



RACV Caravan Club Newsletter

Autumn
2020

Volume 47 No. 175



RACV Caravan Club of Victoria Incorporated

Registered number A 0006900 V
ABN 83 836 581 725

Registered Office:

PO Box 165, Ashburton, VIC 3147

Postal Address

PO Box 165, Ashburton, Victoria 3147
An organisation devoted solely to the
interest of Caravanners

RACVCC Office Bearers:



President:
Rob Taylor



Secretary:
*Heather
McTaggart*



Treasurer:
John Stone

Activities Director – Ann Cecil
Immediate Past President – Sandra Eldridge

Change of Address:

RACV Caravan Club
PO Box 165, Ashburton VIC 3147

Newsletter material to:

The Editor, Julie Mason
175B Wonga Road, Ringwood North 3134
M: 0408791449
Email: julierat@iprimus.com.au

Please ensure all newsletter material reaches
the editor by the Thursday after the rally!

General correspondence to:

The Secretary
RACV Caravan Club
PO Box 165, Ashburton VIC 3147
Email: sec@racvcaravanclub.com.au
www.racvcc.com.au



President's Report

Hello everyone,

The first quarter of 2020 has gone. The risk of fire seems to have reduced taking away some of the concerns regarding our Rally Venues. I hope everyone has come through this season unscathed.

Our season at Camerons Bight has also come to an end. The camp ground looked fabulous when we arrived. The weather was fair to good, depending on who you speak to, but everyone seemed to enjoy their time. Anne Cecil and her band of willing helpers made sure the Rally weekend activities went ahead and were enjoyed by all. The new long awaited BBQ area got a good work out. Thanks to Bob and Dawn Anderson for running the Bocce competition. I understand one of our finalists was given an extension on his departure time to allow him to play his final game. Thank you to Karen and Wes Chandler assisted by Luke Teunissen, for running the fishing competition. It was a huge success; everyone is looking forward to a re run next season. There were some pictures published on Facebook, take a look. Once again the sand castle competition did not happen, not enough participants plus a lack of beach.

Sunday 8th March Whitecliffs to Camerons Bight Foreshore Committee members, Rangers and representatives of the RACV CC got together to have a BBQ opening ceremony. Sandra Eldridge's effort, to raise the funds, was recognized and acknowledged by the Committee Chairman. A plaque recognising the contributors will be installed at a later time.

We recently signed a Contract of sale for our land at Learmonth. Settlement is scheduled for the 26th May 2020. The Learmonth committee will be meeting during the year to develop some proposals. Several options will be prepared to present to a Special General Meeting.

President's Report

Our membership is finally sorted we have 192 members, down from the 243 we started with. We were always going to drop in numbers, those who are no longer active. We are still chasing some member renewal forms. If you know someone who missed out on receiving the newsletter in the mail either their not financial or we don't have their membership form.

We are proposing to introduce an associate membership for those members who no longer own a recreational vehicle but still want to be part of the club. More details will become available at a later time.

There was a lot of discussion at our first Executive meeting for the year. Some of the decisions made are:-

Alternative Rallies. The alternate Easter and Cup Weekend trial we ran last year will now become the new norm. This provides options to members to attend (with the appropriate approvals) either the alternate weekends or the public holiday weekends for Easter and Cup Weekend or if you wish you can attend both. Rally Attendance Credit rules remain unchanged you cannot double up on points by attending both options.

Discussion initiated last year, regarding the difficulty for Division 4 to find caravan parks to accommodate their numbers was again

discussed. The suggestion to be able to occupy 2 caravan parks in one town for Rally weekends was considered together with the consequences and other options. It was decided that the division's numbers would be capped, no new members will be accepted in the division until the existing numbers are reduced. This does not prevent new members joining the club. Members will not be prevented from visiting Division 4 Rallies, provided the appropriate approval is sought.

Rally Attendance Credits (Points) at Camerons Bight inspired some additional discussion. From the 2020/2021 season Rally Attendance Points will only be issued to members who have booked a site directly through the RACV Caravan Club and in residence on the rally weekend. Members are welcome to take part in any of the Activities held during the summer season at Camerons Bight, regardless of where they are staying.

If you wish to share a view or suggest options please feel free to write to the Executive Committee via the Club Secretary. The Committee will review it and provide a response to anyone that seeks it.

Happy Rallying
Rob Taylor

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Dear Members

Due to the imposed travel restrictions in relation to the COVID19 crisis throughout the country we advise that all Rallies are cancelled until further notice.

We hope you all stay safe and well during the next couple of months and we look forward to catching up as soon as we can for some fun and friendship at our rallies.



COVID19

Division 1 – News & Notes

<i>VICE PRESIDENT:</i>	Steve Clark	bj.plastics@bigpond.com	
<i>SECRETARY:</i>	Matt Window	wulfenshadow@outlook.com	0438 054 740
<i>TREASURER:</i>	Peter& Fran Whitehurst		9560 0303
<i>MARSHAL:</i>	Peter Rauch		

Warragul – January 25 - 27

Most of our vans total of 11 arrived at our Warrigal destination Friday afternoon except for Julian and Terry Ketskemety visitors' friend of Kennelly who arrived Saturday morning. We had our traditional Happy Hour at 5.00pm Friday evening in the Rec room after which we drove to the Warrigal Country Club for a very enjoyable dinner. We also had visitors accompanying us for dinner, Pat & Trevor Hole, Steve & Donna Hole and Rob & Dianne Allen.

Saturday morning was lovely and sunny, so we ventured to the Yarragon Market and took in the local shopping precinct followed by lunch at the bakery. Later we returned to the park for a communal BBQ dinner and a few refreshments later in the Rec room. To our surprise we had



Rob & Dianne Allen join us for the BBQ dinner arriving in their little red MG sports car.

