



ASSOCIATION OF CARAVAN CLUBS VICTORIA AND THEIR MEMBERS INC.

2016 State Rally

Cancelled.

Report Spending

Clubs can report their spending online.

Aspen Parks

Aspen and NACC save you money.

40ch UHF Changes

Effective 30th June 2016

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015 VOLUME 30 - ISSUE 4

Next Delegate's Meeting

Sat 27th February 2016, Ross House, 247 Flinders Lane Melbourne, 10:30am.

Note: The meeting originally scheduled for Feb 20th was moved by request.

State Rally Update.

At our meeting at Marong on 21st November it was decided to cancel the 2016 State Rally due to insufficient registrations from Caravan Club members. Even though the rally was to be held in April 2016 a decision was required by Dec 1st this year, as this was the cut-off date for payment to procure the caravan park.

All monies paid in advance by non-RACVCC members will be fully refunded within the next few days. The RACVCC will arrange refunds to their own members.

The RACV Caravan Club is still going to hold their own rally in Wangaratta in April 2016 and other club members are welcome to attend if they wish.

40 Channel UHF CB Radio Changes

Thanks to Allan (Bendigo Club) for the heads-up on changes to UHF CB radio provisions.

To try and clarify things, I have contacted the ACMA (Australian Communications and Media Authority) and received the following reply:

"Thank you for your email. The 40 channel UHF CB system is not set to end. The changes that have been implemented will allow an extra 40 channels to operate within the same frequency band. I have provided a link to our website below;" Phillip Carlson - Enquires Officer.

The following notes were received from GME via TJM Bendigo (again thanks to Allan):



CONTACT US

ACCVIC Inc.

03 9764 1686

admin@accvic.org.au

www.accvic.org.au



- It has been illegal to sell 40 channel UHF radios for about 12 months
- You cannot legally buy, sell or repair 40 channel UHF radios, although I see that there are units for sale on EBay
- 40 Channel UHF radios will technically be illegal as from 30/6/2016
- There is a Radio Communications Authority covering Australia (ACMA) – IF one of their staff caught you with a 40 channel radio after 30/6/2016 they could confiscate it
- It will become harder to pick up conversations on a 40 channel unit once more 80 channel units are in use – because of interference.

This PDF Attachment from UNIDEN (highlighted section bottom of page 4) indicates it will not be permitted to use the 4- Channel frequencies after 30 June 2017.

Both the link from ACMA and pdf from UNIDEN can be viewed from the ACCVIC website at:
<http://www.accvic.org.au>.

A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man. – Lana Turner

Clubs Reporting Spending

As we know, the amount spent by clubs on their rallies throughout the year is quite significant. We have already had interest from some Councils in recognising the effect on the local economies.

Clubs can now report their spending directly on to the ACCVIC web site at:
<http://www.accvic.org.au> – login to the Delegates area and select “**Report Spending**”.

This will allow us to collate the information for distribution to the Councils concerned.

The benefits to clubs of advising Councils has already been recognised by one Council who has offered FREE entrance to local events and other offers of support.

All previous email advice received of spending prior to Nov 21st 2015 have been entered.

Based on the assumption that we have 25 clubs and they probably travel 10 times a year, this would be equate to about 250 rallies throughout the year. At present we only have 40 trips recorded for 2015, only about 16%. If your club has not previously reported spending for any rally, please go to the web site, login and enter rally spending. Your Delegate should have the Login and password. Help us to help you!

Report Club Spending

Club	<input type="text" value="Select a Club"/>
Name	<input type="text" value="Name..."/>
Attendance	<input type="text" value="100"/> % of Members
Amount Spent	<input type="text" value="0"/> Whole Dollars Only
Date	<input type="text" value=""/> (yyyy-mm-dd)
State	<input type="text" value="VIC"/>
Shire/Council	<input type="text" value="Enter or Select a Shire"/> <input type="text" value="Shire..."/> <input type="text" value="Select a Shire"/>
Town	<input type="text" value="Enter or Select a Town"/> <input type="text" value="Town..."/> <input type="text" value="Select a Town"/>

Couplings

The coupling must be strong enough to take the weight of a fully loaded trailer. There are five main parts involved in a trailer coupling: the towbar, the ball mount or tongue and the tow ball are all attached to the tow vehicle, while the coupling body and the trailer drawbar or 'A' Frame form the attachment points on the trailer.

