



ASSOCIATION OF CARAVAN CLUBS VICTORIA AND THEIR MEMBERS INC.

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2014 VOLUME 29 - ISSUE 4

Treasurer

Wanted for 2015.

Canberra National Rally

2016 in Canberra should be a real treat.

Merry Christmas and a Safe New Year.

Best wishes to all Club Members. See you all in 2015.

Changes to Ambulance Victoria



As from the 1st July 2014 changes have come into force that effect Pensioners and other Health Care Card holders – where in some instances you could have to pay for the ambulance, if required to be redirected to another hospital. Charges could amount to many hundreds or even thousands of dollars.

The circumstances surrounding each case may vary and you should make sure you understand the new conditions.

Full details on ambulance fee payment responsibilities can be found in the Department of Health Guidelines on the Responsibility for payment of ambulance fees. These are available at www.health.vic.gov.au/ambulance/guidelines.

It might be a good idea to join the Vic Ambulance Membership Scheme, the cost is about \$80 per year and should avoid any complications.

Have you got anything interesting to share?

This could include:

- Photos of travels
- Funny stories
- Caravanning issues
- Location information

Let us know about it – send an email to newsletter@accvic.org.au

Happy Insurers List is still Growing

Many reports are being received about the RV insurance deals through the broker Ken Tame & Associates by having obtained the NACC Ltd Benefits Card.

So what are you waiting for, check it out at <http://www.nacc.asn.au>.



CONTACT US

ACCVIC Inc.

03 9764 1686

admin@accvic.org.au

www.accvic.org.au



Sandown Leisure Show

Thanks to the volunteers who assisted with the stand at Sandown. Snaps of some helpers.



Brendon & Joan from the Avan Club.



Frank & Carol from the Gippsland Club

Caravan and Camping Leisure Fest - Bendigo

Thanks also to the clubs and their members who assisted with the stand:

Aussie Adventurers & Camping Club Inc., Bendigo Caravan Club Inc. and Central Victorian Caravan Club Inc.

Mo TOURing Australia Report

Once again I am pleased to offer this report to you in regards to Mo TOURing Australia.

At our last meeting as usual there was much discussion in regards to the many problems associated with our lifestyle of RV travel.

The Caravan Parks Lobby is hell bent on trying to take away our Freedom of Choice to be able to rest or camp away from their parks whilst we travel. Luckily Governments in some of the states that we travel in are now working hard to make available better rest areas with amenities and in some cases in WA free Internet is available.

**PLACE
YOUR
ADVERTISEMENT
WITH US**

The date has now been set for the Mega Rally where we will bring together members of caravans clubs and motorhome club members for the first time. Site chosen is Epic Park in Canberra and the dates are from the 3rd October till the 9th October. This rally will take place a week after the 16th National Rally and we hope that members attending this rally will also attend this historic rally, which we trust will be the start of many more.

Insurance Scheme is still a point of unease with Mo TOURing Delegates but after my recent wander through WA we are seeing already a flow of members starting to join and partake of the scheme.

Our next meeting is on the 9th Dec at Newcastle and I will give a full report of this meeting in the New Year.

On behalf of Delegates from Mo Touring I wish you all Merry Christmas and safe travels.

Brian Kelleher

BOORAN HOLDEN CHELTENHAM

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500Nm of Torque, 147kW of Power, New Duramax 2 Diesel Engine, Unbeaten 3.5 Tonne Towing Capacity, 7" Touch Screen with Built in Apps, Bluetooth®, Bring Go Navigation, ANCAP 5 Star Safety Rating



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

**FREE 24 HOUR TEST TOW VEHICLE[^]
FREE \$500 FUEL VOUCHER***

Caravanning has been a passionate past time 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.

BOORAN HOLDEN
www.booranholdencheltenham.com.au
1212 NEPEAN HIGHWAY CHELTENHAM



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Phone 03 9584 3333
Mobile 0409 806 620
Email edb@booran.com.au

[^]Bookings required ^{*}Offer with every new car purchase. Voucher terms & conditions apply. Exclusive only to members of Caravan Victoria. LMCT1715

"If you don't know where you're going, any road will take you there"
— George Harrison

Driver Behaviour near Wide Loads in Australia

Welcome to Australia's highways.

During your travels around Australia you may be confronted by vehicles displaying this large yellow sign on the roof, with yellow flashing beacons.

The width of the load could vary from **3.5 metres** to **8.5 metres**, and may be very heavy and long.

Slow down, look for a safe place to take evasive action, or stop off the road.

The more pilot vehicles and escorts, the bigger the load.

Your co-operation will be appreciated.