Sunday morning the committee provided us with the traditional Australia breakfast thanks to all the helpers. At 11.00am we departed for a BYO picnic at Noojee beside the Latrobe River, a very scenic drive continuing to the





Toorong Falls. The circular walking track to the Toorong Falls and the Amphitheatre Falls were the highlights of the day with spectacular views from the platforms which were great opportunities for photo shoots. Margret and Ken Eastwood need to be congratulated on being the only ones to complete the walk as they arrived early and beat crowds. We all finished the day with dinner at the Jade Gardens Chinese restaurant.

Congratulations were in store for Sharon Barker and Sue Colclough who celebrated birthdays over the weekend.

A fantastic weekend finished up with a cupper and a late check out at 11.00am on the Monday.



Geelong – February 15 - 16

A total of 6 vans made their way to Geelong. 5 of the vans were caught en-route in the storm that hit the Geelong area on Friday afternoon. Thunder, lightning and torrential rain made driving extremely hazardous but fortunately everyone made it to our destination safely. With umbrellas and coats out the vans were set up and we all made our way to the lovely recreation room to dry out and to enjoy happy hour. Due to the inclement weather the Geelong Night Market was cancelled so everyone made their own arrangements for dinner.

Saturday and the weather although improved from Friday remained wet and windy. Most of us took the opportunity to visit the Museum of Motoring. The visit was made more interesting by the very enthusiastic tour guides who were very keen to share their passion with us.

After enjoying another happy hour in the recreation room we all made our way to the Fyansford Hotel for dinner. Good food, great company, lot's of laughter and just a bit of food envy as we watched some enjoy a scrumptious looking dessert of sticky date pudding ensured a good night was had by all.

Sunday morning saw 4 vans depart for home with 2 lucky vans staying an extra night.

Leongatha – March 7 - 9

We arrived at the Leongatha Caravan Park on Friday PM and waited for the three vans before us to be booked in, the Capers had advised us that the charge would be \$38 a night so I was surprised to be charged \$44. When I questioned this amount I was told to expect the charge as it was the high season. Okay then. Then I was taken outside so that the park manageress could point out the park rules that had been posted on the outside of the park office and told to read and follow them to the letter. I left the office wondering what I had done wrong. As she had already gone through the list and pointed out the rules for the shower block and just about everything else there was to see in the park.

I was in lot 4, a narrow lot so I couldn't get my awning out to its full extent although the site was deep enough to allow parking in front of the van, no problem.

The weekend was good, the rain had stopped during our drive on Friday and the Capers were done well with lots of activities for the whole weekend, Meals at the RSL and a Courtesy bus to pick us up and drop us home again so we voted to have a meal there Friday and Sunday nights.





Saturday, free to explore the town and drive to Inverloch, afternoon tea was in the camp rec room. A bit small as is being used as a store room for some furniture, (bunk beds and Mattresses).

Sunday, we went to Kongwak 26K, to the retro Market, Lots of old stuff for sale then a lunch at the Pioneer reserve. Dinner was at the Leongatha RSL, a good meal in nice surroundings, great people.

After an early morning tea to say goodbye to the others we left at 10 am Monday to head for home.



<i>VICE PRESIDENT:</i>	Alan Jennings	ayjay357@bigpond.com	9459 9610 / 0458 219 279
<i>SECRETARY:</i>	Peter Birney	p.birney@hotmail.com	9800 2991 / 0407 592 895
<i>TREASURER:</i>	Be Steegstra	sasteegstra@bigpond.com	9889 7244 / 0407 511 012
<i>MARSHAL:</i>	Pat Glover	jpglover@hotmail.com	9733 4827

Sale – January 25 - 27

Here we go at the start of another year, ready for more friendship and enjoyment in each others company at different venues, as well as some old favorites.

Div 2 started the first rally of the year at the Sale Showgrounds, replete with their new toilet block, which was beaut if you waited long enough for the hot water.

The weather was warm with a slight breeze and, for those who had a bit of shade, sitting under the awning was just right.

Although we had only six vans, one could be excused for thinking the noise level in the rec room was for a much larger crowd for happy hour(s) and our combined chook and salad evening meal on the Saturday night. Saturday morning was spent, as usual, haunting the op shops, bakeries and the shops of Sale.

The swing Bridge and the Port of Sale, the Info Centre and Library were all well patronised. Sunday was more of the same, awning sitting, chatting over a cuppa in the Rec room and generally relaxing. Sunday evening was spent at the Bowls Club Bistro and was much enjoyed. Some were able to stay until the Tuesday, others had to return for the daily slog after another most enjoyable rally.



Geelong – February 15 - 16

Another rally weekend, another wet weekend. Torrential rain greeted our arrival at Geelong and hindered our set up. Fortunately there was a very comfortable camp kitchen for our happy hours and morning teas. Our rally consisted of 8 vans. Some stayed only for the weekend, while others were there for a longer time. Due to the rain, our activities were severely limited. Consequently morning tea seemed to stretch to lunch time as we chatted together.



Our group activity was dinner at the RSL on Saturday night where everyone enjoyed their meals. Travel was by courtesy bus which was very convenient.





During the weekend people did their own thing which included visits to Eastern Beach, farmers' markets, and a glass display at Drysdale. A number of members took the opportunity to visit with family and friends living in the Geelong area. There was rowing on the river and at Kardinia Park there was women's football. Someone gleefully returned to Melbourne (it's only an hour away by train) for choir practice.

We had visits at morning tea from Eric and Di (on their way to visit Bette and Jim in Leopold) and Lyn. All in all a very well turned out park.



Maryborough – March 7 - 9

Some of the members arrived from Wednesday to Friday 1 and by Saturday a total of 7 Vans.

The caravan park was very busy, with a nice new Amenities block of 14 separate units and a big Camp Kitchen.

Saturday 7 we had morning tea followed by 60th wedding anniversary cake for Bruce & Val Mitchell.

