



# Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria and Their Members Inc.

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Saturday, 24 August, 2.00pm Zoom

Saturday, 26 October, 2.00pm AGM Zoom

## AUGUST 2024

# Presidents Report

Clubs and Associations around the globe survive because they are relevant to the local community and their membership. They maintain their membership by encouraging people and even other associations to join. I know the caravan club I belong to is always on the lookout for new members. And so is yours, I expect. On the ACCVic website's homepage, there is link to a brochure to assist clubs in promoting themselves to potential members. Download one for free.

In my last two Committee & Delegates Meetings, I promoted several matters which are listed below. No doubt your Club Delegate will have told you all about them. I mention them here to “keep the kettle boiling”.

1. While chatting with fellow caravanners from other Clubs you encounter on your travels, see if their Club is interested in joining ACCVic, particularly if they are Incorporated.
2. Find out whether caravan parks your Club visits has a defibrillator. By the way, WikiCamps has been asked by ACCVic to include defibrillator information in their website. They are considering it. We think they should.
3. Check the “Clubs” menu item on the ACCVic website: Check to see if your Club's contact details and website's URL are correct. Update or create a webpage about your Club on the ACCVic website. Contact webmaster Gary Fitzgerald should you need assistance. For points 1 and 2 above, pass on relevant information to your Delegate who will email it to Secretary Janice, admin@accvic.org.au, or email it yourself. By now all Club's will have received invoices for their Public Liability. I trust each Club benefited from the large discount (The Association {ACCVic} paid \$5,000,00 of the total Public Liability Bill) and a zero NACC membership fee this year. This may not be the case next year.

### **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.

The Annual General Meeting on Saturday 26 October at 2.00pm is fast approaching. All committee positions become vacant. All ACCVic members, not just current Committee and Delegates, have the opportunity of nominating. I encourage all members of every Club to do so. There is a link to the Committee Nomination Form on our website. Much work has been done in preparation for our 2025 State Rally at Lakes Entrance next March 14 – 17.

A large marquee, fully funded by ACCVic, has been ordered for our comfort. It will be erected on Friday and dismantled on Monday by members of the local Lions Club. Details about our 2025 March State Rally are on the ACCVic website. Go to the “State Rallies” menu for the link. Find the “Activities for the Lakes Entrance State Rally” document and a link to the Registration form. You may not know, but Vice President Ken is an accomplished artist in Melbourne’s western suburbs being President of his local Arts Society. His Saturday afternoon slot will be worth attending. I am sure others will enjoy Secretary Janice’s Sit and Stitch session, and others Jen’s games – that’s the one for me.

Please note that the Registration Form only includes those activities requiring prior booking. There are other events that do not require booking, such as morning tea Saturday at the Beach Tavern at Lake Tyers, the Shell Museum and Mini Golf Tournament. On Friday afternoon, when you register your attendance at the Rally in the marquee, add your name to lists on the registration table for these activities. The “Registration Process” has been made easier for us all. Webmaster Gary Fitzgerald and I collaborated on a new approach. On the ACCVic website, go to the 2025 State Rally link in “the “State Rallies+” menu and click the “Click here to Complete the Registration Form” link to display the form. Once the form is completed, clicking the “Submit Form” at the bottom will automatically send the details via email to the State Rally Registrar and update the Event Database on the server. Reports showing names of those registered for each activity are then available to the Registrar at the click of a mouse. Should any Club member request a paper version of the Registration Form to fill out and post, click the “Registration Form - Print Version” on the website. Delegates, consider printing a few out for your members.

