ACCSA JOURNAL

March 2013:

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WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

At the last ACCSA meeting a lengthy discussion in relation to the viability of Caravan Clubs here in Sthn Aust. If you look at the average age of members in a hypothetical club, it would be well into the 70s. Obviously, the figures will change with each club, Family & Friends CC's delegation estimated that their clubs average is less than 40. There are any number of reasons for this. If you look at the monthly rally reports there is usually one or two clubs with visitors, so they are trickling in, but they are not all in the right age group. :Looking at the history of a club that has been running for a long time you will notice that at the beginning clubs were made up of, mainly, younger families, but when those kids grew up they didn't follow their parents into caravan clubs. A whole generation skipped clubs, actually skipped caravanning all together. In the 1970s the bottom fell out of caravanning. Manufacturers went to the wall and the only people buying caravans were "grey nomads", and there weren't many of them either. This coincided with a drastic rise in the cost of fuel, and it became just as cheap to go over-seas than to drag a van around. So there is whole generation gap in caravan clubs. Those in clubs now, should be handing over to this lost group but ,off course, they are not there, so they just have to go on. Looking at the figures now you will see that young families are flooding back into caravanning, so in order to survive clubs have to devise strategies to attract these young families back into clubbing. One club has already "bitten the bullet" and will actively try to attract younger members. This strategy has cost the club 11 members. This is worrying and selfish. If clubs don't get younger members, and I mean less than 50, they will not survive, so older club members should look beyond their own comfort and think of their club and it's ability to provide to a new generation the same fun and friendship that they enjoyed in a caravan club.

ACCSA NEWS:

The Caravan & Camping Show is over for another year, and from reports, I think the organisers would be disappointed with the numbers.. Every year we go through the exercise of wondering if the results are worth the trouble. We don't seem to have trouble getting volunteers to look after the display, but the organisers are reluctant to issue us with 40 free passes. It is looking more and more likely we will have to change the system of "manning" the stall because of the reluctance of the organisers to issue those free passes. On top of that, it would be interesting to see if any clubs gain any new members from the exercise. If clubs do, it would be good if you could let us know. All this information will help us decide if it is worth doing it again next year.

Now we move onto The State Rally - 26th to 28th April. The Executive is finally getting it all together. A budget has been drawn up based on 75 vans. Whether we make a loss or not is down to you - our clubs. The Secretary rang all 18 Club Secretary asking what their clubs intension was in regard to the State Rally. Only 6 clubs indicated that they will be attending, and out of those, only one had numbers in double figures. If you take out the 4 country clubs, although Barossa CC has indicated they are attending, that leaves that leaves 9 clubs that will not be represented at the rally. WHY? How many of those clubs will be away on club rallies in April? I would venture to say - most! So why aren't they coming to the State Rally? The answers Wayne received really did not stand up. - We have never been - why?; We are not interested - Why? I don't know the answer. Maybe someone out there in club land might know the answer

President

Phil Sayner

(Southern Nomads)

Vice Presidents

Reg Merritt

(Elizabethan)

Bob Williamson

(Caravan Club of SA)

Secretary

Wayne Barnett

(F&FCC)

Treasurer

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STH AUSTRALIAN STATE RALLY

APRIL 26TH - APRIL 28TH

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Here are a couple of updates for the State Rally.

As there will be a good number of children coming, and to encourage more parents with children to consider coming, it has been decided to organise a programme especially for them. If anyone has any ideas for the programme and/or would like to help run it please let your Club Secretary know, and they will notify the Executive know.

Both the Police and the Emergency Services have indicated that they would like have a

presence at the Rally. The Executive, in consultation with both of them will work out what form this will take.

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Around the Clubs:

Last month I missed including the Jayco CC's reports for December & January, for which I apologise. The club's Christmas rally was at Nuriootpa CP. 30 vans attended , some arriving as early as the previous weekend. On Saturday members did the usual Barossa things, including visits to the Angaston Market, Maggie Beer and various wineries. The Christmas dinner, held in the football clubrooms across the oval, had a visit from Santa and his elves, entertainment from Jayco's own Abba ensemble, with many dancing until midnight. Sunday morning a few members decided to play bocce until a magpie swooped down and carried off the jack. Most left Sunday but a few extended their stay for a few more days.

