



Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria and Their Members Inc.

ABN—48 935 517 727

Phone Number—0459 232 136

Email:- admin@accvic.org.au

Web Site:- accvic.org.au

Executive and Delegate meetings

February 24th 2024

May 25th 2024

August 24th 2024, and

October 26th 2024 which will be the AGM.

Presidents Report

Delegate and Committee meetings this year have all been held via Zoom and may continue to be. Attendance has been pleasing as members become more familiar with the technology. It certainly is convenient and successful if good internet connectivity is available to participating members.

However, there will be occasions when a face-to-face meeting is necessary.

The eight months since our March meeting presented several challenges for Committee. Importantly, the *Australian Taxation Office (ATO)* is changing the taxation obligation for Not-for-profit incorporated associations with Australian Business Numbers. Apparently, there are some associations acting openly as businesses and not paying tax as the ATO declares they should. A sub-committee has forwarded a Private Ruling request to the ATO asking what section we fit into (possible a community-based organisation) and if we should be paying tax. The ATO indicated it would take 50 days to respond. A reply is not expected until late December 2023.

Obtaining Public Liability Insurance for all our affiliated associations was again nerve racking this year despite assurances from NACC Secretary Rin Klasen that all would be well. There was universal relief when, in July, the actual Certificates of Currency became available. We all look forward to a much smoother run next year. Our confidence in Rin Klasen proved to be well founded and I take this opportunity to publicly thank him for his continued effort in this regard.

This year's State Rally at Horsham in March was a resounding success. State Rally Coordinator Stella Breese again excelled in organising a superb weekend. The weather was fine, the company most jovial, the excursions enjoyable and informative. I for one had no idea the "Stick Shed" existed. There is a full report about the weekend in a Newsletter. Go to the ACCVic website: <https://www.accvic.org.au>. Well done Stella and team. Next year's State Rally at Kerang promises to be equally successful. Members are invited to book their site and register their attendance using the form on the website.

Committee is searching for a suitable location to hold the 2025 State Rally in the Gippsland district which can cater for around fifty caravans with power and water. Qualified suggestions to secretary@accvic.org.au by the end of January 2024 would be most welcome.

I wish to thank all Committee members for their dedication in furthering ACCVic's relevance in the caravanning community, and the support they have given me this year. Also to our team of affiliated association Delegates who regularly attend and contribute to our meetings.

DISCLAIMER

The material in this Newsletter is in the nature of general comment only and neither purports, nor is intended to be advice on any particular matter. No person should act on the basis of any matter contained in the Newsletter without considering and, if necessary, taking appropriate professional advice upon their own particular circumstances. The Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria Inc, the authors and editors, expressly disclaim all and any liability in respect of anything done or omitted to be done, any such person in reliance, whether whole or partial, upon the whole or part of the contents of the Newsletter.

High Court rejects Victoria tax on EVs—October 2023

The High Court has rejected the Victorian government's tax on electric vehicles as invalid, ruling that only the Commonwealth has the power to make such laws. The court ruled by a 4-3 majority that the Zero and Low Emission Vehicle (ZLEV) Distance-based Charge Act 2021 was an "inland tax on goods" that fitted the definition of an excise under section 90 of the constitution.

The case was brought by two EV car owners, nursing manager Chris Vanderstock and engineering consultant Kath Davies, who have called the Act "the world's worst EV policy" and "a roadblock to reducing emissions" and getting better air quality.

The Act required the two owners to provide an odometer reading 14 days after it began on July 1, 2021. The charge was 2.8¢ a kilometer on specified roads for an electric vehicle (which Mr Vanderstock owned) and 2.3¢ for a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (as owned by Ms Davies).

The tax affects about 15,000 Victorian EV car owners and has been closely watched for its impact on how EVs are taxed and what level of government can collect revenue from their use.

Victoria and the other states argued that it was a tax on an activity and therefore did not come within section 90. If they had succeeded, it would have given the green light for other states to implement similar legislation to ensure all vehicle owners contributed to road construction and maintenance.

An internet search says that there are 5,157,172 vehicles registered in Victoria as of 2021. That means that over 5,140,000 Victoria drivers pay \$0.488 per liter for petrol and diesel excise duty. An internet search states that Australian motorists typically drive 15,500 kilometers each year.

Doing the math's mean that if you drive a petrol or diesel vehicle that does an average 10 liters per 100 kilometers then you need to buy 1,550 liters of fuel pa. Therefore $1,550 \times \$0.488 =$ approximately \$750.00 per annum in fuel excise duty which goes towards our roads. How's your local roads!