The postal address is on the form. Members can Register NOW. Before next March, should members wish to change their activity selection or cancel their attendance, email registrar@accvic.org.au immediately. Refunds of any payments made will be member’s responsibility. Book to attend the Sunday Buchan Cave trip: 03 5162 1900. There are two Peels Cruise options – 11.00am and 2.00pm. Minimums of 15 and 30, respectively, are required for group discount pricing to apply. Remember to contact Peels Cruises, (Amanda: 0409 946 292) or email her info@peelscruises.com.au, to book and pay for the cruise of your choice. Mention you are with the ACCVic group. Google “Peels Cruises Lakes Entrance” for details about each cruise. Book Lonsdale Eco Cruises should that be your choice: 0413 666 638. Note that the afternoon cruise returns at 4.30pm and our “Farewell Dinner” at the Bowls Club is booked for 5.30pm for a 6.00pm sit down. The dinner may be an “alternate drop” arrangement because of the number of us. More information on that as soon as it is received. A big “Thank You” to Gary Bogaart, local Lakes Entrance resident and Gippsland Caravan Club member, for researching many events for us and arranging the marquee. Booking deadline is Tuesday 14 January 2025 for booking your site at the Eastern Beach Holiday Park (Lisa: 1800 761 762), for booking cruises, and Registering on the ACCVic website. That’s it from me. See you on 26th October at the AGM.

Alan Andrews President ACCVic 0418 947 673

president@accvic.org.au

# AGM 26th October 2024

The AGM is on Saturday 26th of October 2024. It will be held via a zoom meeting at 2:00pm.

As per the laws of Incorporation all positions will be declared vacant.

A nomination form is available on the ACCVic web site under AGM 2024, second last line. And YES you can nominate yourself.

We need some new blood, including a new Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, and a new Newsletter Editor.

## Tax 2023 - 2024

### **IT APPEARS THAT A LOT OF CLUBS DO NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THEIR TAX LIABILITY FOR THE LAST FINANCIAL YEARS.**

During the last delegates meeting (August 24th 2024. Unfortunately I could not attend due to unavailability of phone/internet access where our Caravan Club was camping.) there were several comments about tax payable last financial year.

As the ACCVic Treasurer and Newsletter Editor I again repeat that only those clubs who have an active ABN Number AND have been contacted by the ATO need to be concerned about tax for last financial year.

This is because the ATO has only contacted those clubs with an active ABN Number. I believe that clubs without an active ABN Number will/may be contacted later. You do not need to do anything unless your club has been contacted by the ATO.

One club said (and I quote from the delegates minutes) "that he had been advised unless sold something or paid staff, that tax wasn't required to be paid".

This needs clarification :- The sold something comes under the heading of Capital Gains Tax. If you own something like shares or property (or any other APPRECIATING asset) and own it for over 12 months then only 50% of the capital gain is taxable income. Personally I cannot think of anything that a club would own that would fit into this category.

The paid staff comment is an expense and not a taxable item. If a club has sufficient taxable income then it may be a taxable expense. I will also add here that Incorporated clubs are NOT PERMITTED to pay club members under any circumstance. You may pay contractors for work done on club owned property.

# Lakes Entrance State Rally

This years State Rally is being held at the NRMA Eastern Beach Holiday Park, 42 Eastern Beach Road, Lakes Entrance Victoria. Rally dates are:- Arrive Friday 14th of March 2025, leave Monday 17th March 2025. The last day you can book into the Caravan Park is Tuesday 14th of January 2025. All unbooked sites will then be handed back to the Caravan Park so “other not ACCVic guests” can book in.

Registering for the state rally is a two step process. First ring the caravan park on 1800 761 762 and book in under the name of ACCVic and your name.

Then go to the ACCVic web site ([accvic.org.au](http://accvic.org.au)) and click on “STATE RALLIES”. You will then see the REGISTRATION FORM. Click on “Click here to complete the registration form”.

# Mudgee National Rally

The next National Caravan Club Rally is being held in Mudgee NSW. Dates are:- Monday 29th September 2025 to Tuesday 7th October 2025.

For more information please go to their web site — [Home Page. \(19thnationalcaravanrally.org.au\)](http://Home Page. (19thnationalcaravanrally.org.au))

Their August newsletter states that they have received 302 registrations, of which only 41 are from Victoria. Just over half of the 302 registrations are “first timers”.

