Association of Caravan Clubs, SA Inc.

The Journal

www.accsa.asn.au

January
2016

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ACCSA Delegates Next Meeting

Wednesday
3rd February, 2016
at **7.30pm**
Guest Speaker from EBS

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

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PRESIDENT'S CHATTER:

SAFETY A KEY TO SUCCESFUL CARAVANING

At the Delegates Meeting in December, it was noted by one of the delegates that the Mission Statement of ACCSA did not address the issue of Safety. It was unanimously agreed that "Safety" was an essential element of good caravanning and that it be included in the Statement. This led into a discussion which focussed on the difficulty members experience when attempting to obtain detailed information relating to the Road Safety Regulations relative to towing caravans. Equally concerning was the variation in the rules between the States and what is the situation if you are compliant with S.A. Regulations but there was a different interpretation of the particular rule in another State.

It was agreed that a Working Group be set up to investigate these matters and where possible provide relevant information to our members. I have liaised with the Road Safety Section of SAPOL and they have agreed to work with us on this project. The Working Group is seeking your assistance in providing any ambiguities that you have experienced or believe exist relating to the compliance of Road rules when towing a caravan. These issues will be collated and forwarded to SAPOL. When we are CONFIDENT we have the correct information we will circulated it to our members.

Your nomination of issues requiring clarification will be greatly appreciated and if you consider you are able to assist the Working Group you are most welcome to join. Please contact me; president@accsa.asn.au or telephone 08 83562611.

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:

This month, we are pleased to welcome Hall Towbars as a Sponsor and look forward to a happy and longstanding relationship with Hall Towbars.

Please mention your Club and ACCSA when you visit Hall Towbars.

We are looking for a volunteer to assist Judi, your ACCSA Secretary, who will not be available for a couple of months this year. Assistant Secretarial duties will be to prepare agendas for and take minutes at the Delegates Meetings on 6th April and 1st June. Please ask among your members.

It would be great if someone has been found by the Feb 3rd meeting.

Since 2011 the Caravan Clubs of Queensland (CCQ) have been collecting data about their members spending on rallies and have compiled a comprehensive analysis showing a total spend of well over $4 million to date.

ACCSA believes that this level of information would be very valuable when approaching various bodies while negotiating on behalf of the members and have proposed to trial a similar programme. Further details will be forwarded to Club Secretaries after the February Delegates meeting.

There is some 'spend data' included with several Club reports in this edition.

NOTE:
CLUB REPORTS FOR MARCH JOURNAL: PLEASE SUBMIT BEFORE 25 MAR, 2016

BAROSSA VALLEY CARAVAN & CAMPING CLUB

January Rally at the Greenock Tavern, Greenock	

The Barossa Valley Caravan Club held a luncheon at the Greenock Tavern at Greenock on Sunday, 10th of Jan.

Thirty-one members, two prospective members, one past member and three grandchildren enjoyed this yearly event.

The club chose to follow the Tavern's normal menu enabling all to select what they wanted. The venue was in the rear of the tavern allowing us as a club to enjoy fun, fellowship and comrade in privacy with our own members.

The food was superb, with excellent prices and combined well with the company, plenty of talking and laughter.

After the meal we were invited to our Rally Officers home (Freda and Ian Wilkinson), to enjoy a coffee and continue sharing our fellowship.

What a wonderful way to commence our club's year.

February Rally: Normanville

CARAVAN CLUB of SA

December Rally at Tanunda Caravan Park (Christmas Rally)	10 Vans, 2 Visitor Vans

Friday evening, following setting their vans up and after the evening meal, members sat in groups and had the usual chitchat to while away the night under the stars.
Saturday dawned with a forecast temperature of 39°C so there was "not" a lot of activity around the camp. A few visited the main street, the remainder swimming or finding a cooler spot to relax or do some Christmas craft work.
A trifle disappointing that the usual Christmas Pageant was not at Tanunda this year but at Nuriootpa. The afternoon and evening festivities were held in the hall on site (shared with another club). Starting with the club-supplied drinks and nibbles, these were well received by those present. During these festivities the man in red visited to distribute the Kris Kringle presents. He seems to enjoy this activity, getting participants to sit on his knee, "especially the ladies".