It is recommended you drive as close as practicable to the white line along the left edge of the tarmac known as the “fog line”. Avoid riding the centre line.

If you are following an oversize load, please take care when attempting to overtake. The truck could be much longer than you are accustomed to. This is also the case with road trains.

The decision to overtake is yours. Always assess the situation as it applies to you, before you act. It’s also recommended for caravaners to carry UHF radio and monitor channel 40 when on the highway.

Please take care on the roads, drive as carefully as you know how, according to the conditions, and be prepared to take evasive action for the unexpected.

NPVDA-PR
PO Box P.O. Box 390
Endeavour Hills, Vic 3802

2016 – National Rally Canberra

The rally is to be held at EPIC (Showgrounds) in Canberra - 19th Sep to 28th Sep 2016.

Registration form and other relevant information is available - follow the link below.

Visit www.16thnatcaravanrally.org.au

“Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.”

— Dr. Seuss



Chairman's Chatter

(Marong-November 2014)



We are almost at the end of another busy year for our Association and clubs in Victoria and Nationally. Our stands at the 4 Caravan shows this year have provided us with the opportunity to promote club membership to many hundreds of visitors to the shows. This is important for all clubs, as we all need to encourage potential members to our rallies if our clubs are to flourish and develop. Thank you to all clubs and members who have staffed our stands and I do hope your clubs enjoy receiving visitors who become new members.

At this time last year we announced the new Comprehensive Insurance Policy available for members. I know we have many members who have been able to save \$300 - \$1000 per year, which is the best result we have ever achieved. I and the other members of our Association Executive would be happy to visit your club and explain the policy in more detail. This saving is the result of many years effort by members of our National Association.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Western Districts and Wimmera clubs for their wonderful State Rally at Colac last month. Chris Ovens will be providing a detailed report of the rally. The rally success was a result of a huge effort by Chris and Frank Ovens after a difficult end to their long trip to the West. A sincere thank you to Chris and Frank.

Our National Association Board met in Sydney last week when I was re-elected Chairman. I regard this as a privilege on behalf of this Association and thank members for their support. The decision was made at this meeting to reduce the membership of the Board to 7. We felt this was a much more workable size and all States will have input to the decisions. If an elected member is unavailable for any meeting, it is very important we nominate a proxy replacement. This is to ensure all states are always representative at meetings.

I would like to return to our involvement in Caravan shows in 2015. If we are to participate, there is a real need for more clubs and members to volunteer. We cannot continue with the current offers to staff our stands. It is also important to note the first show next year is at the Melbourne Show Grounds in February, which is when a number of clubs have their rally scheduled.

Finally I would like to remind members that I will not be standing for re-election at the May AGM and would be pleased to discuss with any member who may be interested in taking over as President at that meeting. I thank all members who have supported our Association activities this year and trust we can look forward to this continuing next year.

On behalf of Robyn and I, we would like to wish all clubs and members a very Healthy, Safe and Happy Christmas. We hope 2015 is a very enjoyable year for you and your families. Looking forward to seeing you on the road in the near future.

Regards

Peter Hillas

Interested in being Treasurer?

We wish to let all interested parties know that the Treasurer's position will be vacated at the end of this year and would like to thank **Kevin Doherty** from the Ballarat CC for his dedication and assistance.

If you would like to give it a shot contact our Secretary (Ken): admin@accvic.org.au

“Everything you can imagine is real.”

— Pablo Picasso

State Rally Report – Colac

It gives me great pride and pleasure to give this Association of Caravan Clubs of Victoria State Rally 2014 report.

On 17th 18th 19th October 2014 the Association of Caravan Clubs of Victoria Inc. In conjunction with The Western District Caravan Club and the Wimmera Caravan Club of Victoria held a very successful State Rally with 96 Vans, 174 members, from 15 Victorian Clubs, met at The Central Caravan Park Colac and the P. & A. Society Show Ground. After 18 months of organising, the weekend was upon us. It was a rally of many firsts. It was the first time it had been held in this area, there were many first timers to attend the Rally. It was my first time to organise anything this big. After a brief shower the weekend turned out sunny and nice.

On Thursday we carted in tables and chairs and set up the Commerce Pavilion which was used all weekend as a meeting and eating place. Most members arrived on Friday, and after they had their vans parked and set up, they registered, and the rest of the afternoon was free to explore Colac and surrounds. Most did a spot of shopping, went to the Info centre, the gardens, and the Lake. Some just relaxed at the Park. The WDCC men, who attended the Rally were responsible for parking the vans. Members were made welcome on arrival and shown to their site. This was done so that we fitted all vans in and made members happy with their site. Every site had water and electricity. There were many good comments about this and only a couple of complaints that were rescinded afterwards when it was realized what we had to do for the enjoyment of everyone.

