



# Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria and Their Members Inc.

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Executive Meeting.  
10 October 2023 Zoom at  
7:30pm  
Executive and Delegates  
28 October 2023—AGM

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Hello everyone,

Today I am away in the caravan with my wife Joan at the Cooroy caravan park. For those not knowing where that is, it is a few kilometres south and inland of Noosa in Queensland. I can report the weather here is quite a lot better than at home where weather alerts seem popular.

Thinking of caravan parks, we are anxious to find one suitable for our State Rally 2025. We are looking in the region east of Melbourne. Perhaps Gippsland or Mornington Peninsula districts. If you can recommend a caravan park which can cater for fifty caravans or so, please email the particulars to Secretary Janice: - [admin@accvic.org.au](mailto:admin@accvic.org.au).

Having over one thousand members from all Clubs, there must be one or two willing, able and experienced to volunteer to organise our 2025 State Rally. Stella wishes to stand down after years of service in the role.

Of course, next year we will be at Kerang Holiday Park in March. When you book, remember to mention you are with the ACCVic group, then email the registration form to [registrar@accvic.org.au](mailto:registrar@accvic.org.au).

The vacant positions I mentioned in the June Newsletter are still vacant. The opportunity to contribute to the running of our Association is still exists for you. Please consider volunteering.

### **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.

By now you will be in possession of your Club's Public Liability Insurance Certificate, provided you have paid. If that is not the case have your Club's secretary email Secretary Janice immediately. The process took a little longer than we would have liked due to factors beyond our control, but we got there in the end.

A decision was made by Committee recently not to attend the caravan shows in Melbourne and the regions conducted by Caravan Industry Victoria. ACCVic will be advertising our presence and promoting the caravanning lifestyle to the general public and other caravan clubs by other means.

Until next time,  
Alan Andrews



**MY WIFE MADE ME  
COFFEE THIS MORNING AND  
WINKED AT ME WHEN SHE  
HANDED ME THE CUP.**

**I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE  
SCARED OF A DRINK IN ALL  
OF MY LIFE.**

# Caravanning Adventures

Leaving our club rally at Barham for a “Coromal Gathering” at Dimboola back in 2021 Joan and I stopped for a cuppa on the roadside about 5kms before Birchip. We didn’t realise how close Birchip was. Had we known we would have kept going and had a vanilla slice. Driving down Birchip’s main street we were in for a real surprise. A fellow caravanner pulled alongside and asked if I knew we had a destroyed tyre on our tandem-axle caravan? Well, NO, I didn’t. We parked, looked, gasped. A local lady called the local RACV-man and then the local tyre-company man. RACV-man swapped out the shredded tyre for the spare which needed pumping up. He then escorted us to the tyre-company-man who was out to lunch. We waited. He came back. Decided the destroyed tyre was beyond repair – apparently it wasn’t repairable! Really? Thankfully there was no damage to the rim, or brake cables from the lashing wires. New tyre became the spare. Away we went. Missed out on a vanilla slice though. We enjoyed our stay at Dimboola’s caravan park, which I can recommend as a rally destination.

At home I found the tyres were dated “1415” – 14<sup>th</sup> week of 2015, 6 years old. Time to replace them all. I couldn’t find reference to light truck tyres doing internet searches. Eventually went to a local tyre company and replaced them all, including the original spare with less than 600kms, with Yokohamas. Then we traded the caravan on our way back from Queensland in 2022 - another expensive exercise.

The Toyota Prado rear barn-door can’t be opened very wide when the caravan is connected as it fouls with the hitch’s handle. To overcome this I bought a hitch with a fold-down handle from *Carac*. Works a treat. About \$160. It came with a replacement handbrake mechanism too. It was an easy matter to unbolt the old hitch (4 bolts), release the cable fitting, fit the new hitch with new bolts (torqued to 150psi), and reattach and adjust the handbrake cable. It was much cheaper than the fully rotating 4-wheel drive hitch, and for me, does the job just as well. I don’t go off-roading. Now I can get to the beers in the car fridge when we stop. Happy.

Alan Andrews

See photos on next page.....



This tyre was made in the 21st week of the year 2020.



This marking must appear on every tyre and is usually in an oval like the "CY1W" to the left.

If your Tyres are over 6 years old they should be replaced to avoid blow outs as shown above.

Luckily our ACCVic President was using a tandem caravan and not a single axel van which may have resulted in a rollover.

NB - As noted on page one the AGM will be held on the 28th of October 2023. While all positions will be declared vacant as per the rules of Incorporation I am aware the we need volunteers to fill the following positions:-

- ◇ Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary.
- ◇ Vice President.
- ◇ Media spokesperson plus someone to look after our Facebook page.
- ◇ State Rally Co-Ordinator.

