



RACV CARAVAN CLUB

WINTER 2025 NEWSLETTER | VOL. 52 | NO. 194

President's Report

PAGE 3

Tagalong Rally Report

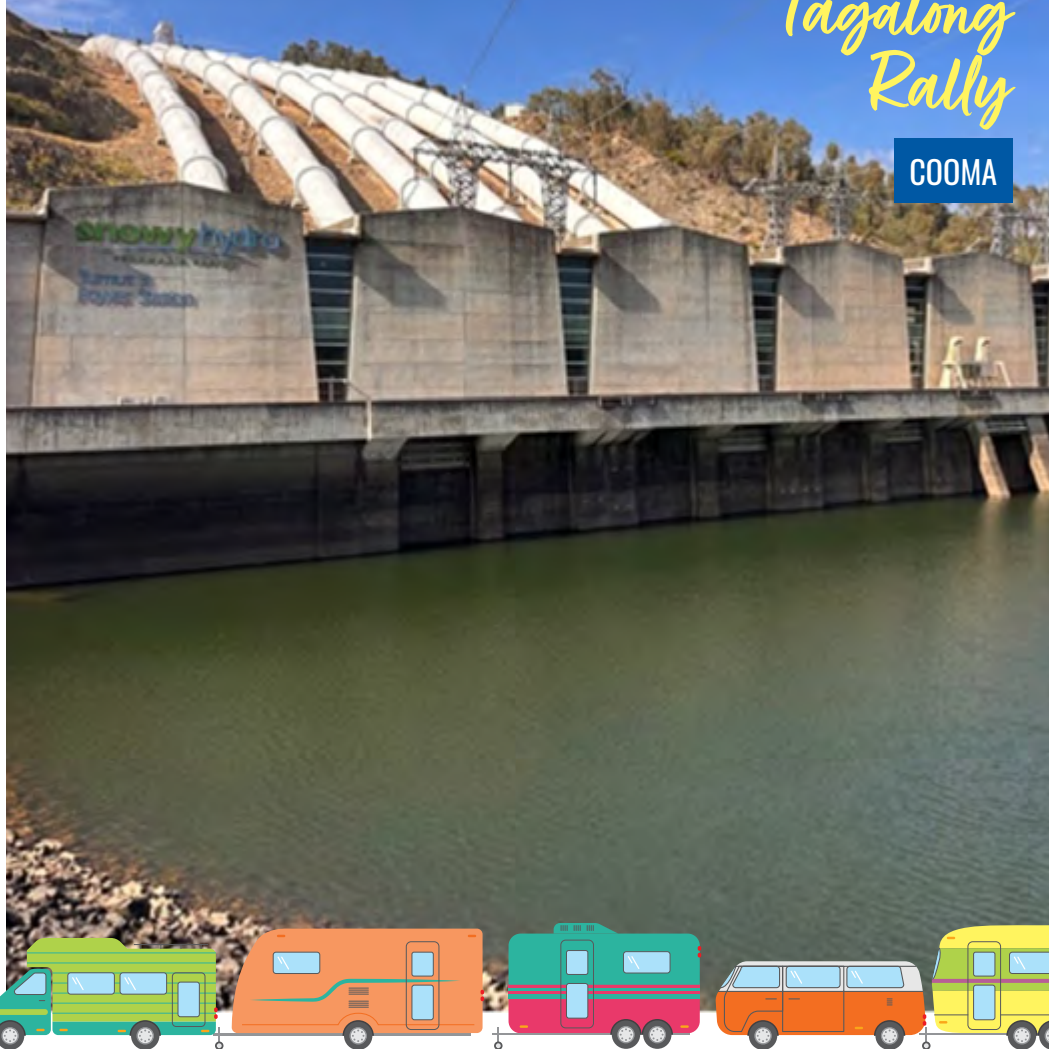
PAGE 5

Divisional Rally Reports

PAGE 13

*Tagalong
Rally*

COOMA



CONTENTS

IN THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT	3
TAGALONG RALLY REPORT	5
DIVISIONAL RALLY REPORTS	13
Division 1, 2 & 3	14
Division 4	20
Division 5	26
Division 6	37
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM	40
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM	41