The raffle was drawn and there was a large selection to choose from; goody baskets, wine, etc, etc. Most members remained in the hall as, with fans and air conditioning, it was one of the better places to be.
The pre-ordered meal evening meal was collected from Nuriootpa Foodland and included a great selection of meats and salads and plenty of nice fresh food. A nice selection of sweets followed, provided by rally attendees. A great meal and no one should have gone back to their vans hungry. A movie was shown (supplied by the park) although most members dissipated from the hall to watch or to talk in smaller groups. Great company and great meal enjoyed by all.
Sunday dawned with a forecast of 41°C, all but one packed up and left early.

January Rally: Hahndorf Caravan Park

COROMAL CARAVAN CLUB of SA

December Rally No rally	
January Rally Social Lunch at Member's residence	15 vans (all members, but one)

February Rally: Adare Caravan Park, Victor Harbor

ACCSA 2017 STATE RALLY

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

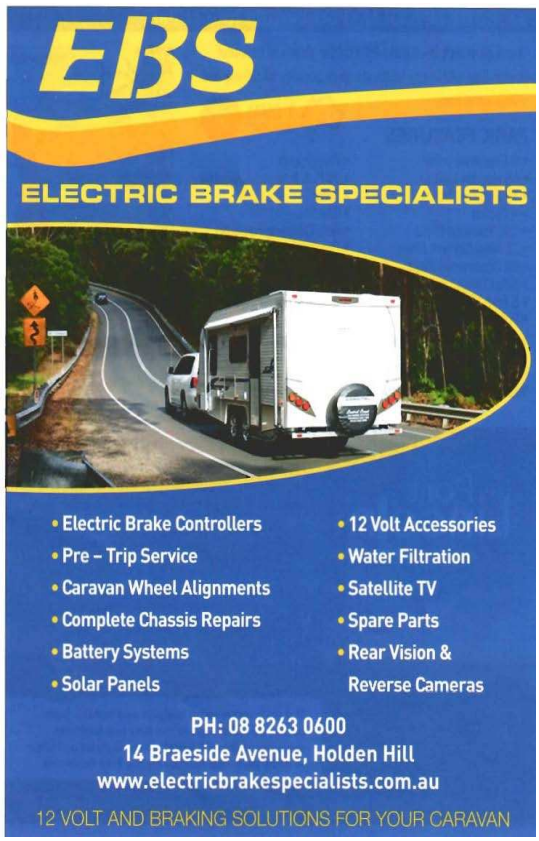
Hoses and Drinking Water

It is considered bad practice to fill your van's drinking water tanks from your garden hose, as garden hoses are commonly made with PVC, which uses lead as a stabiliser. When water sits in a PVC hose, especially when exposed to hot sun, lead can leach out in to the water in concentrations many times in excess of safe levels—and that's not good to drink but, if you run the water from the hose until it is cold before filling your tank, then you would get very little, if any, contamination.

Problems will occur if you use non-food grade hose to connect your van to an on-site tap for a few days, in which case water can sit in the hose and get heated several times over the course of the stay, with minimal flow to flush out any contamination.

To be safe, always use a food grade hose when connecting water to the van.

While we're on the subject of drinking water, many vans have inbuilt water filters for drinking water, usually tucked away in a cupboard under the sink and easily overlooked. The filter cartridges must be changed on a regular basis. Check the manufacturers recommendations, change it if necessary, then stick a reminder on the outside of cartridge holder so it's easy to see and remember.



