The Journal

Volume 24 No 3 JUNE 2024

www.accsa.asn.au

Association of Caravan Clubs South Australia

Celebrating 47 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, November 2024

G'Day to all ACCSA Affiliated Club Members.

Wishing all ACCSA affiliated Clubs and members a Merry Christmas and a joyful and safe New Year.

To the clubs and members that attended our very successful State Rally, thanks for your participation and involvement with 106 registrations. What a great fun filled State Rally this was.

A special thanks must go to the subcommittee for their involvement and commitment to make this such a great event: Lesley Davis registration, lawn bowls and editor, Peter Kitto for arranging great entertainment, Chris & John Parry and Elaine Dempsey for organizing activities and movies, Trevor Porter for arranging RAA and Police talks on caravan towing and safety tips, Barbara Stanley for selling of raffle tickets and looking after the books. Thanks also to the other committee members being Christine Worden (Bingo), Sandra Anderson, Sandy Lee, and Graham Brown for their input. The raffle was well supported with prizes being donated by Redarc, Caravan and Camping SA, Discovery Parks, The Still Co (Gin), Yalumba, Drakes and all participating clubs. Please consider and support these generous companies and organisations whenever you can.

I congratulate the incoming executive committee, Peter Kitto (1st VP), Trevor Porter (Secretary), Graham Brown (2nd VP), Barbara Stanley (Treasurer) and Lesley Davis (Webmaster, Editor and Minutes Secretary) for their appointment. Welcome to the club delegates for the 2024/2025 term—looking forward to working with you all.

The AGM for NACC was held on 23/10/2024, with John Anderson and Graham Brown being Directors for South Australia. Issue of Taxation for not for profit clubs was raised, but this only applies if the club has an ABN number and has income from bank interest amounting to more than $400.00 pa. Insurance is in place to cover clubs and invoices been sent to clubs.

In closing, I am hoping that ACCSA will move forward with hopefully all associated clubs having delegates becoming more involved so we as a group have more say in the Caravan and Camping Industry not only in our State but through NACC Australia wide.

Yours in Caravanning

John Anderson
ACCSA President

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State Rally Report

Port Elliott Caravan Park, 16-22 October 2024

Over 100 vans from eight affiliated Caravan Clubs attended the rally at Port Elliot and enjoyed six days of varied activities and nightly entertainment.

As the vans rolled in on Wednesday, they were greeted with a mild sunny day, perfect for a great rally. However, on Thursday, just as over 100 people were making their way across to the Port Elliot Bowling Club for dinner and a fun night of lawn bowling, the heavens opened and we saw some spectacular lighting across Horseshoe Bay, thunder loud enough and close enough to rattle the windows in the Bowling Club and rain which turned gutters into running rivers in minutes. Needless to say, there was no night owls bowling, although some stayed long enough to roll a few bowls down after 8 pm. The volunteer team at the Bowling Club did a wonderful job feeding 103 people and providing some friendly hospitality despite the trying conditions.

During the day, members enjoyed activities such as Bingo, Photobook making, line dancing and technical/information talks by the RAA and SAPOL. The trivia session was also well attended and all resulted in participants having a fun time. We also thank the park management for cooking the barbecue on Friday for our lunch. They raised considerable money for the rural charity thanks to the generous donations from our members.

In the evenings, most attendees wandered down to the marquee for happy hour and then stayed on for some great entertainment from the bands or the movie nights. So many people danced for so long on the first night that it is a wonder that anyone could walk for the rest of the weekend! Evening food from the pizzas to the fish and chips were enjoyed by many.

All in all, it was a successful state rally enjoyed by those who attended.

Lesley Davis

Club Rally Reports

ADELAIDE CARAVAN CLUB

Location: River Ramble—Loxton, Fort Courage, Renmark

Date of Rally: 5-15 Sept. **No of Vans: 10-12** (**Adults** 19-21)
Expenses Incurred:

Park Fees	Averaged around $35. No deposit required at Fort Courage
Total site fees:	approx. $3500
Other Expenses:	$2000
Total spend at rally:	$ 5500

On arrival: All parks were well organised and helpful.