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DETAILS

President	Laura Muller	laura.muller01@outlook.com	0408 620 168
Secretary	Cherie Evans	cherie.evans@outlook.com.au	0404 851 025
Treasurer	Ric Luiyf	rluiyf@bigpond.com	0407 858 149
Past President	Robert Taylor	rta45179@bigpond.net.au	0423 027 209
Activities Director	Anne Cecil	bj.plastics@bigpond.com	0418 346 925
Newsletter & Website	Julie Mason	julierat6@gmail.com	0408 791 449
New Member Specialist	Cherie Evans	cherie.evans@outlook.com.au	0404 851 025

Newsletter Material to: The Editor: Julie Mason Email: julierat6@gmail.com
Please ensure all newsletter material reaches the editor by the Thursday after the rally!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

And just like that, winter has arrived, bringing a sharp drop in temperatures.

Despite the chill, the enthusiasm at recent rallies remains high, with plenty of fun still being had. Safe travels to those lucky members heading north in search of warmer weather!

Club Policies and Procedures

The Executive Committee has been working diligently to update our club's policies and procedures. One important new addition is the Media Consent Policy. This aligns with practices adopted by many other clubs and organizations and will now be a condition of membership. This form can be downloaded from the Club website.

Important:

You are not required to consent to your photo being used to be a member. However, you must still complete and submit the Media Consent Form indicating your preferences to the Executive Committee.

Without your consent, we cannot publish any photos of you in divisional newsletters, the Club's quarterly newsletter, or on the Club's Facebook page. Thank you to the many members who have already submitted their forms, and to the divisional secretaries for ensuring only approved images are used.

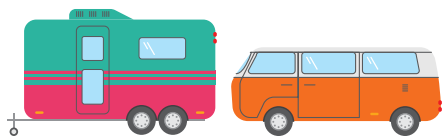
The Social Media policy update is also being finalised. Once complete, a copy will be distributed to all members.

Membership Renewal

It's almost time to renew your membership, as our membership year runs from September 1st to August 31st. We're pleased to let you know that the annual fee remains unchanged at \$60 for the coming year. To ensure your membership continues without interruption, please arrange payment into the club's Bendigo Bank account by September 1st.

A renewal form is included in this newsletter and can also be downloaded from the Club website. Once completed, it should be returned to the Club Secretary, Cherie Evans either by post or by email to Cherie.evans@outlook.com.au.

As a reminder, renewing your membership means you are agreeing to uphold the Club Constitution, follow the Code of Conduct, complete the Media Consent Form, and comply with the Club's Social Media policy. These documents together form the conditions of your membership.



Executive Committee Nominations

A nomination form for Club Office Bearer positions on the Executive Committee is included in this newsletter and can be downloaded from the Club website. If you are interested in nominating for one of these roles, please complete the form and return it to the Club Secretary, Cherie Evans either by post or by email to Cherie.evans@outlook.com.au no later than August 10th.

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place on November 16th at the 2nd Bayswater Scout Hall. More details will be available in our Spring newsletter.

Now is the perfect time to talk about your divisional committee for next year. If your current committee are not planning to continue on, think about putting your hand up to fill one of the roles. Working on these committees is very rewarding.

2025 State Rally

This year's State rally was held at Lakes Entrance from March 14th – 17th. Our club was represented by members of Divisions 1, 3 and 5 attending the rally. It appears all who went had a terrific time and got to know many other like-minded caravanners!

Moving to 2026, the State Rally is being hosted by the Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria and will be held in Myrtleford from March 20-23. Roger Hadgraft from Division 5 is the State Rally Coordinator and is supported on the State Rally team by Kerryn Maxwell and Julian Ketskemety from Division 1. Keep an eye out for more information on how to book in for this rally. This weekend has been authorised as an alternate rally weekend in the 2026 calendar.

2025 National Rally

The 19th National Rally is being held in Mudgee NSW from September 29 – October 7 this year. Obviously, a popular rally across the nation with no more sites being available to book. Our club will be well represented at this rally as well with many of our members heading along to make connections with other caravanners from all around our country. Any members who attend the National Rally will be credited with a rally point for the October rally so do not need to rush to their divisional venue.

In 2028, Victoria is hosting the 20th National Rally in Bendigo from April 3 - 12. For anyone who has never been to a National Rally, have a chat with one of our many members who have participated in one (or many) of these terrific events. You can also have a look at the 20th National Rally website at www.vnr.org.au to find out more and register to go.