In January Jayco CC headed to Port Hughes for their Australia Day rally. On the Friday night wind came up with many stowing their awnings and securing outside furniture. At "happy hour" Saturday afternoon members celebrated Australia Day with sweet and savoury dampers baked by members. In the evening all enjoyed an *"Aussie BBQ with snags, chops, roo, beer and a few bottles of red".* With fine weather over the next few days members enjoyed a laid-back rally.

Finally, in February the club went to Tanunda. The weather was extremely hot for the whole weekend. *"Happy hour each day was spent in a state of perpetual movement as the group…..changed position to stay in the shade…"* Some members had discovered "Brewery & Brassiere" – great beers and an inviting menu. The possums were much in evidence in the Park with "*one cheeky critter gaining entry to an annexe one night, eating nectarines and knocking things over."* The vans occupants were quite annoyed when it did not want to leave. Saturday evening members enjoyed group dinner at the town "Clubhouse". On returning to the Park members watched a movie in the Park's sound shell. Sunday morning saw members enjoyed the traditional pancake breakfast. Most then packed up and headed for home. The club's next rally is at Berri CP over the March long weekend.

Quite a number of club chose this same very hot weekend in February to hold their rallies. United CC was one of them. They went to Port Willunga CP. Members appreciated the fact that there is a pool at the Park Those there on Thursday night enjoyed the usual game of "Euka" with the boys victors. On Friday morning members visited the local bakery on the foreshore. Happy Hour was held in the camp kitchen after which members dined at the Willunga Hotel. On returning to the Park bingo was played in the camp kitchen. Saturday saw another visit to the bakery, then the ladies "found" a garage sale. Happy Hour was, once again, held in the camp kitchen, followed by a BBQ of chops, sausages, patties, salads and finished off with a fruit platter. Sunday saw all on their way by 10:30am The club goes to Belair CP for its next rally.

It is great to see a delegate from Campervan Club of SA at ACCSA again. She reported that their last rally was at Middleton CP. Members were impressed with this park, its cleanliness, the camp kitchen, the kiosk and the clean showers & toilets. Members explored the local area including the nice walk to the beach.

Barossa CC went to the Bolivar CP for their last rally. By Friday afternoon all that were coming had arrived. Happy Hour morphed into tea of burgers with lots of fillings. Saturday saw members going through the racing pages of the Advertiser to pick out some winners for the trots in the evening. Members then headed to the St. Kilda Mangrove Trail. All enjoyed the walk and then it was of to the Virginia Nursery to wander around and indulge at the café. The rest of the afternoon was free As evening approached all headed to Globe Derby to set up chairs in a good position and put on a few bets. It was a great night, enjoyed by all. A shared breakfast in the camp kitchen on Sunday morning finished another great weekend. The next rally is at Pt. Germaine CP

The Murray Bridge CC was another club on that HOT weekend in February. They were also at Pt Willunga CP and they took advantage of the many trees in the park to keep out of the sun. On Saturday a husband & wife celebrated their 80th birthday with a luncheon at the Flagstaff Hotel. In the evening the club had a meeting with every one squeezing into a cabin – with air-conditioning. The next rally fir the club is at Blanchetown CP.

The Caravan Club of SA picked Long Island CP at Murray Bridge for their February rally. There has been a lot of work done on the park including refurbishment of the ablutions block and the planting of lots of lawn. There is also a partially enclosed shelter of about 16 feet square. There is a kiosk on site and a marina adjacent so it was interesting to have a look at all the boats. The clubs next rally is at Mt Compass, for Easter

Pack Camping Club does not have a rally in February. Their next rally is at Milang CP and the Easter Rally will be at its usual site of Nilkra just outside of Cadell.