The park and surrounds: All parks were very well kept. Lots of grassed sites and everything was neat and tidy.

Loxton is still rebuilding after the 2022 floods and no sites on the lower level are available. The upper level has uneven grassed sites in places and no camp kitchen or shelter.

Fort Courage is an interesting bush camp on the banks of the Murray, 16 km out of Wentworth in NSW. Our sites were grassed and shaded. Facilities were very clean and the camp kitchen is enormous with all amenities you could imagine.

Renmark Riverbend CP is lovely, although the turn off was tricky as there were road works to negotiate. It is right beside the Paringa Bridge but was quiet and peaceful. Grassed sites, a pizza cooker, camp kitchen, communal fire pit and BBQ. Lots of wildlife on the banks—kangaroos, ducks, birds etc.

Things we did at this rally: We visited local attractions such as the Pioneer Village at Loxton, the junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers in Wentworth, Perry sandhills, local coffee shops and kayaked on the river. We enjoyed meals at the Loxton Hotel, some visited the Coomealla Club for a meal and pokies, others played bowls at the Wentworth Bowling Club, we visited the Wentworth Gaol and museum which was very interesting.

All sites recommended.

Playing cards in the expansive camp kitchen at Fort Courage.

BAROSSA VALLEY C&C CLUB

Location: Stony Creek

Date of Rally: 9-12 August **No of Vans:** 10 **Cabins:** 2
Super weather so some made it into a 6 day rally via Bowman Park & Mambray Creek.
Site Fees: Cabins $90, Powered sites $40. No deposit.
Total Expenses: $5590
Things we did: Friday night was Australiana Theme dress up, barbecue & movie ("The Duke"). The Olympics inspired a lot of Green & Gold but Dame Edna stole the show.
Saturday started with enjoyable pancakes made by Graham Walker. The Op Shop and Coffee shop were well patronised. AGM was held in the Dining Room & followed by Happy Hour and very tasty Pizzas made by Kelly & Wayne the park owners. President Elaine challenged us with the Australiana / Olympic Quiz. First meeting for the new committee was held followed by Camp Oven damper cookoff which was won by Dame Edna alias Lorraine with a spinach & feta creation. Judged by Kelly & Wayne, the managers. A light tea followed the 11 dampers. The very pleasant evening was spent by the fire.
Thank you to Elaine for organising the weekend attended by 10 vans & 2 cabins.
Thank you so much to Kelly & Wayne amazing hosts with lots of improvements in the park.

NEXT RALLY Mt Pleasant 6th – 8th September.

Left: Dame Edna aka Lorraine.

Below: Gathered around the fire pit at Stony Creek.

BAROSSA VALLEY C&C CLUB

Location of Rally: Mount Pleasant

Date of rally: 6-9 Sept
No of Vans: 11 Vans, 2 Cabins
Expenses:
Site fees: $37.80 powered site Cabins $130-$190 pn.
Total expenditure: $4510

On arrival: With our site numbers included in our arrival information it was very easy to settle in. The gravel roadways and neat concrete edges made it even easier.

The park and surrounds: The only concern we had was the state of the toilets & showers used by the market patrons. We have put in a request to management for more frequent cleaning on Saturdays.

What we did at this rally: First stop was to the old bank building in the main street, now housing Robber Dog Distillery. Rob provided an hour's entertainment and knowledge as well as some very nice drops. Visa a lot lighter and car heavier as a result. Back for happy hour in one of the sheds then into a warm van for tea.

Lots of visitors for meetings and lunch. Saturday the local market with an amazing array of produce. After market breakfast lunch was not required so we went on the Committee and General Meeting in a breezy camp kitchen.

Sunday we got involved in a Corn Toss Challenge with last year's Champion Lorraine being defeated by Fred by 1 point. Lunch at the local Mt Pleasant Hotel was a chatty, friendly time with good service and pub food.

More of Ron's quiz with a twist took up the afternoon followed by happy hour in the shed and tea in the warm van.

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Location of Rally: Port Vincent

Date of Rally 8-10 November 24
No of Vans 11 **Cabins** 2
Expenses Incurred:
Park Fees $40.50 sites, $135 Cabins
Total site fees: $4645

On arrival:
The park and surrounds: The park was clean, well maintained & staff very friendly.