BUT if you own an Electric Vehicle in Victoria you pay NOTHING

towards the cost of the roads that YOU DRIVE ON.

They were charged 2.8 cents per kilometer travelled during the year. If they travelled the average 15,500 kilometers per year then they would pay \$434.00 per annum. That's \$316.00 per annum less than what a normal petrol/diesel driver would pay.

They apparently 'crowd funded' \$50,000.00 to help pay their legal fees just to save \$434.00 per annum.

Perhaps it is now time to approach your local Politian to get this fixed so that Electric vehicles pay their fair share of road maintenance.

I recently emailed my local MP, Maree Edwards asking/insisting that she contact the Federal Government and request them to legislate an Excise Tax on EV's similar or higher then the illegal Victorian Tax.

She replied saying that she had forwarded my request to the Treasurer, Honorable Tim Pallas MP

AGM Outcome :-

The annual AGM was held on Saturday the 28th October with 21 people attending the Zoom meeting.

The next Executive and Delegates meetings are as follows:-

February 24th 2024

May 25th 2024

August 24th 2024, and

October 26th 2024 which will be the AGM.

The new committee is :-

President	Alan Andrews
Vice President	Ken Winnell
Secretary	Janice Hadgraft
Assistant Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Allan Davis
Assistant Treasurer	Vacant
Committee Member	David Breese
Committee Member	Neil Parker
Committee Member	Graeme Hutchinson
NACC Representative	Alan Andrews
Social Manager for Facebook	Janice Hadgraft
Public Relations Officer	Alan Andrews
Web Master	Jen Lowe and Janice Hadgraft
Newsletter Editor	Allan Davis
Auditor	Gary Fitzgerald, Gary also looks after our Web Site
<u>State Rally Coordinator</u>	<u>Vacant * This position needs to be filled ASAP</u>

Kerang State Rally arrive 15th and leave 18th of March 2024 — Early Bird Prize

This was won by Debbie Mudie of the RACV Caravan Club

Gippsland State Rally arrive Friday 14th March and leave Monday the 17th of March 2025.

Please note your diaries and perhaps join us as a club.

The following places have currently been suggested but the committee is still investigating.

Lardner Park which is a Field Day Site and the Lakes Entrance area.

Annual Membership and Public Liability fees

ACCVic membership fee to remain at \$50.00 per club. Approved by committee at the AGM.

NACC charge of \$300.00 paid by ACCVic to remain however the fee of \$1.00 per caravan etc is being waived for this year.

ACCVic will subsidise the cost of next years Public Liability Insurance by \$5,000.00 (approx. 50% or more). Approved by the committee at the AGM.

Clubs should therefore see a big reduction in next years fees.

Victorian National Rally Committee - Bendigo 2028

The rally committee is looking for a Marshall and a Marketing person. If interested you can contact Rob Taylor on rta45179@bigpond.net.au

The role of the Marshall is to ensure as best as possible that the rally site is a safe and secure area in which attendees can enjoy the rally. To ensure processes and procedures are in place for security, safety and first aid that provides a safe environment for the 2028 Victorian National Rally.

The role of the Marketing person is to promote the 2028 Victorian National Rally to all caravan clubs and broader community in Australia and overseas in New Zealand and UK.

I'm on two simultaneous diets. I wasn't getting enough food on one.

I put my scale in the bathroom corner and that's where the little liar will stay until it apologizes.

My mind is like an internet browser. At least 18 open tabs, 3 of them are frozen, and I have no clue where the music is coming from.

Hard to believe I once had a phone attached to a wall, and when it rang, I picked it up without knowing who was calling.

My wife says I keep pushing her buttons. If that were true, I would have found mute by now.



Include your club On the ACCVic web page

To see what other clubs have done go to accvic.org.au and click on the CLUBS tab then Club Pages tab.

The first club you will see is the Combined Caravan Club of Victoria Inc.

They have quoted their contact details, club information and a club history.

They also list their club rally dates.

You can do the same. Just contact Jen Lowe Mobile 0428 218 111.

You get one page which your members will be able to view through accvic.org.au.

You can have this page set up how you want to suit your requirements and then monitor and change it yourself.