In February Southern Cross CC held its rally at the Coobowie CP. All members enjoyed fantastic weather at this lovely clean and green park. On Friday some of those members who had arrived early headed to Yorketown with a lot gravitating to the bakery for lunch. In the afternoon some enjoyed a game of disc bowls then held a club meeting followed by Happy Hour. 28 people rolled up to the Coobowie Hotel to enjoy a $20 special menu It was a great meal with real value for the money. Next day a lot of members went to "Blooms N' Bakes" for a Devonshire morning tea. In the afternoon there was a committee meeting and in the evening members enjoyed BBQ sausages and marinated chicken steaks supplied

Around the Clubs: cont from p3

and cooked by the park management in the old Primary School at the back of the park. This was followed by an enjoyable evening of sing-a-longs & entertainments. Sunday was a free day and members fanned out to explore the area. On Sunday evening all enjoyed a meal of "fish & chips". The club was very impressed with this park and unreservedly recommends it. the "*..the facilities are excellent, the sites are well kept, the ablutions are modern and clean and the Managers….are very nice people who will welcome any caravan club"* The next rally is at Avoca Dell, Murray Bridge.

At the beginning of March 9 vans & people in 2 cabins rolled up at Avoca Dell CP. The management offers Top Tourist discount, but not club discount. On Friday night members went to Bridgeport Hotel for an enjoyable "large" meal. Most members went into town on Saturday morning and in the afternoon played disc bowls, moving onto Happy Hour and a club meeting. Everyone gathered in the rec room for a BBQ meal, after which members spoke about the favourite places they had visited within Australia. On Sunday some went home but most stayed on for another day. The next rally is at Moonta Bay CP.

Carefree CC was at Port Rickaby CP. The park was a "picture" and the management looked after the members very well, with plates of "nibbles" at happy hour. There is a camp kitchen/ meeting room with a large TV, tables and seating for about 45 – 50 people. The fishing was good from the jetty with squid and gar being hauled in.. There is a hall adjacent to the park that can be hired for $50. Members enjoyed their visit so much that the club has already made a booking for March, 2014. Milang CP is the venue for the club's next rally.

The Wanderers CC had a rally at Pt. Elliot CP on THAT February weekend. This is another park that does not give club discount, but you get BIG4 discount if you are a member. On Friday evening members enjoyed a meal at the Encounter Bay Bowling Club, a great venue with a "million dollar" view over the ocean. Saturday morning was free for members to do what they wished and in the afternoon the main occupation was trying to get cool. In the evening a communal meal "*….was the order of the day and discussing of world's problems, with solutions, of course"* The meeting on Sunday morning was early, due to the heat. Those who were leaving packed up and left while the rest looked for shade or air-conditioning. They all met at the Middleton Tavern for tea. A good rally spoilt only by the oppressive heat. The next rally is the club's 37 birthday rally at Meningie CP.

Elizabethan CC had it's last rally, again on the HOT weekend, at Moonta Bay CP. There were 11 vans, 1 visitor van and 4 cabins. [ED: We are seeing more and more clubs reporting the use of cabins at club rallies]. Many members cooled off with a dip in the ocean. "Meet & Greet" was followed by a communal tea. During the night the park lost power, due to the heat, for a number of hours, which was "fun". Saturday morning, after a communal breakfast, was free time and in the afternoon all headed to the Moonta Mines touring the site by train. All enjoyed the outing, despite the heat. Then it was back to the park and another swim. In the evening all headed to the Seagate Restaurant, that overlooks the Jetty and ocean for an excellent meal. After the meeting Sunday morning all packed up and headed for home. Apart from the heat the only problem was the sand flies. *"You don't fell them bite, but those little nicks get really itchy. They are gone within a week, so no worries"* The March rally is at Mannum CP.

Family & Friends CC went to Second Valley CP for their February rally. The park is small and a lot of the sites are "tight" to get into, especially if you have a 20+ foot van, but, eventually, all the vans were in. The club has members who live at Second Valley so the led a "tag along" tour of the area. The little beach adjacent to the park is a nice spot, as is the jetty. A pleasant weekend!. The club's next rally is at Kingston-on Murray CP.