Things we did at this rally: President Elaine welcomed everyone at happy hour and congratulated our Treasurer Graham who is into the big numbers now gaining his OBE. Visitors Jan & Dennis were welcomed for their first visit.

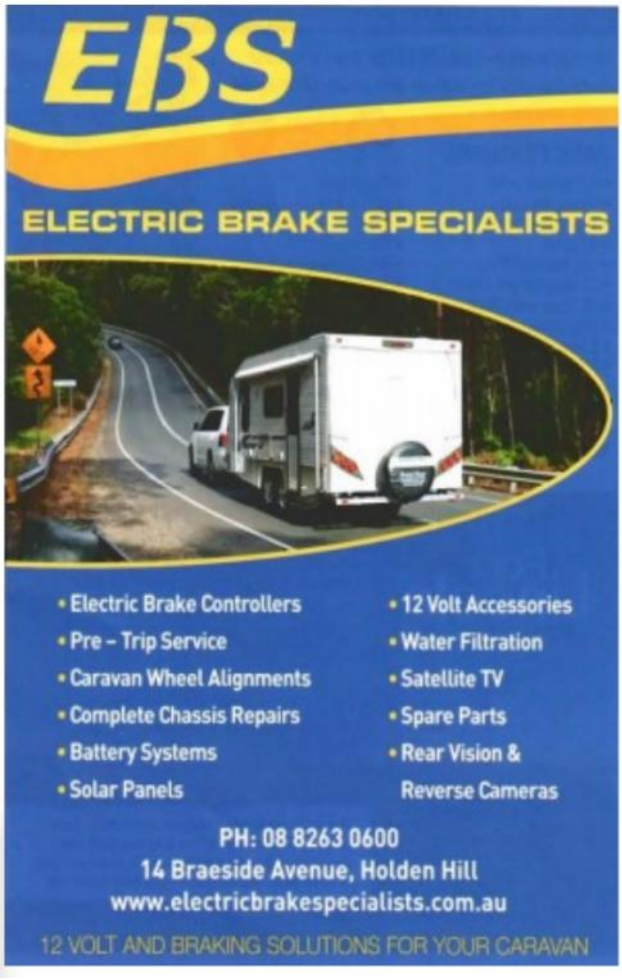
On Saturday our 10-00 am stroll to the beachfront kiosk rewarded us with great service coffee, doughnuts, cheese cake & custard slice. Shopping followed.

After our Committee meeting we gathered for games of Finska on the lawn with lots of laughs & gasps. Happy hour flowed on with surprise serves of Dirty Banana Cocktails.

9.00 am walk along the foreshore preceded morning tea where Lorraine supplies jelly slice & biscuits. Our lunch at the Ventner Hotel was delicious, enhanced by the view of the bay. Maise entertained us for the afternoon with the challenge of throwing with our non-dominant hand.

Special thanks to Peter & Lorraine for organising a very active and enjoyable programme.

Recommended: We would recommend this park.



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Club Rally Reports

Location of Rally: Morgan Riverside Caravan Park

Date of Rally 13th – 17th June 2024

Expenses Incurred:

Park Fees:	from $38 per night (Deposit required0		
Total site fees:	**$**3192		
Other Expenses	$3571	**Total spend**	$ 6763
No of Vans 21	**Adults**	36	

On arrival: Warmly greeted and by staff, check in minimum of fuss plus very helpful

The park and surrounds: The front part of the park has been repaired after the floods, nice size sites either grassed or dirt. The new area down the back of the park still being developed in time be as good as the rest. Camp kitchen well appointed and good for large groups although only filled in on two sides, very clean, the ablution blocks have been renovated and are very clean and modern.

Things we did on this rally: First night weather permitted a shared dinner under the stars. Next day a visit to the men's shed while the women had a pamper morning of hands and feet. In the afternoon the men, in teams of four, made scones for afternoon tea. An evening meal at the local hotel (Commercial) followed. On day 3 we visited the museum for a small fee, followed by a free afternoon, soup and pie making for dinner followed by sticky date pudding for dessert, all made at the camp kitchen by the members. Last day kicked off with disk bowls in the morning followed by mini golf in the afternoon.

