



Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria and Their Members Inc.

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Zoom meetings :-

March - 25th 2025 Delegates meeting

May - 24th 2025 Delegates meeting

August - 23rd 2025 Delegates meeting

October AGM - 26th 2:00pm

February 2025

Here we are over fifty days into 2025. The heat seems to be upon us. The children, and grandchildren, are back at school. New Year Resolutions already broken. Holidays are over – but not for us. No doubt Event Coordinators and Social Directors have outlined another year of adventure destinations and activities for members of our caravan clubs.

It seems incongruous to me that with over twenty caravan clubs in ACCVic that we never seem to go to the same caravan park in the same month for the same weekend, State Rally weekend excepted of course. Did you know that Webmaster Gary can publish your club's rally itinerary on the ACCVic website? Email it him at webmaster@accvic.org.au Finding suitable venues for monthly rallies is a perennial task which is both essential and important. An interesting list keeps members enthused, the club "alive" and rally attendance healthy. Congratulations to those in every club responsible for organizing venues and activities.

In recent days, contact has been made with Max Taylor, Head Editor of the popular **GoRV** online magazine. An article and pictures have been submitted for possible publication in the February edition. Go to "gorv.com.au" to check it out. The next article will be an illustrated report of our forthcoming State Rally at Lakes Entrance.

Reports of individual club's rallies, if emailed to me to collate, will form the basis of future articles for GoRV. Emailing them to Webmaster Gary, webmaster@accvic.org.au, may see them published on our website too. Reading what clubs do, where they go, and so on, may benefit other clubs.

Time is running out to register on the ACCVic website. Close off is St Valentines day, 14 February. Regrettably the Eco Cruises and Golf Simulator are not available – on holidays and closed down, respectively. Bu there are still many other activities to select. To fill a void on Sunday afternoon, I will make available a "ball weight" scale if you want to check you are legal.

DISCLAIMER

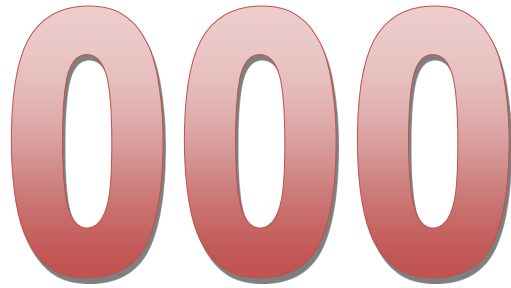
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An email received today, Thursday 6 February, from Eastern Beach Holiday Park at Lakes Entrance requested that caravan sites reserved for us but not taken can be released to the general travelling public. Their park is filling fast. Just fifteen sites guaranteed to be in close proximity to us are reserved from today. If you are planning attending the State Rally, please book a site and Register on the ACCVic website ASAP.

One New Year Resolution we should never break is to continue caravanning and enjoying the company of our many friends in the club.

See you at Lakes Entrance.

Alan Andrews



The committee has been putting together a list of Caravan Parks that have AED — Automated External Defibrillators. What we have found is that these Defibrillators are mostly situated just outside the office front door. Please look for them when booking in, just in case.

We also found when researching interstate, was that some Defibrillators list were NOT available to the general public.

The main message we received was RING 000.

If there is an AED situated very close to you the 000 staff will advise you of its location.

Can you recycle tablet blister packs ?



The answer is YES BUT not in your household recycling bin.

This web page:— [Store locator](#) - has a map of Australia showing where these blister packs can be recycled. Most appear to be Chemist Warehouse shops.

Why should I recycle ?

Blister packs are made from a combination of materials including plastic, aluminium foil and paper. Recycling keeps valuable materials out of landfill and reduces the need to extract new materials from the earth. Recycling aluminium, a key component of blister packs, reduces energy use by up to 95%

RAM Hemi V8

The 2024 Ram 1500 has entered run-out in Australia, marking the end of the Hemi V8 (5.7 litres) in the full-size ute's line-up. The ad says nothing about the United States, scrapped its entire line-up of V8 engines in favour of a new 3.0-litre twin-turbo inline-six with more power, along with improved fuel consumption and emissions. As you are aware Toyota dropped its V8 in preference for a 3.3 litre twin turbo diesel engine.

The facelifted Ram 1500 is yet to be locked in for Australia, with local timing still unconfirmed. A spokesperson for Ateco Group, the distributor of Ram Trucks in Australia, told Drive the company has "nothing to officially confirm at this stage" with further news about the updated model expected in due course. The Ram 1500's switch to a twin-turbo six-cylinder in Australia will leave the Chevrolet Silverado as the only full-size US pick-up to offer a petrol engine with eight cylinders.

2024 Ram 1500 run-out price in Australia

Ram 1500 Big Horn – \$114,950

Ram 1500 Laramie – \$137,950

Ram 1500 Laramie Sport – \$141,950

Ram 1500 Limited – \$156,950

Note: All prices above are drive-away for vehicles with no added options.

Road Repairs

The following is from an article in the Herald Sun dated November the 9th 2024. The full title being “Repairs are on the road to nowhere—Funding slashed by 95%”.