At 4pm we met for Happy Hour and meet and greet. At 6pm everyone brought their own dinner and sat and enjoyed their meal together. At 6.30 pm association Secretary Ken Slade welcomed all those in attendance and invited Mr Peter Hillas, President of the Association to introduce the Guest speaker The Hon Mr Terry Mulder, member for Polwarth, and minister for Roads and Transport to open The 2014 State Rally.

In his speech Mr Mulder welcomed everyone to his home town of Colac and was delighted that we chose Colac as our venue and offered everyone a safe and Happy Stay and a safe journey home. He

also made mention that he did not know what the Association stood for prior to our meeting but wished to be able to meet with us in the future if we have negotiations re Road issues to discuss.

And of course joked, that hopefully he would still be in power after The Nov. Elections.

Christine, then was asked to give a run down on the weekend procedures, including Forms to fill names in as to what members wished to do the following day. Eg. There were two tag-along tours into the Otway's. One going east out of Colac to Forrest then on To Beech Forrest, The other going Sth to Gellibrand then onto Beech Forrest, stopping along the way at different points of interest. They all met in the park for a picnic Lunch. Then back in the cars and back to Colac the way that they hadn't come.

Bruce conducted a tour for the less energetic ones, west, into Lakes and Creators and the Stoney Rises, area, to Camperdown. For those not going on Tag-alongs there was Badminton, Disc Bowls, nearest the pin. Jewellery making with Juli Dwyer. Or you were free to do what you wished.

Saturday morning, we all enjoyed a beautifully cooked breakfast. Cooked by the Wimmera caravan Club. All the members going on tag-along quickly assembled into their groups so as we only took as many cars as was needed. 13 on one trip and 12 on the other with Denis and John as Leaders and Wimmera Members as Tail end Charlies. Bruce had 4 cars in his group. After we said goodbye to them the ones left at the park enjoyed whatever they chose to do.

Everyone enjoyed their trip and no one got lost. They arrived back in Colac in time for a short rest before Happy Hour and then to get ready for the State rally dinner which was held at the RSL. Our Own Juli Dwyer set up her beads and showed people how to make necklaces and earrings and bracelets. This proved very popular as the weekend went by.

The State Rally Dinner was held in the Function Room at the RSL. Everyone enjoyed a beautiful 2 course meal. After the meal we all relaxed and enjoyed the music of a band called RADAR. They were 2 members of the Bendigo Club. They played music from the 70,s 80,s and 90, s. Lots of members enjoyed a dance or two. About 9 pm we had a lucky draw and lots of members went home with a little memento of the evening. It was then time to draw the Raffle. There were about 14 prizes in all and most were donated by the Business houses of Colac. The major prizes were 7 Nights stay at the Central Caravan Park. 7 nights stay at Mortlake Caravan Park. A small Gerni car washer. And Small Car Vacuum donated by Colac Mitre 10. I think the most wanted prize of the night was for a Souvenir walking Stick, hand carved by Frank Ovens for the occasion. The stick was hand carved with the Assoc. Logo, a Kookaburra in a tree, a stone wall fence and wooden Gate and A wind mill and Stone Tank. It also was inlaid with gems from the Local area which depicted a scene of a spring and water course leading to a lake. On the Top end there was a polished piece of Olivine from Mortlake. Many members were intrigued with this and would have liked to have won it, not only as a piece of art but as a memento of the great weekend they had at Colac.

There were many other prizes, a blanket, a I Pad rest, a Photo ready to be framed of the Otway's, Towels, a makeup case, some glass platters, and a few other smaller things.

Sunday - It was Ballarat Caravan Clubs turn to cook breakfast. After Breakfast which was not as early as Saturday mornings, folk tended to mingle a lit bit more. 12 Teams of Disc Bowlers took over the Arena and had a very energetic game taking up all the morning. Juli had a very keen lot of jewellery makers for most of the morning.

At this Stage of my Report I would sincerely like to Thank Dennis and Rose Bennett. Dennis was my right hand man and of course knew more about Colac than I. Without his knowledge of the Colac Area I would not have been able to do what I did, and the Rally could not have been the success that it was.

Thank you to Veronica and the Wimmera Caravan Club. You stepped in and helped out with no qualms when I had to delegate jobs. We had many steps backwards but always managed to go forwards and all things turned out how we had planned.