When you visit any of our sponsors
don't forget to mention that you are a member of an ACCSA Associated Caravan Club

CAREFREE CARAVANNERS of SA, Inc

November Rally at Stansbury Caravan Park	15 Vans Approximate Spend $4200

The Carefree Caravanners November rally was at Stansbury on the Yorke Peninsular, it was well attended by 15 vans. On arrival the members were welcomed by friendly Management and staff, some were lucky enough to have beachside sites. The amenities were graded as excellent so much so that it rated a mention in our newsletter. For entertainment on one night one of our members gave an historic account of what the area provided 'way back when'. The usual games were played, bingo, and disk bowls. Breakfast bought locally, the Carefree Cup, and dinner at the Dalrymple Hotel was enjoyed by all.

Over the 4 days the weather played its part, happy hours were enjoyed at one van that was right on the beach, by the last happy hour the park looked a lot like tent city.

December Rally at Riverton Caravan Park	14 Vans Approximate Spend $3000

Considering we all travelled through the devastated Pinery fire area and arrived to a very warm welcome not only by (the weather) but also from the Riverton Caravan Park managers, Carolyn and Peter. It certainly makes a big difference to your stay when you are greeted by a bubbly smile, friendly face, clean facilities and accommodating staff.

The rally was attended by 14 Vans, 4 in Cabins and 10 day visitors, there were several cancellations due to weather circumstances (high Thirty degree days), all in all a very good turn up.

The Xmas lunch was fantastic as was the entertainment. Our Xmas raffle raised over $400 and the club decided unanimously to donate this to the Riverton area CFS. The brigade captain and his wife accepted the gift on behalf of the brigade, then he gave an in-depth briefing on the Pinery fire. The CFS captain and his wife stayed on to enjoyed a convivial ale or two.

Because of the predicted 40 degrees for Sunday, the park was vacated by all before 8am.

January Rally:

DAVE BENSON CARAVAN CLUB

November Rally at Stansbury Caravan Park	7 Vans @ $29 per night, plus pub meal, fridge repair, bakeries, etc.

Good sites for us all. Weather was a mixture of cold and windy to hot without the wind Fishing done on most days but not many fish caught most days. BBQ tea on Saturday and our usual brunch on Sunday followed by a club meeting. Our secretary helped to save a cormorant with a fishing float and line dragging behind it on the water. Going back down the jetty it was spotted sitting on a stump in the water at the shore line. Thinking she can get that and get it untangled. Luckily a young chap was there, and she asked him if he could help. So he managed to grab it by the neck, then with a bit of work with a knife got the float and line free of the bird. He then pocketed the float which our secretary was hoping to score.

A drive out to Minlaton on Monday as a member's portable fridge had gone bung. The beer wasn't keeping cold, which broke his heart. New one purchased, with a trade in on the old one. Then it was a must stop at the bakery for lunch.

Tuesday on the jetty a member spent 1/2hr trying to snag an old crab net in the water with a squid jag. Then somebody said it's a rock, so gave up after that.

An excellent lunch was had at the York Hotel, Yorktown. All had a very good feed at reasonable prices, then some shopping done in the town. To round off the day we had scones and cream with strawberries at happy hour. A bit of beach fishing in the evening but only one garfish caught by our secretary.

2 members had a roll up at the bowling green on Wednesday morning for an hour. Most spent the rest of the day in the vans with air conditioners on as it was very hot. 2 went fishing at 11pm until 3am. But at least it was worth it with about 40 tommies in the bag.

Thursday saw some go home, Friday saw more leave and 2 vans stayed for 2 more weeks. A good rally at a very nice park on the York Peninsula. Next rally at the top of the peninsula at Moonta Bay.