## How to reverse a caravan video:-

[https://www.google.com/search?](https://www.google.com/search?q=video+on+how+to+reverse+a+caravan&rlz=1C1GCEA_enAU1054AU1054&oq=video+on+how+to+reverse+a+caravan&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIICAQABgWGB4yCggCEAAyhgMYigUyCggDEAAyhgMYigUyCggEEAAyhgMYigXSAQg5NjQ4ajBqN6gCALACAA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#kpvalbx=_eHfuZLmPG975seMPPrJ24qA8_30)

[q=video+on+how+to+reverse+a+caravan&rlz=1C1GCEA\\_enAU1054AU1054&oq=video+on+how+to+reverse+a+caravan&gs\\_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIICAQABgWGB4yCggCEAAyhgMYigUyCggDEAAyhgMYigUyCggEEAAyhgMYigXSAQg5NjQ4ajBqN6gCALACAA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#kpvalbx=\\_eHfuZLmPG975seMPPrJ24qA8\\_30](https://www.google.com/search?q=video+on+how+to+reverse+a+caravan&rlz=1C1GCEA_enAU1054AU1054&oq=video+on+how+to+reverse+a+caravan&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIICAQABgWGB4yCggCEAAyhgMYigUyCggDEAAyhgMYigUyCggEEAAyhgMYigXSAQg5NjQ4ajBqN6gCALACAA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#kpvalbx=_eHfuZLmPG975seMPPrJ24qA8_30)

**COVE TRAINING**—<https://covetraining.edu.au/>

**Cove run numerous courses including Caravan Towing Courses.**

They have three sites around Melbourne. They are at :-

Seaford 56 Bardia Avenue Vic 3198

Dandenong 5 Broadlands Street Vic 3175, and

Thomastown 1 Lucknow Crescent Vic 3074

I am sure there are other organisations that also provide this service including METEC DRIVER TRAINING—<https://www.metec.com.au/towing>

This is also one area where clubs can save new members money by providing the basics of towing, and all the other things necessary for safe caravanning.

### **Rally Spend records**

Questions have been asked about where the information is being stored and who can access this.

Answers: - The information is stored with NACC, The National Association of Caravan Clubs. It is used for clubs to push to get increased services from local council.

It is up to ACCVic to request information, and clubs can also access this information as a request to ACCVic who will follow up on their behalf.

We are aware that Queensland use this information extensively for planning State Rallies, including sponsorship.

From the Bendigo Advertiser Tuesday 4th July 2023.

The Avondel Caravan Park at Maiden Gully (8.5 kilometers north west of the Bendigo CBD) is now closed.

Caravan park closure branded 'abhorrent'

# Residents forced to vacate

BY JONATHON MAGRATH

A MAIDEN Gully caravan park has closed, forcing residents to vacate their homes with just 14 days notice.

A letter sighted by the *Advertiser*, dated June 16, requested residents of the Avondel Caravan Park to vacate on or before June 30.

The Residential Tenancies Act says six months notice is needed if a caravan park closes or is to be used for another purpose.

The business was recently sold to new owners, with a transfer of property and business occurring on June 16. They have been contacted for comment.

The site has been subject to a planning bid for a supermarket, which was knocked back by Greater Bendigo council in April.

Victorian Caravan Parks Association president David Pratt said giving 14 days notice was "abhorrent" and broke the law.

"I personally see this letter as flying in the face of all



those regulations and every single caravan park that does the right thing," he said.

"In terms of our members, I won't tolerate any member not adhering to the true absolute requirement of the law.

"These are their homes. This is not a discretionary

holiday that these people were having and to give what's essentially a 10 business day notice letter ahead of winter has terrified so many people.

"I don't believe any of them have been able to secure alternate permanent residency."

The Residential Tenancies Act is overseen by Consumers Affairs Victoria. A spokesperson said they had not received any contact about the caravan park business.

"Caravan and residential park residents are encouraged to know their rights and contact Consumer Affairs

Victoria if they have any concerns about the closure of their park," they said.

The department says it is an offence for a caravan park owner not to give written notification to the relevant local council of the park's proposed closure at least 14 days before giving a notice to

vacate to a resident.

Bendigo's council said it received an application of transfer of the park from the new operators, but not a formal notification from the previous operators about vacating the business. It said it had not received formal notification from the new operator of their intention to close the park.

The *Advertiser* understands about 50 people have been living at the caravan park, some as old as 70 and some on disability pensions.

"I understand a number have been scared by this letter and left, but they've left to go to other parks who can't provide them with that permanent residency," Mr Pratt said.

At least 10 people from the caravan park were staying temporarily at Epsom's Gold Nugget Tourism Park.

"What we're doing is giving these guys, I'd call it sanctuary, giving them time to sort themselves out and get their lives in order," manager Colin Johnston said.



## **Tuesday was world's hottest day on record** **breaking Monday's record.**

Average global temperature hits 17.01 Celsius on Monday 3rd July surpassing the August 2016 record of 16.92 Celsius and experts expect record to be broken again very soon, which it did. It now stands at 17.18 Celsius.

This is completely different to the hottest temperature recorded on planet Earth which is 56.7 Celsius which was recorded in Death Valley in the USA on the 10th of July 1913.

The worlds lowest temperature was  $-89.2$  Celsius recorded at Vostok Antarctica on the 21 July 1983.

In Australia Marble Bar holds the record for the longest heatwave with 160 consecutive days over 37.7 Celsius (100 degrees Fahrenheit). At Christmas 2018 the temperature reached 48 Celsius and two days later it hit 49.6 Celsius.

Highest temperatures recorded in Australia:-

50.7 Celsius Oodnadatta SA 2 January 1960

50.7 Celsius Onslow WA 13 January 2022

50.5 Celsius Mardie Station WA 13 January 2022

And the list goes on.....

The news has recently been full of record breaking temperatures all over the northern hemisphere.

The burning question is  
(no pun intended)  
what will our next  
summer be like?