Thank you to Frank. You managed to do a magnificent job of holding me together when I needed you too. Thanks to all the WDCC boys who helped with the parking of caravans, Denis, Mal, Bruce, Pat, John, Vin, Ron, Frank, Franco, As well as Ann, Julie Lyn, Jan and Jan. and anybody else who helped. You were spotted welcoming vehicles during the day. A Thankless Job but one that was very worthwhile as was proven at the end of the day when all members were happily parked. Ann and Vin Gee Thank you for your help along the way, and getting us the 7 nights stay at Mortlake Caravan Park, The Olivine and gems for the Souvenir walking Stick, and the information from the Moyne Shire.

I will also take this opportunity to thank WDCC for the use of their Barbeques. I know that we said initially that we did not need anything from them but as the weekend progressed we decided that it would be to our advantage if we did have the Trailer with Equipment at Hand. Seeing as the Trailer was parked not far away at Paul and Juli,s, we made an executive decision to get it over to Colac and have it there if we needed to use anything. We did use one Barbeque for Sunday morning Breakfast and we used the Toasters. As we did not have any Toasters and these were needed.

Many Thanks must also go to Jo Cook the Treasurer of the Badminton Club for coming and setting us up with Courts, Racquets and shuttles many of us enjoyed a good workout playing Badminton. At the end of the weekend, tired but very satisfied that we had managed to have a successful rally was very gratifying. When I received the financial report from Treasurer Kevin I was even more satisfied as I really thought I had blown the Budget.

The final Tally for the weekend is shown in Treasurer Kevin's Balance Sheet. We could have done better, but I don't think that we can complain about the end Tally. I hope I have thanked everyone for their efforts, if I have missed you out then accept my apologies please.

Members of WDCC who helped over the weekend:

Denis and Rose Bennett, Ann and Vin Gee, Pat and Lynette Hickey, Mal and Jan Rain, Bruce and Julie White, Ian and Angela Phillips, Francis and Ruth Gore, John and Shirley Crawford, Ron and Shirley Hansen, Juli and Paul Dwyer, Dianne Robertson. Frank Ovens Jan and Franco Sudiro.

Members of Wimmera Caravan Club who helped over the weekend:

Veronica and Moyle Bunworth, Andre and Peter Creek, John and Jenny Pipkorn, Doreen and Peter Broadbear, Lyn and Graham Healy and Gary Healy and Colleen and Ray Harris. Thank You to Wimmera and Ballarat for your beautiful Breakfasts. And those clubs who helped with morning and afternoon teas.

Thank you to all Clubs who helped in any way, and last but not least Thank you to all clubs who participated in the Weekend for without you registering and turning up I am afraid there would have not been a weekend at all. It was actually you, the members that made this weekend what it was. WDCC and Wimmera put out the friendly Olive Branch and members took and passed it on. I am

glad that you all enjoyed your stay in Colac and we hope that you return someday soon and further the short look that you would have had around this beautiful area. I am sure it beckons you.

Christine and Frank Ovens

Dennis Bennett.

Western District Caravan Club.

List of Certificates of Appreciation Donations of Prizes for Raffle.

Central Caravan Park Colac and Managers Ron and Frances.
Mortlake Caravan Park and Managers Norm and Nola.
Faggs Mitre 10 Colac.
Ray Crofts Men's and Ladies Wear.
Timeless Interiors
Lilly Pilly
Gellibrand River Gallery
Showcase Jewellers.
Ann Gee.
Frank Ovens.

Businesses who helped us in different ways.

Colac P. & A. Society
President P. & A. Society Mr Ray Thomas.
Colac RSL.
Colac Information Centre.
Moyné Information Centre Great Ocean Rd Information Centre.
Hon Mr Terry Mulder and his Staff.
Reynolds IGA.
Midwest Meats
Milroys Poultry and eggs Farm Terang.
GMHBA Warrnambool.
Cobden Branch Bendigo Bank.
Camperdown Branch NAB Bank.
Mr and Mrs Allan and Jenny Wood.
Ms Jo Cook Colac Badminton Association.
Camperdown Lions Club Inc
Allan and Jenny Wood
RADAR.

National Rallies



There has been a suggestion that the National Rallies should be held every 2 years instead of the current 3 year period.

What do you think?

What do Caravanners contribute to Local Economies?

Clubs are asked to tally the amount spent on each of the rallies they hold and forward this information to us, as it becomes a vital piece of information when dealing with Councils and Government.

Help us to help you.

Driving with care over the Christmas Break

Check out the video from the TACV on our web site <http://www.accvic.org.au> on the home page or safety page.

"It`s not how old you are, it`s how you are old."

— Jules Renard