Saturday afternoon most people visited the area close to town.

5pm Happy hour followed by tea of corned beef, mashed potatoes, carrots and peas followed by sweets supplied by committee.

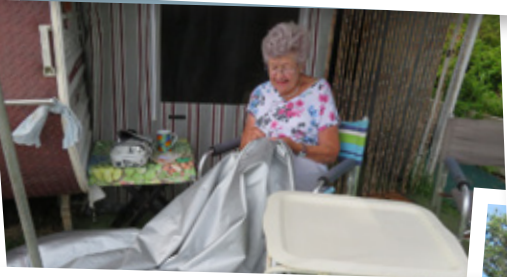
Sunday 8 Morning tea, followed by sandwiches made from the leftover corned beef.

5 pm happy hour; 6.30 dinner at Maryborough Highland Society Club – good meals we reported by all.

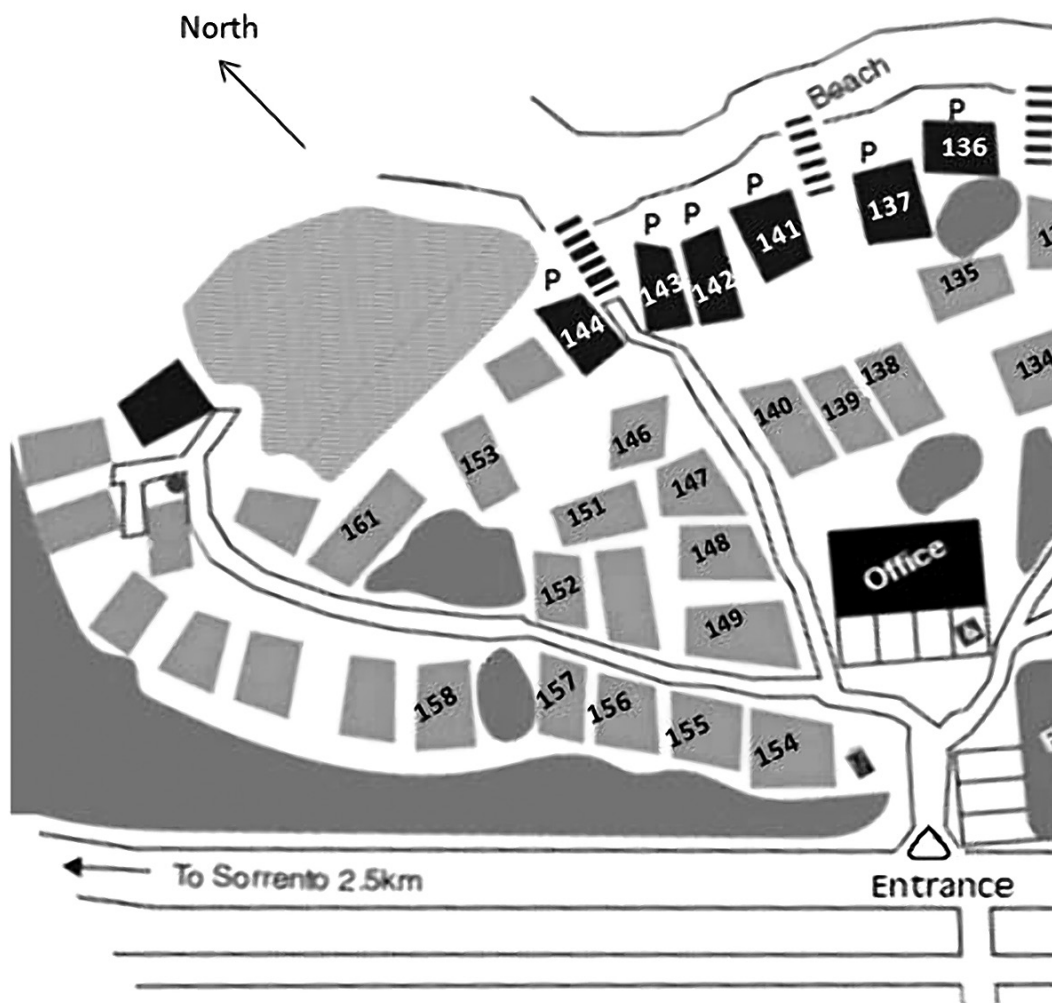
Monday 9 Most members stayed and went back to the same club for lunch. A small but good rally had by all.





