elliott Caravan Park	

By Friday afternoon quite a few members had arrived, some after spending a few days at a bush camp at Narrung prior to the rally. They highly recommended the spot they found there across the Murray on Lake Alexandrina.
Prospective and new members were especially welcomed. It was not too cold and the TV reception was declared "hit and miss" in most vans. A few members were asked to report back to the park office. Wondering what we had done wrong, we hurried over, only to find that the park manager had forgotten to give the Park discount to a few of us, and she very kindly wanted to make it right.
On Saturday morning, there were a few problems with 'new members' trying to make new Club Rules - e.g. getting breakfast in bed for their wives!!! This was soon straightened out with a few stern words from existing male members.
During the lovely sunny day everyone relaxed around vans or visited the local market, shops, bakeries, etc.
Some members went to the Middleton Tavern for dinner and others barbecued. At about 10pm it was announced that a big storm was on its way, so of course, we went to bed without giving it another thought.
On Sunday, the gale winds came up as predicted, and those packing up needed some help with folding annexes. A tricky drive ahead for those towing vans back home. Some headed off for Sunday markets and other exploring in the area.
Happy hour was a smaller affair, rounding off another very enjoyable rally.
Many thanks to the two members who donated plants for the Pinery fire victims. The plants will be taken to Hamley Bridge for distribution over the June weekend.

Next Rally: June - Peterborough, July - Port Wakefield

DAVE BENSON CARAVAN CLUB

May Rally at Gladstone Caravan Park	6 Vans, 1 Cabin Park fees $25 per night

The Dave Benson Caravan Club's May rally was held at Gladstone. The weather was wonderful with only a few spots of rain one afternoon.
We congregated at the fire pit every afternoon for Happy Hour and cooked meals in camp ovens. The camp kitchen is well equipped and the Manager is very helpful. Trips were made to the Wirrabara markets and to Port Pirie to the marvellous RSL museum housing a Bell UH-1H Iroquois "Huey" A2-489 helicopter and to the Visitor centre with a replica of a 15m shark. We also found Baker Bear Bakery and we can recommend the bee sting buns. We went back for a second day! Other trips to Melrose for their History Week display of Children's toys and clothes, Jamestown to visit friends and shopping.
Gladstone Park is a hidden gem.

WANDERERS CARAVAN CLUB OF SA, Inc

April Rally at Laura Caravan Park	28 Vans $22/night + 2 Cabins $85 /night. Estimated local spend: $3,600

Friday: Arrival of club members for another great rally. Much talking & catching up until Happy hour. Alex, the camp manager, was very friendly and helpful especially his supplying of dampers both Thursday and Sunday nights. We all assembled in a local hall for a film night, which went over very well.

Saturday: Mostly free day for members. Quite a few of us ventured to a new chocolate factory called Coco Laura. Very nice premises run well by the owner. Happy hour was followed by a camp oven roast meal, (meat supplied by the Elizabeth South butcher). This feast was followed by sweets supplied by our lady members and were, as usual, a taste sensation.

Sunday: Fond farewell to members going home. Quite a few stayed on for the extra day.

Overall impression: Great rally made even better by the congeniality of the park management. Nice well kept park with all facilities in good order.

Next Rally: May **-** Port Willunga Tourist Park, June - Barmera CP

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Signs available from ACCSA Treasurer
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CARAVAN CLUB OF SA Inc

March Rally at Adelaide Beachfront (Semaphore) Caravan Park	

Report written by 11 year-old Emily H.
At Semaphore Caravan Park there was a beach, pool, playground, go karts, gaming room, reading room, camp kitchen and a jumping pillow. The facilities were clean and the camp kitchen had pizza ovens. At Semaphore, the club had a games afternoon, like bean bag throwing and fishing, Luke won the fishing – 7 fish in 2½ minutes, I thought it was enjoyable to play some games. I got to make a new friend Chanel because she is a new member and I also made friends with some other kids from the park. In the town of Semaphore there was a kite festival and a market. The caravan park had an Easter egg hunt & I found 18 eggs, I thought that was a lot. On Sunday the go karts were free because of Easter, I went on the karts two times, and they were really fun. We had a pancake breakfast and it was really nice and yummy. The club had a raffle and I won a huge egg and little eggs as well. I thought over all it was really good and enjoyable. I had a good time at Semaphore.

April Rally at Clare Caravan Park	

This month our rally was held at the Discovery Parks - Clare (powered sites start from $35 per night). The parks facilities included: Solar Heated Swimming Pool, Jumping Pillow, Playground, Camp Kitchen, BBQ and Bicycle Hire. The park is very neat and tidy but could do with a few more showers and toilets in peak periods. Most members arrived on Friday during the day with the workers arriving that night. We had beautiful sunny days with crisp cool nights.
Some members went into the town of Clare Saturday morning to do a bit of shopping with time in the afternoon to visit the sights and wineries.
Diane gave us a quiz during happy hour and the Hoflands and Hirschausen both took out first place!
Sunday we went to the Clare Miniature Railway, which was really good, with the track going around the estate, over bridges and through a tunnel. That evening, most members went to the Taminga Hotel for dinner and then it was time to retire to our vans.
Monday morning brought the end to our rally and all members left to go home. All in all a great time away!