## **Will the caravan boom end in a messy bust?**

The downfall of two Melbourne-based caravan manufacturers has left dozens of customers facing hefty losses and raised questions about the health of an industry centered in Victoria.

The Victorian-based Highline Caravans Pty Ltd recently went into voluntary liquidation. Highline Caravans has been a registered business for 11 years, since 2013. Documents submitted to the corporate regulator, ASIC, shows that the business has left behind some hefty debts in the wake of its demise.

A total of \$1.14 million is owed to creditors. There’s around 60 organisations owed money. That includes \$235,000.00 to the Australian Taxation office and a further \$766,000.00 to another 58 unsecured creditors. The Victorian State Revenue Office is also understood to be a creditor.

Staff are not owed any money, according to the report. An initial estimate puts the company’s assets at just \$10,000.00. The Herald Sun was advised that the company appears to have failed due to a lack of orders.

# Phone & Seatbelt Cameras

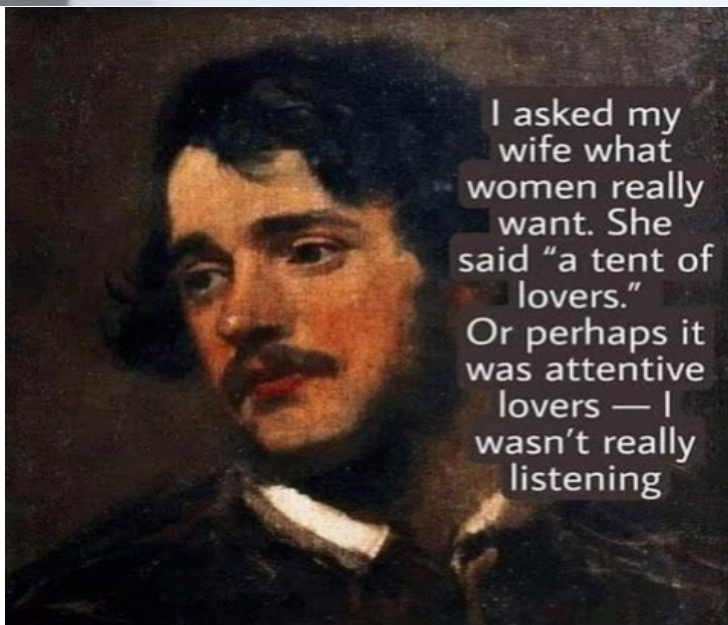
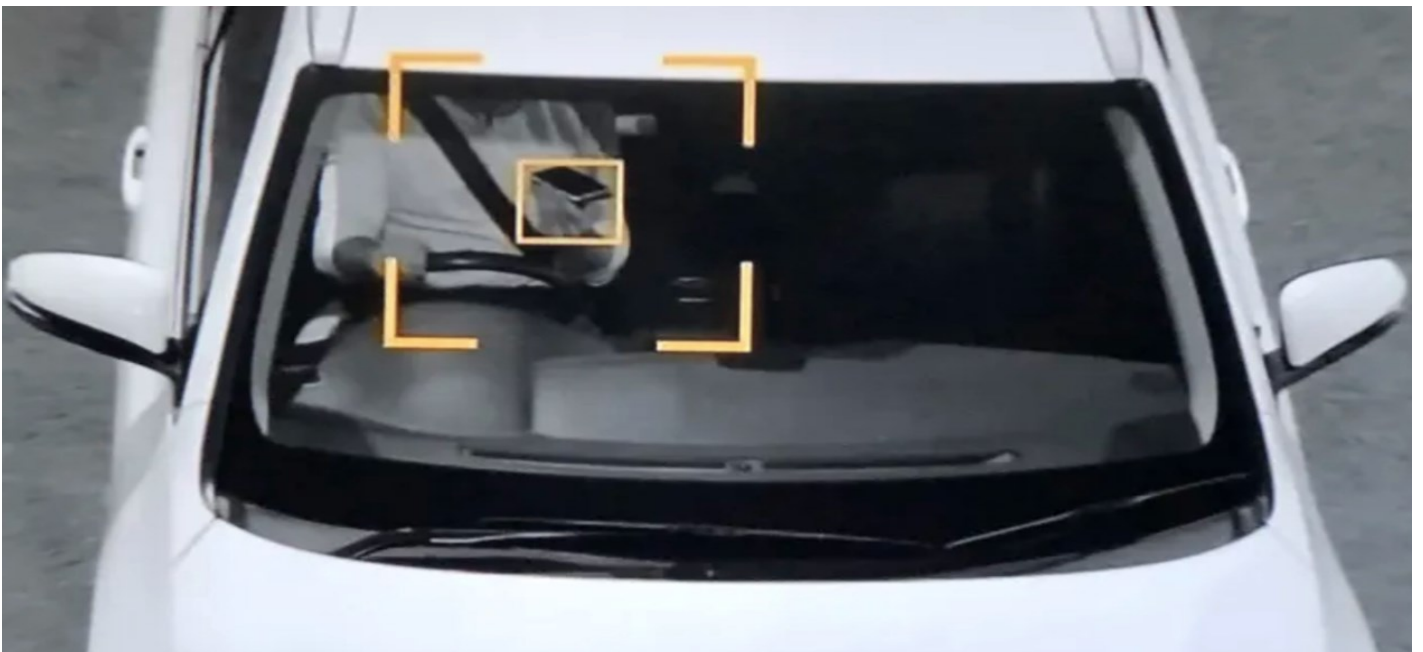
While heading north to Cairns for the Victorian winter we saw dozens of signs stating that Seatbelt detection cameras would start operating in NSW from the 1st of July 2024.