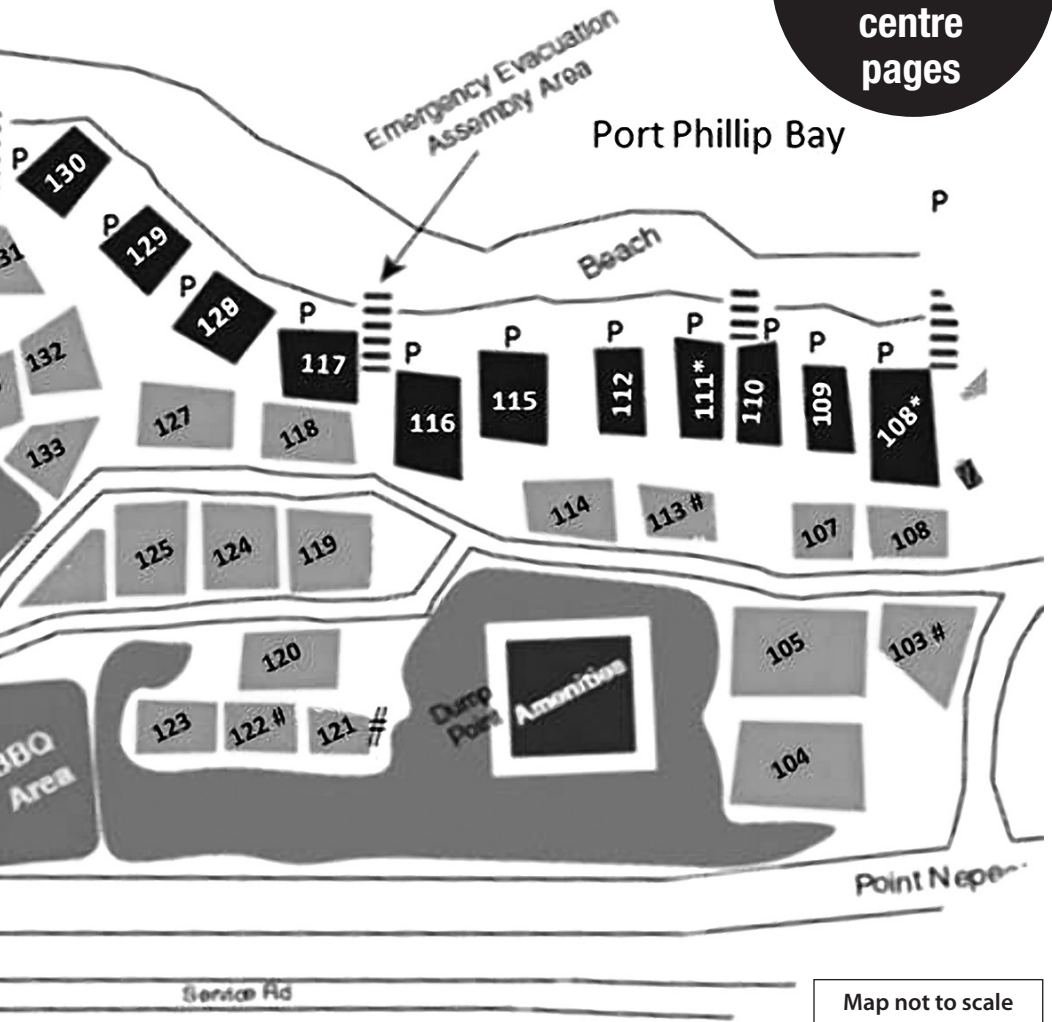


***Please check the site sizes you're applying for,
your caravan, annex and car must fit within your site boundaries***



Camerons Bight Campground Blairgowrie (unpowered sites)

Please
PULL OUT
AND RETAIN
centre
pages



* Peak Period # Off Peak Only P = Premium Site

CAMERONS BIGHT FORSHORE CAMP GROUND

To ensure a safe and enjoyable stay on the Foreshore Reserves, campers must ensure that they are familiar with the Camping Rules & Conditions and must sign agreement to these Camping Rules & Conditions.

The applicant shall be held responsible for any breach of these Camping Rules & Conditions whether caused by the applicant, occupants, or visitors to the site.

These rules and conditions constitute the terms by which a person is permitted to occupy a camp site.

The Foreshore Manager has the authority to terminate the booking of an occupant upon any breach of these rules and conditions, to relocate or cancel any booking at his/her discretion, and to decline application.

CAMPING RULES & CONDITIONS

1. CAMPING APPLICATION

- a) Payment is to be made in full before occupying a site.
- b) Early departure shall not be refundable.
- c) Rates may change and surcharges may be introduced without notice.
- d) Peak Season cancellations notified 30 days before the occupancy date shall be refundable less \$50.00 Booking Fee.
- e) Shoulder & Off Peak Season cancellations notified 14 days before occupancy date shall be refundable less \$30.00 Booking Fee.
- f) Late cancellations are non-refundable.
- g) Campsite fees cover a maximum of two adults and three children under sixteen years of age per site at any time.
- h) Extra persons shall incur an additional charge of \$10.00 per night and must be notified to staff prior to occupancy.
- i) Campsites are not transferrable
- j) Site or caravan shall not be sub-let or loaned.
- k) Pensioner discount does not apply if persons other than pensioners are in occupancy.
- l) No liability is accepted for loss or damage to property whilst camping on the foreshore reserves.

2. CHECK IN /CHECK OUT TIMES

- a) Sites must be vacated by 10am on day of departure. Incoming vans may be set up after 2pm. These times must be strictly adhered to unless arranged beforehand with the office. Charges may apply.
- b) Campers may stay on site to a maximum of 59 consecutive nights.

3. NOISE/BEHAVIOUR

- a) Noise must be kept to a minimum after 10pm, Disruptive, anti-social, illegal behaviour or abuse of employees, contractors or Committee Members will not be tolerated.
- b) Safety helmets must be worn when riding bicycles within the foreshore reserve.

4. ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

- a) Local laws prohibit the consumption of alcohol in public places (e.g. roads, carparks, amenities & beaches).

5. ANIMALS/PETS

- a) The keeping of animals of any kind is strictly prohibited.

6. CAMP SET-UP

- a) Camp sites vary in size. There is no guarantee that tents, vans or vehicles will fit onto any site. It is your responsibility to ensure selection of a site which will fully accommodate all of your camping requirements.
- b) Maximum setup per campsite subject to size of campsite: 1 family tent & 1 x two person tent plus 1 car, or 3 x two person tents plus one car, or 1 caravan and annexe plus one small tent and one car.
- c) Screens around sites are prohibited. A small 'infant play pen (approx. 2m wide x 2m long x 0.5m high) may be erected when infants are present but must be removed when campsite is unoccupied overnight.
- d) Ground cover must be a breathable material used to cover, by direct contact, a small portion of the ground of a site external to a caravan, annexe or tent, and does not include carpet.
- e) Caravan, tents and all camping accessories must be contained within the site markers, including watercraft and bicycles.
- f) One (1) only 15 AMP power lead permitted. Double adaptors in power heads are prohibited. Power leads must be tested currently certified and tagged by a qualified person prior to connection to the power head.