Would definitely come back

Location of Rally: Berri Riverside Holiday Park

Date of Rally 12-16 August 2024
No of Vans **20** **Adults** 34
Expenses Incurred:
Park Fees $48 per night (accepted travel auctions)
Total site fees: $2900
Other Expenses: $6950
Total spend at rally: $ 9850

On arrival: Easy check in and very friendly staff.

The park and surrounds: In very good order. Since our last visit there are very up market units; an addition of a swimming pool. Toilets very clean and serviced regularly, the park grounds were fair considering the after effects of the floods. The ground staff very helpful. Plenty of BBQs to use cleaned regularly sometimes twice a day, lots of amenities.

Things we did at this rally: Things we did at this rally Because it is a holiday resort other than a stroll into town or drive into town for groceries, we spent most our time in the park entertaining ourselves, with ample size indoor outdoor camp kitchens, the park put on a 2 and half hour river cruise with refreshments, Mini golf free for park patrons, and $10 pizza night.
Recommended: Would definitely come back

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Club Rally Reports

Southern Cross Caravan Club

Date of Rally:	19th June – 24th June 2024				
Location of Rally:	**Laura Caravan Park & Merna Mora Station**				
No of Vans:	12	Cabins:	3	Adults:	30

Expenses Incurred:	Park fees per night:	Laura $32.00	Total site fees:	$384:00
		MernaMora $40		$480:00
	3 x Cabins			$2160:00
	Other expenses (food, entertainment, fuel, etc)			$8,736:00
	Total spend:			$11,760:00

On arrival: Meet by friendly Park management and allocated sites.

The park and surrounds: Laura met by management with traditional scone jam and cream, dinner at Laura Hotel. This is one of our club's favourite parks.

Merna Mora Station met by friendly management and allocated sites, sites level with power and water hook up and facilities close by.

Things we did at this rally: **Wednesday** arrived for overnight stay dinner at Laura Hotel.

Thursday set off from Laura to travel to Merna Mora all arrived safely after lunch, happy hour in enclosed camp kitchen which we were able to use. Weather not the best on arrival with a few showers so we were grateful for the warm camp kitchen. Couple short power outages overnight around dinner time making it a challenge for the one in the middle of cooking but all worked out well. **Friday** woke up to beautiful sunshine and clear blue skies though still a bit chilly, morning work around the station to look out where phone reception was possible then checking out the young lambs and calves. After lunch all hands to the deck to set up for the evening long table roast lamb dinner with desert organized by chief chef Sandra, ladies prepared vegetables and apples and electric fry pans to cook, the 4 John's set up their Webers and started to cook 4 large legs of lamb. At time to serve the feast an order was requested by Chief Sandra for 4 vehicles with tailgates with table cloths to be used for serving. All enjoyed the feast and Dominic led the hordes with an arousing round of applause for Chief Sandra for her catering skills. **Saturday** woke to a beautiful sunny fresh morning, we all set off at 9:30 and proceeded to Farina (a 2 hour drive north) for brunch at the Farina bakery run by volunteer's for the best pasties, pies, sausage rolls and cakes, followed by walk and drive around town being restored by volunteer's. On our return we stopped at the Parachilna Hotel, happy hour and dinner back at camp around campfire under the stars. **Sunday** another beautiful day 9 am traditional long table breakfast followed by morning tea a group decided to challenge themselves on the station 4WD tracks while others did the approx. 100+km ring route through the gorges and returned to camp for happy hour around the camp fire then off to vans to retire for the night. **Monday** pack up and leave for home some stayed at Laura again on the way home. Another Great Rally and company as usual well done Rally Officers and all SCCC members.

Recommended: Yes +

Southern Cross Caravan Club

Date of Rally: 22nd August – 26th August 2024

Location of Rally: **Clayton Bay Caravan Park**

No of Vans:	11	**Cabins**:	1	**Adults**:	22
Expenses Incurred:	Park fees per night:		$35.00	Total site fees:	$385:00
	1 x Cabins		$180:00		$540:00
	Other expenses (food, entertainment, fuel, etc)				$2912:00
	Total spend:				$3,837:00

On arrival: Meet by friendly Park management and allocated sites.