Maintenance of Victorian’s roads has fallen to a record low with repair work slashed by a staggering 95% last financial year. The report containing this information is from the Department of Transport and Planning’s annual report, so it should be 100% accurate.

A government spokeswoman said that \$964 million had been committed to maintaining the road from now (November 2024) until mid 2025. She also said that 70% of the above funding was going to regional Victoria.

Mobile Phones & Hackers

This interesting article in “The Senior” newspaper may help with deterring hackers.

The question being ‘what if there is something bad silently lurking in the background’ of your phone. To help this happening on Apple and Android phones just turn them off and on again once a week.

While some phone features, such as background app refresh, Bluetooth, and using WiFi Hotspots, are useful, they may also allow hackers to unknowingly access your phone. The National Security Agency of Australia said switching your phone off and then on once a week can help prevent this from happening.

**Once you understand
why the pizza is made
round,
Packed in a square
box,
And eaten as a
triangle..
Then you will
understand women**



Drink Driving

Drink driving remains one of the most significant contributors to Victoria's road toll. According to the Victorian Government, since 2023 around one in four drivers who have lost their lives on Victorian roads have had a blood alcohol concentration of 0.05 or above.

In an effort to make drivers think twice before getting behind the wheel under the influence of alcohol, the Victorian Government has introduced new penalties for drink drivers. Under the new law, introduced on 17 October 2024, drink driving offenders must drive with a blood alcohol content of zero for at least THREE years.

MAXIMUM Penalties for Drink Driving offences		
First Offence	Max Fine	Max Prison
All first offenders	\$3,000	Nil
Second Offence		
Under 0.15%	\$9,000	6 months
0.15% or more	\$18,000	12 months
Refusing a requirement	\$18,000	12 months
Third Offence		
Under 0.15%	\$18,000	12 months
0.15% or more	\$27,000	18 months
Refusing a requirement	\$27,000	18 months

See this web site for more details:-

[Drink Driving Penalties in Victoria](#)



Never buy anything online without searching for a discount code. This is one of the easiest ways to score savings on your online purchases. Just Google the store's name along with "discount code" or "promo code" to see what pops up.

Nissan & Honda Rumours

Rumours abound that Nissan and Honda may merge to establish the third largest Car manufacture in the world. The reasons suggest that the merger is too combat the ever growing Chinese vehicle manufacturers. Initially these rumours also hinted that Mitsubishi may join the merger.

The Mitsubishi ute ad states that nothing frightens a Triton.

Well that may no longer be the case as it appears that the Chinese car manufacturing companies frighten a few of the major Japanese car companies.

Fire Extinguishers for Caravan / Mobile Home use

Fire Extinguishers for Domestic Use A fire extinguisher is a first attack tool for use in the early stages of a fire. It should only be used on a small fire, no larger than a waste paper basket. So says the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service.

Don't put your life at risk, call '000' and ensure everybody has been evacuated from your home or caravan etc. There are different types of fire extinguishers for different types of fires, especially if electricity or burning fat is involved. Your caravan etc should also have a fire blanket.

MAINTENANCE

At least every six months remove the dry power extinguisher from it's mounting bracket and gentle shake it to ensure that the powder is not compacted. Then check that the pressure gauge is reading in the green zone. Check for damage and replace if concerned. Also replace or have it serviced and pressure tested when it reaches 10 years of age.

THERE ARE SIX TYPES OF FIRE EXTINGUISHER IN AUSTRALIA

Check this web site out for more information :- [Fire extinguisher types and fire classes in Australia](#)



At last Vic Roads seems to be doing something extra for the motorist. Between Bendigo and Shepparton they are growing gum trees in the centre of the road thus providing shade .

I counted at least a dozen such trees on a trip from Bendigo to Shepparton. They are just taller than the safety rail so have been there for a while.



The iconic Volkswagen Kombi has been reinvented for the electric generation. This is the German brand's first fully electric vehicle to arrive in Australia. The Volkswagen ID. Buzz Pro, available in both short-wheelbase (5-seater) and long-wheelbase (7-seater) configurations, is now on sale for \$87,990.00 and \$91,290.00, respectively plus on-road costs. The 7-seater Volkswagen ID. Buzz Pro is strategically priced to fit under the luxury car tax (with benefits for those purchasing on a novated lease), but choosing any option will push the purchase price into the higher tax impost.



The Volkswagen ID. Buzz GTX, which also sits on the longer wheelbase, will be priced at \$109,990.00 when it arrives.

The range of all models is said to be between 422 kilometres and 452 kilometres.

Charging times vary depending on the charging method used. With an 11kW AC wallbox, the Volkswagen ID. Buzz can be charged from 0% to 100% in approximately 7 hours and 30 minutes. With DC fast charging available up to 200kW on the 7 seater and 185kW on the 5 seater and Cargo, Volkswagen says the ID. Buzz can be charged from 5% to 80% in about 30 minutes. Charging with a regular household socket takes approximately 22 hours and 45 minutes.