The Towbar

The towbar is the framework attached to the back of the tow vehicle. For safe towing, a properly designed and fitted towbar with an adequate certified weight rating is mandatory. Further, the load capacity of the towbar and the trailer coupling must be equal to or exceed the loaded mass of the trailer.

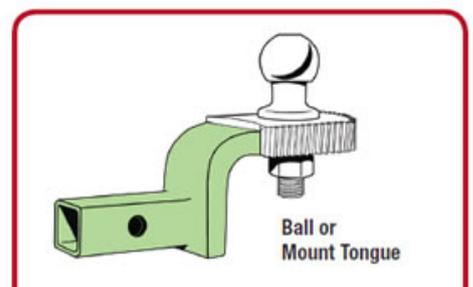
Note: Towbars should not protrude dangerously when your trailer is not connected.

If you bought a second hand vehicle with a towbar already attached, be especially careful. You need to make sure that the towbar is appropriate for whatever you intend towing. For example, although ideal for the previous owner's box trailer, the towbar might be totally unsuitable for your caravan.

Unless a permanent part of the vehicle, it is compulsory for all towbars manufactured after 1 July 1988 to clearly and permanently display the maximum load rated capacity plus the make and model of vehicle for which they are intended, or alternatively, the manufacturer's name, trade mark and part number. Check for this information to help you ascertain whether the towbar suits your needs.

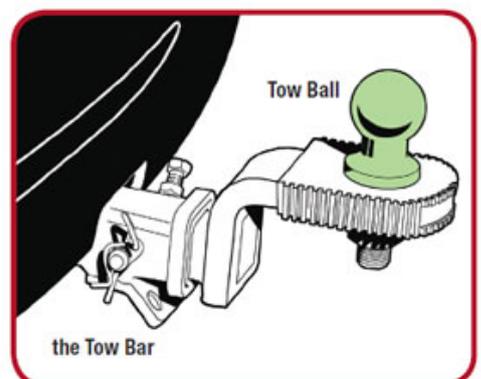
The Ball Mount or Tongue

The ball mount, also known as the tongue, is the section of the towbar to which the towball is attached. It is usually a flat 75mm wide, 16 to 20mm thick steel bar, which may be either straight or curved to achieve the correct coupling height. If the ball mount or tongue obscures the number plate it must be removed from the towbar when the trailer is not attached.



The Tow Ball

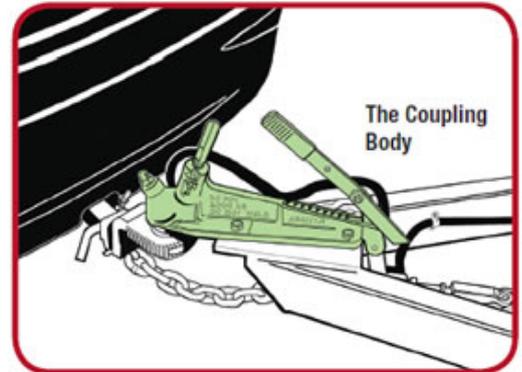
Tow balls suitable for weights of up to 3,500kgs must be 50mm in diameter and must comply with Australian Standard 4177-2. The tow ball must be a one piece element, the shank of which should be 29mm in diameter. The top face of the sphere should be clearly stamped with the capacity (3.5t) and tow ball diameter (50mm). The tow ball unit must be fitted to the vehicle with a locking washer and an appropriately sized nut. Shank type tow balls should measure 50mm from mounting face to the centre of the ball. Extended type tow balls with thicker/higher mounting faces that raise the height of the ball itself, do not comply with the Australian Standard. According to the Australian Standard 4177-2 the



manufacturer's name or trademark must also be stamped on the flange of the tow ball.