6. CAMP SET-UP *continued*

- g) Electrical leads must be arranged so as not to obstruct or endanger persons walking in the vicinity of the site. Every lead must be located where it will not be subject to mechanical damage. Leads must not be buried.
- h) Any lighting that unreasonably affects other guests and neighbouring sites is prohibited. Lights must not be hung from trees or attached to any infrastructure e.g. Power Poles. Lights may be attached to caravan, annexe, gazebos or tent.
- i) The Committee of Management take no responsibility for damage or loss of property incurred due to the power/water supply being left on when caravans or tents are left unattended.
- j) The Committee of Management take no responsibility for damage or loss of property incurred due to Gazebos and awning covers not being removed when the site is unoccupied overnight.

7. VEHICLES BOATS & TRAILERS-PARKING

- a) All vans must be currently registered.
- b) One (1) car per site is permitted. Visitor's cars must be parked outside park boundaries.
- c) Sleeping in cars is not permitted.
- d) Boats and trailers are not to be parked in the campgrounds. There is no provision for boat/trailer parking in the campgrounds.
- e) Where additional parking is required, an application for an additional site will need to be made when making a booking.
- f) The speed limit within the foreshore reserve is 5km p/h.
- g) Launching of boats from the foreshore is prohibited.
- h) The washing of boats, caravans & vehicles in the campgrounds is prohibited.

8. FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- a) No fires permitted at any time on the foreshore, including campgrounds and beaches.
- b) Solid fuel barbecues are not permitted. All barbecues which use solid fuel, such as charcoal, briquettes or wood are not allowed.
- c) All camps must have at least one (1) suitable, currently serviced and approved fire extinguisher, a fire blanket and working smoke detector.
- d) It is recommended that campers have the 'Fire Ready' app on mobiles

- e) All campers should be familiar with the Whitecliffs to Camerons Bight Foreshore Emergency & Evacuation Plan as displayed.
- f) Campers must comply with all conditions of any fire ban or restriction declared for the area in which the campground is located.

9. VEGETATION (Flora/Fauna)

- a) No person shall interfere in any way with the flora and fauna on the reserve.
- b) The attachment of any materials to trees or vegetation within the foreshore reserves is strictly prohibited.

10. RUBBISH

- a) General campsite waste only is to be placed in the bins provided. Any larger waste items (e.g. white goods, carpet remnants, large boxes etc.) must be removed from the campsite area.
- b) Bins must not be moved from their positions.
- c) Recyclable items must be placed in the recycling bins that are provided.
- d) It is a requirement at the conclusion of your stay that you must remove all of your property from the site and leave the site in a clean and tidy condition.

11. LP GAS

- a) Gas cylinders must have all surrounding ignition sources removed; be secured; on a stable base; vented away from the structure/dwelling and in location away from vents, windows and doors to meet Energy Safe Victoria guidelines.
- b) Gas supply must be shut off at the bottle when the site is unoccupied overnight.

12. ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

- a) Campers are to respect the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in the campgrounds and not disturb the soil other than for surface trenches no deeper than 100mm (4") for water run off or for the driving of tent pegs.

13. AMENITIES

- a) Children under the age of ten (10) years shall not use the toilets and/or showers unless supervised by an adult at all times.
- b) The washing of dishes and cleaning of fish in amenities is prohibited.
- c) Amenity blocks are closed when cleaning in progress.

RACVCC MEMBER CAMERONS BIGHT CAMPING GROUND SITE APPLICATION FORM

TAX INVOICE

ABN 83 836 581 725

READ EVERYTHING BEFORE YOU SELECT YOUR SITE AND COMPLETE THIS FORM

For any queries please contact Anne Cecil by phone 0418 346 925
or email bj.plastics@bigpond.com

Name *(Block Letters)*

Complete details on reverse side and MAIL with your cheque / bank cheque
OR Email to bj.plastics@bigpond.com to arrive no later than **Friday 29th May 2020**

RACV Caravan Club of Victoria Inc
C/- Anne Cecil
PO BOX 407
SEYMOUR 3660

RACVCC MEMBER APPLICATION FOR SITE AT CAMERONS BIGHT CAMPING GROUND

TAX INVOICE ABN 83 836 581 725

Date

Name in full (*Block Letters Please*)

RACV Membership Number

Address.....

Email Address

Phone..... Mobile.....

I desire to apply for Site No. or alternatively one of the following:

From 2.00pm To 10 am.....

Simple	Standard	or	Premium	Booking
Peak i.e.6 weeks (19/12/2020 to 30/01/2021)	\$1320.00		\$1572.00	\$.....
6 weeks Off Peak Package (30/01/2021 to 13/03/21)	\$ 549.00		\$ 679.00	\$.....
			Total	\$.....

Flexible		Standard	or	Premium	Booking
19 December to 9 January	Peak x 3	\$660.00		\$786.00	\$.....
9 January to 16 January	Peak	\$220.00		\$262.00	\$.....
16 January to 23 January	Peak	\$220.00		\$262.00	\$.....
23 January to 30 January	Peak	\$220.00		\$262.00	\$.....

6 Weeks Off Peak Package (30/01/2020 to 13/03/2021) \$549.00 | \$679.00 | \$.....

Off Peak Packages are available only to those who already held one during season 2017/2018

Or Nightly

01 February to 13 March Off Peak \$25.00 \$30 \$.....

For nightly/non package bookings that include Labour Day Weekend, the minimum 3 night holiday weekend stay nights will be charged at Premium \$117 and Standard \$108 each.

Bookings for **Labour Day weekend only** must be made direct through Committee of Management.

TOTAL \$

My van/RV including annex is M long x M wide

Please note that your van/RV Annex must fit your selected site. This includes the A Frame and increased width if you have a slide out. You must be able to park your car within your site.