December / January: No rallies
February Rally: Moonta Bay Caravan Park

JAYCO CARAVAN CLUB of SA, Inc

December Rally (edited from Newsletter)
at Nuriootpa Caravan Park

During Thursday afternoon and evening, everyone was very busy putting up Christmas decorations, some with very intricate displays. At "Happy hour" on Thursday night, we received a special visit by Sally and Murray Phillips. Earlier on Friday night, quite a few people went to the Nuriootpa Street Parade and Christmas fair. Later that night we were treated to some fabulous decorated Caravans and even a special visit by "Mother and Father Christmas"!! Laser lights, special crafted boards displaying signs and even a snow making machine were all competing for everyone's attention and voting.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Everyone eagerly gathered at the Football Club rooms by 5 pm to enjoy some nibbles, refreshments and purchase some more raffle tickets for the laden tables of donations. Danny Cloy welcomed everyone to the evening and thanked Gerry Boldock in advance for the fabulous organising of the evening. The Auction of a Weber Baby Q (donated by ACC) was hotly perused as were the other auction prizes. Dinner was served only after a competition to see which table was to go first. Father Christmas arrived with his two Elves and did a fine job of handing out a KK present to everyone in the room. It seemed like a Kids party as everyone eagerly opened their presents. A "floor show" - a special act being flown in from Las Vegas "The Donny and Her (Cher) Show- - followed with music and dancing. What a fabulous night we all had and Gerry could be seen "putting her feet up" the next day!! Well done Gerry and thanks for a fun-filled night from all of us who attended.

January: No Rally
February Rally: Tanunda Caravan Park

NOW AVAILABLE

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

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

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JAYCO JAYBIRDS, SA

December Rally at Jetty Caravan Park, Normanville	

The weather was quite warm as we played musical chairs chasing the shade most of the day. Friday night was cocktails and finger food with games provided by the fun committee. Two ladies (won't mention names) hit the deck after walking the plank. (no more cocktails for them!). Santa's arrival (Judy in a blow up suit) sent everyone into stitches with her suit on backwards. Couldn't tell if she was coming or going! So funny, super job Jude.

After sampling several cocktail concoctions some couldn't decide whether they like sex on the beach (the drink) or not. Finally, it was a unanimous yes!

On Saturday, we all lazed around as you do in the warm weather. A few of us visited nearby Yankalilla for some great bakery food.

Saturday night was Xmas dinner which was again catered for in the camp kitchen. The food was absolutely beautiful, with a good range of meats, salads and sweets. Second helpings were the norm.

There was a good variation of Xmas hats this year, with first prize going to Peter (who was coincidentally seen talking to the judge earlier!!). Later in the evening, as we joined the big circle again, we were entertained by the impressively talented John, the magician, who dumbfounded us with his tricks. We also enjoyed the sing-along with Peter on his guitar. A great weekend, with a few staying on for a couple of days, but most heading for home on Sunday morning.

January Rally: No rally, lunch at Avoca Hotel
February Rally: Blanchetown Caravan Park

WANDERERS CARAVAN CLUB SA, Inc

December Rally at Nuriootpa Caravan Park	25 Vans, Cost per night: $31.50, after Top Tourist discount. Approximate Spend $8750

Friday, meet and greet of arriving vans. This was followed by a communal BBQ, with byo everything. After, as the evening grew on, a port or 2 would be nice. Some magically appeared and was enjoyed by all.

Saturday morning members went about Nuriootpa investigating various shops and things. A visit to Gods Hill winery was organized for the afternoon; a few people went along and sampled their wares.

Saturday evening found us at the Barossa Weintal Hotel Motel for our annual Christmas dinner. What a terrific night was had by us all, great music, piles of great food and a giant raffle to top it off. Nobody walked away hungry from there.

Sunday, was 'Bon voyage' to those who were leaving for home, which appears to be growing less and less every rally nowadays. But, for those that stayed, a game of disc bowls was organized and played followed in the evening with a communal meal and sitting around chatting, also solving the problems of the world.

Overall impression.

Great venue spoiled only by the attitude of park management. What a great rally for our Xmas one.