Clubs can have their own Web presence

Affiliated clubs who would like to have a web presence and are not sure how to go about it - take a look at how we can help you:

- We can give you ONE web page as part of this site to allow you to provide member information to the community - **FREE** which you can control. See *the Clubs | Club Pages option in the Menu for a couple of examples.*

Through www.myexpression.net.au you can obtain your own website (any number of pages, emails etc etc). The annual cost of this service is \$88 (incl GST) per annum which includes your web domain name. You will have full control over the site.

For further information please contact Gary Fitzgerald

Mobile 0425 792 933 or **Email** support@myexpression.net.au.

We are happy to assist with any questions you have, even if you are not using one of these options.

Steven Paul Jobs was born 24 February 1955 in San Francisco and died 5 October 2011 from Pancreatic Cancer. Steve was the cofounder of Apple Computers.

Steve died a billionaire aged 55 and here are his last words while on his sick bed: -



I reached the pinnacle of success in the business world. In others' eyes my life is an epitome of success. But, I have nothing to be happy about except work. In the end, wealth is just a reality of life that I am used to.

It was then, lying on a sick bed reminiscing my whole life, I realized all the recognition and the wealth that I was very proud of, became pale and meaningless in the face of the impending death.

You can hire someone to drive for you and make money for you, but you can't make someone else take the illness from you. Lost substance can be found. But there is one thing that can never be found when lost - "life". When a person enters the operating room, he will find that there is a book that has not yet been read - "The Healthy Living Book".

No matter what stage of life we are in right now, over time we will face the day when the curtain falls. Cherish the family that loves you, love your spouse, love your friends... be kind to yourself.

As we age, we gradually realize that wearing a \$300 or \$30 watch - they all tell me at the same time.

Whether we carry \$300 or \$30 purse / handbag - the money inside is the same.

Whether we drive a \$150 k car or a \$30,000 car, the road and distance are the same and we reach the same destination.

Whether we drink a \$300 bottle or a \$10 bottle of wine - hangover is the same.

The house we live in 300 sq ft or 3000 sq ft - loneliness is the same.

You will realize that your true inner happiness does not come from the material things of this world.

Whether you take a plane first or an economy class, if the plane collapses - you'll go with the flow.

Therefore, I hope you can recognize that when you have a partner, buddy, old friend, sibling, you talk, laugh, talk, sing, talk about North East Southwest or Heaven and Earth... that is true happiness!!"

Four undeniable facts of life:

Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy. Therefore, when they grow up, they will know the value of things, not the price.

words for the best reward in London....."Take your food as your medicine. Otherwise you have to take medication as your food."

The person who loves you will never leave you to someone else because even if there are 100 reasons to give up on him or she will find a reason to hold on. There are huge differences between people.

Only a few really understand it. You were loved when you were born. You will be loved when you die. In between, you have to manage!

If you want to walk fast, walk alone! But if you want to walk far, walk together.

The six best Doctors in the world are:-

- **Sunshine**
- **Rest**
- **Exercise**
- **Diet**
- **Self Confidence, and**
- **Friends**

Steve Jobs

Mount Panorama Bathurst

This world class race track is 6.213 kilometers around. The race covers 161 laps or 1,000.29 kilometers. The top speed reached by the winner Shane van Gisbergen was 300.5 kilometers per hour.

In 2023 every lap required approximately 5.5 liters of fuel. That's about 1.13 Liters Per Kilometer.

The steepest grade is 1 in 6.13. That means that for every 10 meters forward you rise 61.3 meters.

Unfortunately there was one part that regularly appeared when a car slowed down and pulled into the pits, and that was a gear shift assembly which sits next to the driver. The gear box on these cars is actually attached to the rear differential. The gear shift assembly sits next to the driver with a rod going from this assembly to the gear box to change gears. A lot of the noise you hear from the car is actually the straight cut gears in the gear box. These gear boxes are sequential just like a motor bike. The rear differential is 'locked' not like a limited slip differential in your car.



This sequential gear selector, on the left near the drivers fingers, is bolted/screwed to the car floor and appeared to come away fairly easily, at least for a few unlucky drivers.

You and I can go to our local service station and buy E10 which is a mixture of unleaded fuel (90%) and ethanol (10%). However these Supercars run on E85 made up of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent BP Ultimate unleaded petrol.

It's Official: Cars Are the Worst Product Category We Have Ever Reviewed for Privacy. We being the Mozilla Foundation.

<https://foundation.mozilla.org/en/privacynotincluded/articles/its-official-cars-are-the-worst-product-category-we-have-ever-reviewed-for-privacy/>

Ah, the wind in your hair, the open road ahead, and not a care in the world... except all the trackers, cameras, microphones, and sensors capturing your every move. Modern cars are a **privacy nightmare**.