The park and surrounds: All sites allocated close to camp kitchen and close to amenities, very neat and tidy park and is undergoing upgrades to sites and amenities. Pier 28 Café now open just up road from park .

Things we did at this rally: **Thursday** most arrived by 4.00pm and set up happy hour and we all enjoyed our BYO dinner together in the camp kitchen. **Friday** morning walk and then gathered for morning tea before heading to Pier 28 Café just up the road for lunch, most enjoyed their meal even though we had to wait a while for the pleasure some were disappointed with their grilled fish. We all enjoyed happy hour around the campfire then light dinner around the campfire then off to bed with full tummies. **Saturday** after morning walk we all enjoyed morning tea at the Finnis General Store for morning tea, Sandy's birthday so Pete surprised her with a cake and a candle, the rest of the day was free to explore some going to Op shops, visit to Goolwa, Newman's horseradish farm etc. The Oscar PW came into the wharf, a few had a welcome tour on board. Happy hour around campfire and communal dinner in camp kitchen, we all experienced the most magnificent sunset over the waters of Lake Alexandrina, some retired, others stayed on to watch the Crows get done by the Swans. **Sunday** Communal breakfast at 9:05am follow by the "JB Tizer quiz" we scored an admirable 36/50, then off to explore the area before coming together for PIZZA's at Bremerton Winery. The weather was miserable so the warmth of the winery and food was much appreciated by all, back to camp for happy hour around the fire in the camp kitchen and off to vans early. **Monday** packed up and headed for home. Another Great Rally and company as usual well done Rally Officers and all SCCC members.

Recommended: Yes +

Date of Rally: 19th September – 23rd September 2024

Location of Rally: **Auburn Caravan Park**

No of Vans:	15	**Cabins**:	2	No. of Adults:	33
Expenses Incurred:	Park fees per night:		$35.00	Total site fees:	$385:00
	1 x Cabins		$180:00		$540:00
	Other expenses (food, entertainment, fuel, etc)				$2912:00
	Total spend:				$3,837:00

On arrival: Meet by friendly Park management and allocated sites. 2 Vans on unpowered sites

The park and surrounds: Limited Powered sites but lovely park overlooking oval and walking distance to town, very clean amenities. Very small camp kitchen so setup club gazebo's.

Things we did at this rally: **Thursday** most arrived by 2.00pm and set up vans and gazebo's on lawned area, 4:00pm all joined for happy hour visitors Richard and Rose welcomed by VP John. **Friday** morning walk and then gathered for morning tea in the gazebo, 12:00 noon of to the Rising Sun Hotel for lunch where we were joined by Galivanting Guidolin's, late rally arrivals Crockers and Ian and Jenny for a delicious lunch. After lunch local historian Kay Lambert then guided us on a "Walk with History" explaining Auburn's beginnings. 4.00pm Happy hour in Gazebo. **Saturday** the Auburn Markets proved popular as many grabbed bargains of earrings, pictures books, and sweet treats. 10:30am we walked across oval to Rice Creek for scones and coffee, free afternoon followed by happy hour with presentation for 25 Rallies to John and Kerry and Bev and Danny with Bucky receiving his 50 Rallies badge, Jenny Wilson was inducted as a new member. Dinner followed with hamburgers cooked by members and supplied by club. A fun Aussie quiz followed with chocolate prizes for everyone. **Sunday** The traditional communal breakfast in the warm sun at 9:05am follow by the "JB Tizer quiz" followed by free time to explore the surrounds, some went to the Clare info centre to view and hold the $750,000 Melbourne Cup while others went to O'Leary Walker winery for lunch then back to camp to pack up the gazebo's and sat around the fire for happy hour until the cold drove us indoors. **Monday** packed up and headed for home. Another Great Rally and company as usual well done Rally Officers and all

Recommended : Yes +

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Above: Our President, John Anderson at the Caravan and Camping Show at Wayville in July. ACCSA was there promoting Caravan Club membership and caravanning in general.

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