The Coupling Body

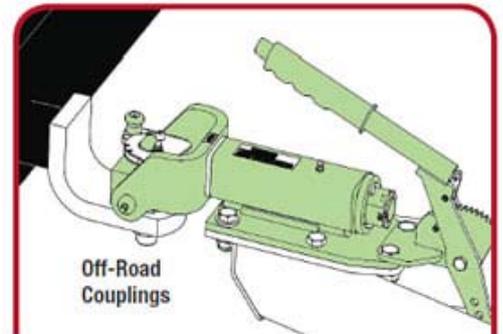
The coupling body is the section that is attached to the 'A' frame of the trailer. It forms a socket for the tow ball and provides the necessary pivot point between the trailer and the towing vehicle. Coupling bodies commonly in use can range in capacity from 750kgs to 3,500kgs. They must be marked with their capacity, as well as the manufacturer's name and the size of the tow ball for which they are suitable. It is important to ensure that the coupling body's capacity exceeds or is at least equal to the fully laden weight of the trailer. Regardless of coupling capacity the 50mm ball must still comply with the capacities outlined under the heading tow ball.



Off-Road Couplings (Non-50mm ball type)

Off-Road couplings are designed for use where high degrees of articulation are required. Some use a separate pin to connect, whilst others use a built in locking mechanism. Many have polyurethane components to absorb shocks.

All of these couplings are required to incorporate a positive locking mechanism plus a separate means of retaining this mechanism in the locked position. This locking must be readily verifiable by visual examination.



The use of tools to engage or disengage is not allowed on couplings up to 3500kg.

Both parts of the coupling must be marked with the Manufacturers name or trademark, the words "use with model (identified model)" and the maximum allowable trailer ATM i.e. 3500kg at which the coupling is rated.

Use of Weight Distribution Hitches

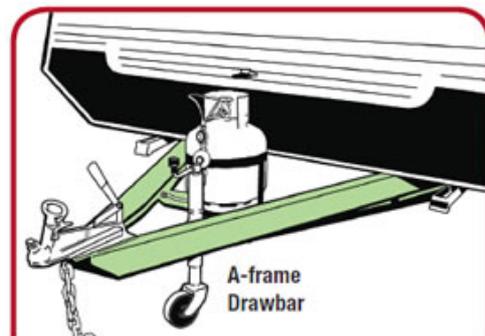
Weight Distribution Hitches (WDH) can increase the loading on the coupling. Before fitting a WDH it is advisable to check compatibility with the coupling. These devices should not be used in off-road situations.

Coupling Height -50mm Ball Couplings

Ball couplings used on trailers with an ATM of up to 3.5 tonnes must comply with Australian Standard 4177-3 and be installed so that when the coupling and towball are connected to the laden towing vehicle; the height to the centre of the tow ball above the ground shall measure between 350mm and 460mm (or be capable of being adjusted).

The Trailer's 'A' Frame (Drawbar)

This is the front section of the trailer or caravan chassis to which the coupling body is attached with bolts, nuts and locking washers. Welding the coupling body is also permitted on trailers under 1000 kgs provided the manufacturer has specified that this approach is suitable and has provided welding instructions, which must be followed. The "A" frame or drawbar is required under the Australian Design Rules to be of sufficient strength for the specified trailer ATM, and must be able to be proven to do so by engineering calculation. **It is therefore not advisable to add additional items to the drawbar.** Increasing the downward load on the trailer drawbar will also increase the tow-ball weight on the towbar.



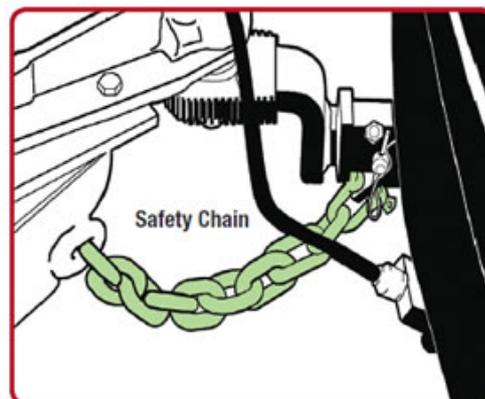
Excessive overloading of towbar ball weight will affect its performance and may void manufacturer's warranty.