Car makers have been bragging about their cars being "computers on wheels" for [years](#) to promote their advanced features. However, the conversation about what driving a computer means for its occupants' privacy hasn't really caught up. While we worried about connect to the internet etc, car brands quietly entered the data business by turning their vehicles into powerful data-gobbling machines. Machines that, because of all those brag-worthy bells and whistles, have an unmatched power to watch, listen, and collect information about what you do and where you go in your car.

1. They collect too much personal data (all of them)

We reviewed 25 car brands in our research and they all collect and use data and personal information. That's right: *every car brand* we looked at collects more personal data than necessary and uses that information for a reason other than to operate your vehicle and manage their relationship with you.

And car companies have so many more data-collecting opportunities than other products and apps we use, more than even smart devices in our homes or the cell phones we take wherever we go.

They can collect personal information from how you interact with your car, the connected services you use in your car, the car's app (which provides a gateway to information on your phone), and can gather even more information about you from third party sources like Sirius XM or Google Maps. The ways that car companies collect and share your data are so vast and complicated that we wrote an entire piece on how that works. The gist is: they can collect super intimate information about you -- from your medical information, your genetic information, to your "sex life" (seriously), to how fast you drive, where you drive, and what songs you play in your car. They then use it to invent more data about you through "inferences" about things like your intelligence, abilities, and interests.

2. Most (84%) share or sell your data

It's bad enough for the behemoth corporations that own the car brands to have all that personal information in their possession, to use for their own research, marketing, or the ultra-vague "business purposes." But then, most (84%) of the car brands we researched say they can share your personal data, with service providers, data brokers, and other businesses we know little or nothing about. Worse, nineteen (76%) say they can sell your personal data.

A surprising number (56%) also say they can share your information with the government or law enforcement in response to a "request." Not a high court order, but something as easy as an "informal request."

And keep in mind that we only know what companies do with personal data because of the privacy laws that make it illegal not to disclose that information. So-called anonymized and aggregated data can (and probably is) shared too, with vehicle data hubs (the data brokers of the auto industry) and others.

3. Most (92%) give drivers little to no control over their personal data

All but two of the 25 car brands we reviewed earned our "ding" for data control, meaning only two car brands, Renault and Dacia (owned by the same parent company) say that all drivers have the right to have their personal data deleted. We would like to think this deviation is one car company taking a stand for drivers' privacy.

Victorian Road Budget

The following are various quotes that I have taken from the internet after doing a search for Vic Roads funding.

In the 2020 — 21 Victorian Budget the Road Asset Management budget was \$823.00 million.

In the 2022 — 23 Victorian Budget the Road Asset Management budget was \$592.7 million.

That's a drop of \$230.7 million. That's \$10.4 million every working day, assuming five working days per week.

In an announcement made on the 13th of June 2023 "The Road Safety Fund which receives money from the TAC was reduced \$126 million this financial year and will be cut a further \$48 million next year". The Government could not explain why.

Shadow Minister for Roads and Road Safety, Danny O'Brien, said a 45 per cent cut to the roads maintenance budget since 2020, including a further 25 per cent cut in this year's budget was hurting Victorian motorists.

What is the threshold for VicRoads claims?

This section assumes that your vehicle has suffered damage from a pothole etc.

The threshold amount, which is valued at \$1,580.00 for the 2023/24 financial year, is indexed annually in accordance with the Consumer Price Index. Where Vic Roads is liable to pay you compensation for property damage, the payment is reduced by the threshold amount.

For example if my Motorhome passenger side tyres and rims were damaged and needed replacement the cost may be \$120.00 per rim, plus \$300.00 per tyre. That's a total of \$840.00. If you then add another \$280.00 for two new shock absorbers the total climbs to \$1,120.00.

The best I could find about towing rates was this:-

Base fee \$227.50 which includes the first 8 kilometres

Plus \$3.60 per kilometer beyond 8 kilometers

Lets forget about the after hours surcharge of \$77.60.

If you need to be towed for say 108 kilometers (for simplicity) then the cost would be \$587.50.

Add this to our total of \$1,120.00 and you get \$1,707.50.

If you then deduct the Vic Roads threshold of \$1,580.00 then Vic Roads will pay you the grand total of \$127.50.

Notice I have not included any labour.

Please start complaining to Vic Roads here:-

<https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/about-vicroads/corporate-responsibility/complaints-reporting>