In the event of all above sites being unavailable:

(A) I WILL accept such other site as allowed (B) I WILL NOT accept any other site

Note: If (a) or (b) is not deleted, (a) automatically applies.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL RULES SET OUT HEREIN **Signature**.....

Deposit of \$600 required or payment in full if less than \$600 for full booking.

I enclose Full Payment / Deposit \$.....

Please Note the change of bank.

EFT RACV Caravan Club of Victoria Inc (Bendigo Bank) BSB 633-000 a/c 162 218 671
USE MEMBERSHIP NUMBER AS REFERENCE WHEN USING EFT OR BANK DEPOSIT
Your Caravan, Annex Car and any other structure must fit within your site boundaries.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Site Allocated from 2pm

To 10am

..... Weeks peak @ \$ = \$

..... Weeks off peak @ \$ = \$

..... Days off peak @ \$ = \$

TOTAL \$

AMOUNT RECEIVED \$

Amount Owing (if any) \$

Refund (if any) \$

RACVCC MEMBER BOOKINGS 2020 -2021 CAMERONS BIGHT CAMPING GROUND

Time to prepare for Summer.

Cameron's Bight Camp Ground is on the beach front and we have sites available to us for bookings of various lengths.

Bookings commence from 19 December 2020 and conclude for the Club on Saturday 13 March 2021.

Christmas Peak period is 19/12/2020 to 30/01/2021

The first 3 weeks of the Peak Season must be taken as a block. Thereafter bookings are all made in blocks of one week from 2.00pm Saturday to 10.00am the following Saturday

Off Peak Period is 30/01/2021 to 13/03/2021

This period may be booked as a package if you held a package during season 2017/18. No new packages are available, and non-package holders who wish to book during this period should do so by calculating on a nightly basis.

The Park is divided into Premium and Standard sites and they are clearly marked on the enclosed map.

UNAVAILABLE sites are also clearly marked and listed. All the sites are non-powered, and fees are in line with DELWP approved rates for Coastal Foreshore Camping.

PLEASE NOTE: THE CHANGE OF BANK.

All Applications MUST be mailed or emailed to

**RACV CARAVAN CLUB of VIC INC
c/- ANNE CECIL
PO BOX 407
SEYMOUR 3660
bj.plastics@bigpond.com**

**To arrive no later than
Friday 29th May 2020**

Rally Dates for 2021

**January 23 – 24 January
February 13 – 14 February
March 06 – 08 March**

Members wishing to gain attendance credits at Sorrento for January, February, and March Rallies must be in attendance on the rally weekend as per Club By Laws and sign the Attendance Book for each rally.

Rally Attendance Credits (points) will only be awarded to Members who book through RACV CC at the time of Site Allocations.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Your van/RV must fit your selected site. This includes slide outs, A frame, annex and car.**
- **Allocations are planned for the weekend of June 13/14.
Please monitor your contact phone**

Division 3 – News & Notes

<i>VICE PRESIDENT:</i>	Peter Blake	jpblackkeys@bigpond.com	9798 6849 / 0419 116 623
<i>SECRETARY:</i>	Graeme Penny	pennyspack@gmail.com	0402 065 759
<i>TREASURER:</i>	Ray Andrews		9781 1148 / 0431 208 981
<i>MARSHAL:</i>	Dorothy Penny	pennyspack@gmail.com	0411 899 935

Clunes – March 7 - 9

Div 3 opened our rally season with a trip to the historic township of Clunes in Victoria. Primarily like many central Victorian towns Clunes was founded on the goldfields in the 1850's however, it has retained a number of its original buildings many of which are in their original state.



The rally commenced on the Friday where 7 vans & 1 motor home and one cabin arrived for the weekend. Friday evening was spent at the National Hotel in Clunes which surprisingly was extremely busy. However, the hotel was great with friendly staff and not too much of a delay.

Saturday saw the arrival of 3 more vans making a total of 10 vans, one motorhome and one cabin for the rally. A prospective member Creina O'Grady also attended in place of Laurie and Pat Burke. It was sad to hear of Laurie's heart condition and the division prepared a get well card for him. We also welcomed Ian McConnell's friend Carol all the way from the UK.

Some spent Saturday morning doing Greg and Marg's cryptic quiz on the historic buildings



and places in Clunes whilst others ventured to nearby towns such as Creswick, Ballarat and Maryborough or just fishing for Redfin in the nearby creek. Saturday afternoon was spent trying to locate the Mount Beckworth camping area. Just how many times can we lose the trail Graeme many asked of him. After travelling on many forgotten tracks in the area we eventually arrived for a well earned cuppa and chat. Not to be outdone, Graeme also managed to get lost coming home! (Google maps were to blame he said!) The rest of Saturday afternoon was spent relaxing and of course attending fivesy's in the Caravan park. We were thrilled to see Denise with us on this rally in tow with little Cruz.



Division 3 – News & Notes

Sunday was an active day beginning with a walk to the Sunday market in Fraser Street which is the main street of Clunes Dot & Graeme went to visit nearby Dayelsford but arrived back to supervise several games of Klop for the Div 3 annual Klop trophy. There were a number of failed attempts interposed with Kerry obtaining the perfect score with just one throw. After the initial elimination rounds the final six of Kerry, Marg, Bev, Ray, Alan & reigning champ Dot fought it out with much gusto. The eventual winner was Ray Andrews with a superbly aimed last throw.

After Klop, Greg marked the Cryptic walk quiz which covered many of the shops in the township. A detailed answer sheet from Bev & Kerry Draper was the eventual winner with a score of 104 out of 108. However, the highlight was the awarding of the prize being a roll of toilet paper which was much sort after at this particular time with a block of chocolate as an ancillary award.