Safety Chains

Safety chains are compulsory in all States and Territories of Australia. They must be strong enough to hold the trailer and prevent the drawbar from touching the ground, should the coupling fail or be accidentally disconnected from the ball.

Trailers less than 2,500kgs ATM must be fitted with at least one safety chain of at least 9.5mm in diameter. Trailers over 2,500kgs ATM and up to 3,500kgs must have two safety chains. Chains must comply with AS4177-4 and have a size designation at least equal to the trailer ATM.

The chains attach the 'A' frame or drawbar of the trailer to the main towbar framework on the vehicle. The attachment must be made with 'D' shackles of equivalent strength to the chains. It is vital that the chains are attached to the main towbar framework and not to a detachable ball mount or tongue. Safety chains must be stamped with the chain's capacity, the manufacturer's identification and the digits 4177.



The chains should be as short as possible, leaving only enough slack to permit tight turns. If two are required they should be crisscrossed under the trailer tongue to prevent the forward end of the drawbar from hitting the ground if the coupling becomes disconnected.

Safety Cables

Safety Cables of equivalent capacity to safety chains are also allowed on tow vehicles up to 3,500kgs ATM.

Reprint of article from the web site: <http://www.towingguide.com.au> by the Camping and Caravanning Industry Association NSW.

People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day. – Winnie the Pooh

Aspen Parks Offer



National Association of Caravan Clubs Limited

ABN: 40 141 272 844
Address: 6 Hilldale Drive
Bolwarra Heights 2320 NSW
Email: secretary@nacc.asn.au
Web: www.nacc.asn.au

Discount Offer from Aspen Parks



As a result of negotiations between the NACC and Aspen Parks, we are pleased to advise affiliated club members of the following offer:-

Stay one night and receive a 10% discount

Stay two nights and receive a 15% discount

Stay three nights and receive a 20% discount

Stay four nights and pay for three

- Offer applies to powered sites
- Discount rates apply as well to cabins, subject to availability on selected categories.
- Exclusion period Christmas 26/12/2015 – 02/01/2016 and Easter 24/03/2016 to 28/03/2016
- The offer will be valid until 30/11/2016 with an option for further extension by agreement.

Please note that you must present your NACC Benefits Card details at reception in order to access these discounts. Park owners will have a facility to check if your registration number is valid.

Work will shortly begin on a web site booking process and details will be published when this is available.

For a full listing of Aspen Parks and their locations, please visit www.aspenparks.com.au

Please utilise this offer whenever you can so that it can be extended beyond one year.

Sway System

Jayco is making a late addition to its 2016 lineup that the company says will add value and improve safety in its travel trailers. After making a recent deal with Lippert Components, the Middlebury manufacturer added the Sway Command product to its 2016 travel trailers, according to Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations Jarod Lippert. Checkout the video on our site: <http://www.accvic.org.au> to see a demo of this technology in action.

BOORAN HOLDEN CHELTENHAM



LT COLORADO 7

3 Tonne Towing Capacity, 16" Alloy Wheels, Rear View Camera, Cruise Control, Fog Lamps, 5 Star ANCAP Safety Rating, Electronic Stability Control, Sidesteps, Bluetooth Connectivity and Streaming, MyLink Infotainment System with 7" Colour Touch Screen

LIMITED OFFER TO THE FIRST 20 CUSTOMERS

Booran Holden, in conjunction with the Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria, would like to extend the following exclusive offer to all members.

FREE HAYMAN REESE ELECTRIC BRAKE UNIT*
FREE 24 HOUR TEST TOW VEHICLE*
FREE \$500 FUEL VOUCHER*



IT'S HERE! ORDER YOURS TODAY!