I wouldn't think it will be long before they are also operating in Victoria.

In this photo you can clearly see that the driver is wearing a seat belt and that they are also on the phone. The fine for not wearing a seat belt in NSW is \$344.00 plus 3 demerit points. The fine in NSW for using the phone while driving is \$349.00 (\$464.00 in a school zone) plus 5 demerit points.

In Victoria—Not wearing a seat belt \$385.00 plus 3 demerit points.

In Victoria—Illegal use of mobile phone \$555.00 plus 4 demerit points. If the case goes to court the fine can be up to \$1,849.00



# Public Liability Insurance

All 21 Caravan Clubs that operate under the ACCVic have now paid their Public Liability Insurance premiums and their ACCVic annual membership.

This year the NACC (National Association of Caravan Clubs) decided to waive it's normal fee of \$1.00 per van, mobile home etc. This saved clubs a total of \$961.00.

This year the ACCVic also paid a total of \$5,000.00 of the total Public Liability Insurance bill of \$7,798.21, or 64%. The idea behind this was to return some funds to every club member.

For example the two largest clubs saved \$1,326.00 and \$769.60.

# Free Web Site

Your Association web site ([accvic.org.au](http://accvic.org.au)) offers all clubs a free web site page which can be found under the heading of CLUBS then CLUB PAGES. Of the 21 clubs eligible only eight have taken up this free offer. If you would like to add your caravan club go to the web site ([accvic.org.au](http://accvic.org.au)) and click on "CONTACT US" the send an email to the webmaster Gary Fitzgerald. He will then set up a page under the name of your club. You can then add what ever you wish.



Meet **Morgan Vague**, Made the greatest innovation of our life time. She discovered a bacteria that can **break plastics** down into harmless enzymes. She was nominated for **Times Person Of The Year**. But lost out to Greta Thumberg

A screenshot of a social media post from ITV News. The post features the ITV News logo, a verified account icon, and a timestamp of '8 m'. The text of the post reads: 'British man killed by shark whilst honeymooning in Australia. Reports say he didn't suffer for too long as he'd only been married 5 days.' The post is marked as 'BREAKING' with yellow warning icons.

ITV News   
8 m · 

**!** BREAKING **!**

British man killed by shark whilst honeymooning in Australia. Reports say he didn't suffer for too long as he'd only been married 5 days.