Sunday evening saw us at the clubrooms of the Clunes bowling club for a game of Crazy Whist. As the neighbours across the road were having an all out domestic argument the Crazy Whist game was peaceful by comparison. That's not to say there was some fierce competition. The eventual winners were Deb Anderson ladies with a score of 92 and Ulfur (or Wolf as he is called) who is Greg & Marg's grandson for the men with a score of 87. Suffice to say we all survived the domestic and returned safely to camp however Ulfur couldn't help giving Greg grief over beating him at cards!

Monday was spent packing up with a few travelling to nearby Creswick for a morning coffee.

Many thanks must go to Dot & Graeme for arranging the tour of Mount Beckworth, the Klop and Crazy Whist games. Thanks also to Marg & Greg Heafield for preparing and running the Cryptic Walk.



VICE PRESIDENT:	Luke Tuenissen	Luke.teuna@gmail.com	9752 9564 / 0408 267 255
SECRETARY:	Hayley Hatzivagiannis	racvccdiv4@gmail.com	0413 867 401
TREASURER:	Mandy Smith	mocka1@iprimus.com.au	9799 7494
MARSHAL:	Roger Brown	denisebrown60@hotmail.com	0412 423 430



Daylesford – February 15 - 16

With six families expected at Lake Jubilee Caravan Park, Laurie and Lois Burke arrived just before the Lynch's early Friday afternoon, and both managed to set up just prior to the first rain downpour of the day.

After the rain, one of the local peacocks wandered under the Lynch's awning and was joined by a rosella just to determine who was invading their space.

Mid-afternoon the Shrubshall's arrived, followed later in the day by the Anders with Winning family eventually arriving after a slow and frustrating trip through the city.



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For dinner, everyone did their own thing for Valentines Day; Lindsay and Gill Anders headed into town for gourmet pizzas while David and Sue Shrubshall celebrated Valentines Day in style with oysters and crayfish, and some boisterous company around their fire-pit which continued until early Saturday morning. For the purposes of the newsletter we will say that stories were swapped of experiences travelling to WA and other areas over the past few months, but they weren't the really funny moments that everyone was laughing at.

Saturday morning saw the Shrubshall and Anders families head into town for breakfast, while the Winning family went bush walking. Burke's went into town for a walk, while Lynch's headed to Trentham Farmers Market



and Trentham Falls. Burke's and Lynch's investigated the Mill Markets.

On Saturday afternoon, after hearing that there was some water flowing at Trentham Falls, the Anders, Shrubshall and Winning families headed there to check it out themselves.

Dave and Mandy Smith arrived followed by the Robinson family, making a total of seven families at the Daylesford rally.

Five's was held in an undercover meeting area next to the BBQ and Camp Kitchen. Everyone had a good chat while Daisy the dog made it quietly obvious that she would like to get to know the wandering peacock much better, but "Dad" was on the job and made sure the lead was secure.

After dinner, everyone gathered around Dave and Mandy's van for a couple of games of scavenger hunt. In 4 minutes, Lynch's (19) narrowly beat out the Anders (18) in finding items in their van starting with "S". The kids had their turn with a list of many items and 20 minutes to find as many as they could. Peacock feathers were the favoured feather item found.

For a summer night, the fire-pit was even more welcome on Saturday night as the temperature headed down to the low teens.

Departures on Sunday were staggered, commencing with the stealthy and early departure of Robinson family. Travelling home near midday we left Daylesford in sunshine, but soon ran into heavy fog which reduced only as we neared the Western Highway.

A good weekend, enjoyed by all.



<i>VICE PRESIDENT:</i>	David Breese	div5racv@gmail.com	0417 715 349
<i>SECRETARY:</i>	Gavan Murphy	div5secretary@gmail.com	0417 032 850
<i>TREASURER:</i>	Tony Grigg	winandtony@telstra.com	0409 998 636
<i>MARSHAL:</i>	Bruce Layton	brucellayton@gmail.com	0408 775 545

Maryborough – February 15 - 16

What a great roll-up we had for our first Rally of the year with 12 caravans travelling to the Maryborough Caravan Park. Unfortunately the Alberts didn't make the journey, but we trust all is OK with them now.

There were a few who made the journey on the Thursday, the rest arriving during Friday to a lovely, well appointed park. It is quite large and as luck would have it, we also had a junior basketball tournament happening in Maryborough – so one can imagine we had lots of kids and parents joining in creating a very lively atmosphere throughout the park.

We of course gathered together for “happy hour” and discussed what we had been doing since last meeting and gleaned information as to what was going to happen during this weekend. It was discussed that we may need to look at combining with another Division for a few Rallies because we are finding that very small numbers are attending the mid-year rallies. (This is not only happening to our Division). David and Gavan are asking for thoughts on this and would appreciate feed-back.



Saturday dawned and was very pleasant, the humidity encountered yesterday had disappeared thank goodness, so we had a lovely day ahead, visiting different towns in the area. Most of us motored to Dunolly to the bakery, which we heard had the BEST vanilla slices around the area. I think the lady who was running the shop (with her two granddaughters) had a fit when around 30 of us descended into her shop for morning tea. The township was also waiting for the train to arrive from Melbourne with lots of patrons aboard –



as evidenced with a sausage sizzle being set up by the SES and local fire-brigade volunteers etc. There were also musicians clustered in the park readying themselves for a musical afternoon entertainment. BUT unbeknown to anyone, the train had broken down on the way up and was at least running an hour late. So don't know whether the sausage sizzle was a success or whether the vanilla slices were eaten or not.

Something that we were encouraged to see was the old Cork Tree outside the Dunolly station. It was apparently a ritual that was followed whenever a station was built (back many years ago) that they planted such a tree. This one was planted around 1875 and it is enormous. One was directed to walk into it, (by one of the volunteers at the station) and it was just like walking under a canopy of huge boughs cascading down to the ground but hollowed out so that you can walk around underneath.