Need Some Customising? We can do everything you need including:

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- ✓ CANOPY
- ✓ ROOF RACKS
- ✓ BULLBAR
- ✓ WINCHES
- ✓ LONG RANGE FUEL TANK
- ✓ DRIVING LIGHTS/LED

LTZ COLORADO

2.8L Duramax 2 Diesel Engine, 3.5 Tonne Towing Capacity, 500Nm of Torque, 147kW of Power, 7" Touch Screen with Built in Apps, Bluetooth, Bring Go Navigation, ANCAP 5 Star Safety Rating, Sports Bar, Side Steps, Rear View Camera, Front Tow Hook x 2



RACV GREEN LIGHT DEALER OF EXCELLENCE

Caravanning has been a passionate pastime for salesman Ed Borzym. For over 30 years, caravanning has been in Ed's blood, travelling to great locations throughout this great country. Add to this his 20 years' experience in selling quality vehicles. Contact Ed directly on the details below to find out more about this offer for all members.

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booranholdencheltenham.com.au

9584 3333 1212 NEPEAN HIGHWAY, CHELTENHAM

Ed Borzym
Light Commercial Manager
Phone: 03 9584 3333
Mobile: 0409 806 620
Email: edb@booran.com.au

HOLDEN
LET'S GO THERE



*Offer with every new car purchase. Voucher terms and conditions apply. Exclusive only to members of Caravan Victoria.
*Finance available to approved purchasers. LMCT1715 16319

Doggy Day Care

ALICE Springs' Heritage Caravan Park has scooped a \$9500 government grant ... to build a "doggy day care centre" so canine-owning guests can go sightseeing. Work is well underway on the novel \$20-a-day facility which should be open at the Heritage Caravan Park in mid-November. The park was one of several tourism businesses which successfully applied for funding from the \$4.75 million Tourism Infrastructure Development Fund.

MONA to Develop Treasure Island Caravan Park

The old Treasure Island Caravan Park at Berriedale in Tasmania's northern suburbs is set to be developed by MONA principal David Walsh.

Mr Walsh plans to develop the site next to his Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) into affordable accommodation for visitors to MONA and others.

The Glenorchy City Council has given preliminary approval for the development which will feature onsite retro caravans, "distinctive and imaginatively themed" accommodation pods, camping and campervan sites, communal cooking, laundry and activity facilities, and administration and service buildings.

*Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back. –
Oscar Wilde*

Loddon Shire

An agreement is going to be sought from all Caravan Parks within the Shire to participate in a discount scheme for holders of the NACC Benefit Card. It is envisaged that individual card holders as well as clubs could receive a discount.

Further advice will follow.

Caravan Park Highlight



Recent reports of the revamped Bridgewater Public Caravan Park have been very favourable.

Situated on the banks of the Loddon River, within walking distance to the town precinct.

Might be an ideal stop for your club.

Land Rover's Invisible Trailer!

Invisible you say, well not quite. However, the technology almost makes your caravan invisible or should I say see-through. Check out the video on our web site on the "Topics | Technology" page.



President's Prattle.

(Melbourne November 2015)

In late August I checked the attendance records for our quarterly meetings and found seven clubs not well represented at our meetings. After consultation with Ken, I contacted a representative of each of those Clubs, and I am very pleased to say that, after Saturday's Meeting, that number is down to 2, with an attendance of 36 persons representing 17 Clubs, and we had apologies from 3 other Clubs.

In a number of these cases, our records of names of Delegates and/or Secretaries were out of date, making contact with them rather difficult.

I request all Club Secretaries to email Secretary Ken Slade after your AGM, with details, including phone number and an email address where available, of the new President, Secretary, and a Delegate to represent your group at Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria Meetings please.

Thanks to Chris Brooshooft, of Central Vic. C.C. for Saturday's catering for us all.

It is very pleasing to hear that Aspen Parks have come on board to support our Discount Card program. One Group "in" is an incentive for others to follow, and hopefully, compete.

Best wishes to you all for the silly season we are all about to enter.

Laurie Allen

President

*A best friend is like a four leaf clover, hard to find, lucky to have. –
Anonymous*