Next Rally: May - Balaklava, June - Riverton

PACK CAMPING CLUB Inc

May Rally at Berri Riverside Caravan Park	2 Caravans, 3 Cabins

Good weekend despite weather - sunshine, grey skies, mist, rain and dust storms.
Usual touring, bakeries, happy hours and very pleasant Mother's Day evening meal at the Berri Hotel with a free glass of champagne for the mothers.
The park is very well kept, amenities great and staff most helpful.

Next Rally: June - Day Outing, July - Mid Year Lunch

JAYCO JAYBIRDS CARAVAN CLUB OF SA

April Rally at Kingston-on-Murray Caravan Park	

A keen group of Jaybirds attended the Kingston-on-Murray Caravan Park ready for a fun weekend. Friday and Saturday night happy hour both started early with lots of red and white wine, vodka and beer shared around well into the night.
Saturday involved a tour of Banrock Station and yet even more wine. We did do some exercise with a beautiful walk through the wetlands along the boardwalk. Lin and Brian got involved in a duck poo throwing contest which ended with Lin having to recover a ball of poo from down the back of her top. Some of the group managed to get their kayaks wet with a superb paddle along the Murray while the lone fisherman Hal spent a few hours wetting the line with no success. Saturday night dinner at the Cobdogla.

Next Rally: May - Clare. June - No Rally

SOUTHERN CROSS CARAVAN CLUB Inc

April Rally at Loxton Caravan Park	7 Vans Site fees $34.20 with Club discount Estimated local spend $2100

Fri. (8th.) President's meet & greet meeting held at 4pm. Followed by happy hour.
Dinner was at the Loxton Hotel. Members thoroughly enjoyed their meals.
Sat. (9th) Members visited the Loxton Village and also the Pines Historical House.
Happy hour and dinner was held in the Club Gazebo followed by a version of a Family Feud game which the rally officers had recently learnt on a cruise. Lots of laughs.
Sun. (10th.) Members explored the area, then the usual happy hour in the afternoon followed by fish and chips for dinner.

May Rally at Beach Road Caravan Park, Pt Pirie	11 Vans, 1 Cabin Site fees $33.25 with discount. Estimated local spend $4060.

A new couple are Care Takers, especially nice and obliging and welcome all Caravan Clubs. They gave us a free site for the Gazebo and also lent us a gas BBQ.
Fri. (13th.) Some members went on a City Bus Tour whilst others went shopping, including checking out the local Op Shops for bargains. At 4pm we had the President's Meet & Greet meeting followed by Happy Hour in the Club Gazebo and then BBQ put on by the Club. Members brought along a wonderful selection of salads & desserts to share. Members were encouraged to wear black for a Friday the 13th theme and share a Travelling Horror Story.
Sat. (14th) The traditional Tizer Quiz (41 out of 50) was held during morning tea and then members were free to explore the area. A good number checked out the RSL Vietnam War Display which included a helicopter. At 4pm we had Happy Hour and then dinner was at the Risdon Hotel which had nice meals.
Sun. (15th) Champagne Breakfast in the Gazebo. Free time to explore the area then Happy Hour at 4pm. Followed by dinner at the Barnacle Bill Restaurant which is in an old Church.
Mon. (16th) 3 vans went onto Rawnsley Park Station.

Next Rally: Nuriootpa CP (June)

RIVERLAND CARAVAN CLUB

2016 Meetings and Cobdogla Caravan Park	

As is our custom, we did not hold rallies in January or February but, instead, met at the Renmark Paringa Council Chambers. First meeting was Sunday 17th Jan and the second was Sunday 14th February. Format was the same each time - arrive in time for smoko, have a brief meeting, then settle down for serious games of bingo and cards.

Cobdogla Caravan Park:
We were to hold our first rally for 2016 at Cobby on the 4th, 5th & 6th March but the weather intervened with temperatures approaching 45 degrees each day. President Kay made an executive decision and called the rally off. Her decision was made easier by the fact that there were virtually no nominations anyway!

April Rally at Gladstone Caravan Park	4 Vans Site Fees: $25/van/day Estimated local spend $800

We were originally intending to go to Laura but could not get into their park because of the Folk Fest. Gladstone proved to be a well-kept and beautifully presented park, which made our stay there very enjoyable. Nowhere seems far in that part of the world and we all agreed that it was an enjoyable stay.
We spent much of Saturday 14km up the road at the Laura Folk Fest. There were stalls to suit all tastes. Some of the performers were just amazing. My favourite was a young soprano who could grace the stage anywhere. The procession that preceded the opening was excellent and Andrew Costello of "South Aussie with Cosi" fame opened the fair itself. Highlight of the opening was an ice-cream eating competition.

Next Rally:

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