January Rally at Milang Caravan Park	19 Vans, Cost per night $27.20 after discount Approximate Spend $2250

Friday, arrival of vans, meet and greet. Weather was a lot cooler than the last few days. This was a very welcome respite. After chatting and gossiping, time moved to happy hour and then we all traipsed up to the local pub for the usual Friday night meal. This was enjoyed by all. The meal cost on the average $18. This was fairly reasonable for a pub meal.

Saturday, as it was Milang's annual 'Old-time Power Exhibition' weekend, quite a few members took advantage and found their way to the show grounds. A film was planned for the evening, but due to a mix up in hall bookings, this did not happen, so members sat around chewing the fat. It was a cool evening and, after the heat of the previous week, it was quite pleasant to sit outside and enjoy.

Sunday morning tea at the presidents van and a fond farewell to those leaving.

Overall impression.

Another great rally, spoilt only by the noise of the Corellas, but not as bad as last year.

February Rally: Goolwa Caravan Park

SOUTHERN CROSS CARAVAN CLUB

December Rally at Port Willunga Caravan Park	12 Vans, 1 Cabin & 2 visitors Approximate Spend: $4,250

Site fees were $36 per night with Club Discount or $32 per night with Club Discount plus Big 4 Membership.

Otherwise it would have been $40 per night. These fees are starting to climb steeply. The weather conditions were horrid, temperatures of 35 to nearly 40 degrees. There was ample shade for the vans. On Friday members explored the local towns and hit the wineries and bakeries and cheery farm. We gathered for our Club Meeting at 4 pm and then had happy hour. We had dinner at the Hotel McLaren. Nice meals and a nice salad bar.

Sat morning we gathered for the traditional 'Tizer Quiz and collectively scored 42 out of 50. Not bad. The rest of the day was free to try and keep cool. We reconvened for Happy Hour and then at 6pm we had our Christmas Dinner at the Park under the trees. The Rally Officers put on a fabulous spread of cold chicken and ham and the members supplied salads which were fabulous and no double ups. Dessert was Christmas pudding with custard. Father Christmas and his two happy elves topped off the night and handed out gifts.

Sunday morning started off with a Champagne breakfast and then we had a tag along car tour taking our convoy to various locations in the district, including a wine and olive farm. Lunch was obtained from the McLaren Vale Bakery and we had it in the RSL Park in front of the big Leopard Tank. For dinner that night we had left overs from the night before. It is estimated that our club pumped $4,250 into the local economy.

January Rally: To be advised

PACK CAMPING CLUB, Inc

October Rally at Inglewood, Victoria	6 Caravans 1 Motel Room at caravan park

We had an enjoyable week away at Inglewood in the heart of the Vic goldfields. The weather was not really very kind because we had some terrible conditions on a couple of days, one awning flipping on a hot windy day and another in a strong thunder squall during happy hour. There were plenty of interesting drives and places to visit, in particular, Melville Caves, The Spanner Man and Dunolly with its gold nugget replicas. Bendigo is a short drive away and we had a good look around there also.

November Rally (Day Trip at Strathalbyn	

Three couples visited Strathalbyn for the day. We enjoyed eating at the bakery and watching all the festivities at the Rotary Club Duck Festival with the highlight being the duck race on the river (a thousand or so little rubber duckies being blown along).

November Rally (20-22 Nov) at Riverton Caravan Park	1 Caravan, 2 Cabins 1 Couple day visit

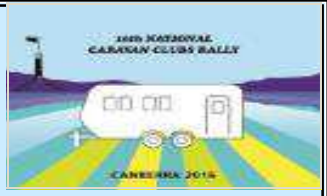
We spent a relaxing time with a little sightseeing, card playing and reading. We enjoyed a meal at the Central Hotel so much that two couples went back the next evening. Riverton Caravan Park is really a lovely park for clubs.

December Rally (6 Dec) at Members Residence	

As it was so hot we gathered at a member's home. We had our customary shared meal and raffle. A pleasant time was had catching up with most of our club members.

February Rally: Moonta Bay

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.
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.

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