Dave Benson CC had a rally at Kingston SE. The park overlooked the ocean. Members visited various points in the area, such as Cape Jaffa and Robe. While the club was there the local triathlon was held so members set up their chairs to watch. By the time it had finished *"...members felt more tired than the participants would be".* The club is heading off to Port Victoria CP

Lastly, Southern Nomads CC went to Kapunda CP for their February rally and, of course , it was on THAT weekend. Club members who have been to Kapunda, and remember it as a cool and pleasant place would be very disappointed with the park today. It has suffered from years of neglect making a place of dust and dead plants. But things have changed. The council has regained control and have planned to completely refurbish the whole park over the next 12 months. On Saturday morning some club members did a "tag along" tour around the town to see interesting sights while others went to the local pool to cool off, At Happy Hour all sang "Happy Birthday" to a lucky members and celebrated by sharing a birthday cake. Saturday evening members had a meal at the Sir Franklin Hotel. On returning to the park after their meal a number decided to take a night tour of the local cemetery. On returning to the park the biggest talking point was *"...not about the graveyard, but the mystery of the 'frilly knickers' found at the cemetery".* Sunday morning saw the awarding of the "button" and "frog" [don't ask] then those who were going packed up and went and those staying did their best to stay cool, including the pool and a local pub. A "hot" rally in a "tired" park, but it could have been worse.

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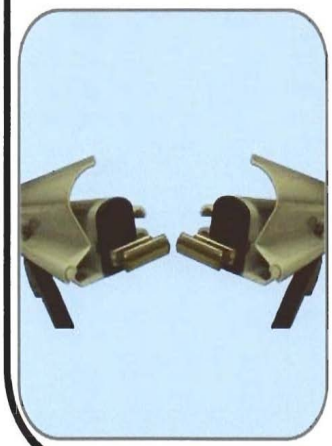

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Once a decision to warn communities in an emergency has been made, the emergency services communications will determine what method will be used, for example radio, or TV and whether a telephone alert needs to be issued. A telephone alert is just one way to warn a community and it will not be used in all circumstances. It is important that people do not rely on receiving an alert: the community must still prepare themselves and have an action plan in case of emergency. Emergency Services use a variety of communication channels to alert the community of incidents that are occurring. People should familiarise themselves with these channels to ensure they know where to obtain information if they are affected

Does it matter which phone carrier or network I'm on?

Emergency Alert operates across all carriers. Messages are able to be sent to all phone numbers, including silent numbers and prepaid phones within the defined emergency area.

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How do I know that the message is legitimate?

0444 444 444 is the number assigned to Emergency Alert. This number will always be displayed in the message header or caller identification on your phone.

For further information please visit **www.emergencyalert.gov.au** or to refer to all emergency services please visit **http://www. Alert.sa.gov.au/emergency**. This article has been supplied by the Government of South Australia

LET'S EAT

When I was growing up salads were a much simpler thing than hey are today. There was usually lettuce, perhaps beetroot from a tin and sliced cucumber [apple], tomato and onion in vinegar. Things have changed since those "good old days". Below is a "yummy" summer salad. It does have quite a few ingredients but it is easy to put together.

THAI NOODLE SALAD:

200gm packet dried egg noodles

Lebanese cucumber, halved lengthways and sliced diagonally.

200gm tomatoes, halved

1 cup fresh mint leaves

1 cup fresh coriander leaves

1 stalk lemongrass [white part only] finely chopped

2 small red chillies [optional], chopped

1/4 cup fish sauce

1/4 cup lime juice

2 tbsp. Brown sugar1/4 cup roasted peanuts, roughly chopped

Place noodles in a large, heatproof bowl. Cover with boiling water. Stand for 4 minutes or until just tender. Drain and place in a large serving bowl.

Add cucumber, tomato, mint leaves, coriander leaves to the noodles.

Using a fork, whisk lemongrass, chilli, fish sauce, lime juice and brown sugar in a jug.

Pour over the noodle mixture.

Toss gently to combine.

Sprinkle with nuts. Serve and enjoy.

MAKE 'EM LAUGH!

Johnny was staying at his Grandpa's for a few days and was playing outside with some local children. He came inside from playing and asked his Grandpa.

"Grandpa, what do you call 2 people sleeping in the same bed - one on top of the other?"

Grandpa was somewhat taken aback but decided to tell his grandson the truth.

"It's called - 'sexual intercourse' Johnny.

"Oh!" said Johnny, then turned and went back outside..

The next day Johnny came to his Grandpa and said,

"Grandpa, you were wrong yesterday, it's not called 'sexual intercourse', it's called 'bunk beds', and Michael's mother wants' to talk to you"

Ooooo00000ooooo