Of course all this area was part of the gold rush era of the 1850's and 60's as evidenced by the beautiful architecture of some dwellings, museums with gold rush memorabilia capped off by the grand Maryborough Railway Station standing majestically on the periphery of the city. There was so much to see and do that we all found something different and appealing so that when we came back to enjoy our "happy hour" on Saturday, we all had a story to tell. Our evening was organised with a sausage sizzle, thanks guys and gals for your help in setting this up it was most enjoyable, as always.

Packing up Sunday is always a sad time for some, not for those that had another day or two though. The Talbot Farmers' Market was on the way home for those who had the opportunity to go that way, apparently it is one of the best produce markets in the area. Another wonderful weekend had by all and thanks to all for your company – till next time, safe travelling.

Mortlake – March 7 - 9

Our March rally was held at Mortlake and was followed by a tag along trip to Robe in South

Australia. There was seven vans at the rally and also to taking the tag along trip, everyone had arrived by the Friday and set up for the long weekend. We all caught up for a chat at happy hour which was very enjoyable followed by a great meal at Mack's hotel in town. After dinner we all retired to our caravans for the night.

Saturday commenced with a quick meeting and a cuppa, the weather was sunny at the start but turned overcast for which it stayed the most of the day. In the morning most people walked into town which is close to the park and looked at the shops and had a coffee at the bakery.

After lunch free time was available to do what you liked, half of us stayed to watch the Western District Show Jumping Championships which was an equestrian event being held adjacent to the park with others heading to the Penhurst Volcanoes Discovery Centre and drive up to Mt Rouse an extinct volcano. At the Volcanoes Discovery Centre you found out how volcanoes are formed, their geology, their history in the Western District and a video simulation of Mt Rouse erupting. A great spot to visit and extremely interesting.

Sunday was a warmer day with the sun shining and everyone went for a walk down the street to the market located in the park. After we headed to the shop's for a coffee then back to camp to have lunch. We all went to the show jumping in the afternoon which was great to watch and very relaxing sitting in the afternoon sunshine. Late afternoon was a fun competitive game of Bocce that was won by Brian and Louise.

Monday we all headed to Mount Gambier, all taking various routes and arriving at the destination by 3pm. We stayed at the Pine Country CP which had large drive through sites and close to town.

Tuesday we woke to another sunny day, after breakfast we headed of to visit a number of attractions in Mount Gambier. First we went to the Aquifer Tour at Blue Lake where a guide takes you down to the water supply pump station and explains the geology of the lake,

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workings and history of the pump station. We headed into town for a coffee then onto the Engelbrecht Cave. We traversed down a sinkhole into limestone caves. These caves are known as dry caves as water does not seep through the top because of the basalt surface layer. Sections of the cave network are under water allowing for diving to take place in the crystal clear water.

Tuesday dinner was a roast of beef, lamb and veggies followed up with apple pie. A great meal in the camp kitchen and thanks to all that helped cook and prepare. After dinner we all headed back to our vans for a well earned rest.

Wednesday we headed off to Robe with members taking the Southern Ports Highway. Most travelled into Beachport for a coffee, which was quite picturesque overlooking the sea. We looked around town at the beautiful old buildings and some walked the jetty before continuing on. We all arrived before lunch and set up camp, some relaxed for the afternoon with others exploring the town. The day was sunny but not too hot and we had a pleasant happy hour or two having a chat before having dinner and retiring for the evening.

Thursday was at Robe and was another sunny day. Generally most did their own exploring, looking around the town taking in such sights as the old buildings and their history, the marina that has the fishing fleet, Old Gaol ruins, Old Customs House, Chinese Memorial and the Cape Dombey Obelisk to name a few. All in all a very enjoyable time at Robe, particularly at the Ice-cream Parlour.

Friday we woke to another sunny day but very windy. Three caravans, Mudie's, Murphy's and West's left the rally at Robe to head home with the remaining four heading to Naracoorte via Kingston. We had morning tea here and also visited the "Big Lobster" for a photo. On arrival at Naracoorte we booked into the Showgrounds and settled in. After lunch we headed to the "The Sheep's Back Museum" which explained the history of the wool industry in Australia. A

very interesting and informative display that was well worth the visit. We then went into town for a look around the shops and have a coffee. Happy Hour was at 4:30 which was enjoyable, we then retired for dinner and a rest.

Saturday we headed to St Arnaud for two nights, the day was sunny but very windy for towing. Brian and Louise departed the rally and headed to Bendigo to catch up with friends. On arrival we booked into the St Arnaud caravan park and relaxed for the afternoon. Happy hour was at 4pm followed by a pizza dinner which was quite tasty.

Sunday we headed to the tourist information centre for a look around and get some information about what to do in town. We were provided with a map detailing a walking tour of wall art in the town. The art is painted by local artist Kyle Torney. So far, Mr Torney has completed four murals in St Arnaud featuring local art teacher Andrea Hicks, Australian boxing legends Jeff Fenech and Lionel Rose, resident gold prospector Gary Perry, and a tribute to volunteer firefighters featuring a CFA member. Well worth a visit.

Monday we headed to Avoca and stayed at the caravan park overnight before heading home the next day.

All in all a great trip was had by all. The weather was good for us, travelled through interesting country, relaxed and saw many interesting things. Thanks to Bruce for planning and organising the trip.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

RACV CARAVAN CLUB

Date:

Name in full:

Address:

..... Postcode:

RACV Membership Number: Div:

Phone Number:

Email:

Emergency Contact Name:

Emergency Contact Number:

Membership Fee due 1st September each year \$48.00

New members Fees are Pro Rata at \$4.00 per month
until the next 1st of September
Plus \$40 Joining Fee

Payment Details

Cheque or EFT
RACV Caravan Club BSB: 633 000
Account Number: 162 218 671
(Please use your name as
a reference when using EFT)

Applications to

PO Box 165, Ashburton, VIC 3147
Email: heather.mctaggart@hotmail.com

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