Combined Christmas Rally

Lots of work is going on behind the scenes for our combined Christmas rally at Elmore. Costs, booking details and weekend program will be sent out in the coming months to allow plenty of time to finalise everything.

Hope you all find a way to stay warm while rallying over the next few months. Safe travels to all!

LAURA MULLER
PRESIDENT



TAGALONG RALLY REPORT

EDEN, COOMA AND TUMUT

Our March tagalong rally commenced at Lakes Entrance after the ACCVic State rally which concluded on Monday morning after morning tea in the camp kitchen. ACCVic President thanked the committee and those who attended and wished safe travel's home.

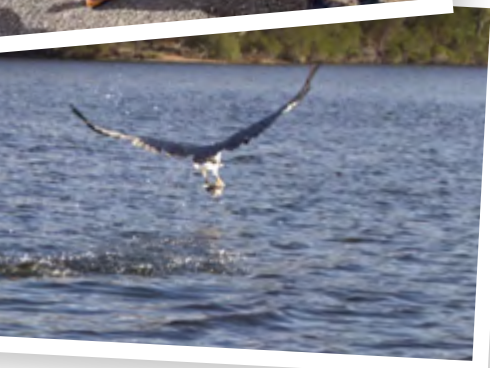
Day 1 Monday - Lakes Entrance to Mallacoota.

Instead of going home seven caravans headed off for Mallacoota that is surrounded by the magnificent wilderness of the Croajingolong National Park and set on the picturesque Mallacoota Inlet. Mallacoota was about 200 kilometres from Lakes Entrance, about a 2 ½ hour drive so it wasn't a big day of travelling in the car. We were all surprised by how green and lush the country side was along the way when compared to the rest of the state. We stopped at Cann River for a short break before reaching Mallacoota about 1:00pm. Our accommodation was at the Mallacoota Foreshore Holiday Park, a large park overlooking the sea and lakes. After booking in we quickly set up and relaxed for the afternoon, being a nice sunny day some went for walks along the foreshore or into town to do some shopping. We all gathered at 4:30 for happy hour and enjoyed a chat over drinks and nibbles before retiring for the day.

Day 2 Tuesday - Mallacoota

It was a sunny day and the morning activities was a trip to a World War 2 bunker and a drive to Pebbly Beach. It was a short drive out of Mallacoota to the original WWII Operations





Bunker that was built in 1942 as an Advanced Operations Base. It was a high security Installation and formed part of a chain of defence bases around the Australian Coastline. It was used by the RAAF during WWII for Communications and housed wireless equipment and trained operators who were listening to coastal shipping and gathering intelligence to protect coastal shipping and keep the sea lanes open. Inside the bunker there was an excellent video about the bunker's history and Mallacoota's contribution to the war effort. The display of equipment and photos from the time was interesting, well worth the visit.

After leaving the bunker we headed for Pebbly Beach which was not too far away. Driving for a few kilometres down a well-made dirt road we arrived at a small car parking area where we left the cars for a short walk to the beach. The beach was sandy with great sea views and interesting rock formations. After exploring and taking many pictures, we headed back to camp for lunch and a relaxing afternoon. For happy hour we headed to a lookout point which was a short walk from our camp site. We finish off our day overlooking Mallacoota Inlet and the ocean, it was enjoyable time and a great spot to chat and sit back taking in the sunny afternoon over drinks and snacks.

Day 3 Wednesday - Mallacoota

Today was left free to relax or as Alan did, play some golf. It was another fine day and for afternoon tea we all went on a boat trip on the Mallacoota Lakes. Departing from the wharf we boarded the Loch-Ard for a 2 hour cruise. Dale, the skipper of the Loch-Ard provided excellent commentary about the boat and its history and different features around the lake system. At our furthest point we stopped for afternoon tea and Dale was also able to attract the local Sea Eagles by tempting them with chicken wings. These majestic birds with their excellent eyesight swooped down close to the boat providing excellent photo opportunities. The trip concluded

at 6pm, being our last night at Mallacoota and to also farewell 2 of the group heading back to Melbourne, we decided to go the hotel for dinner. There was plenty of meals to choose from the menu, and they arrived quickly after having order. We all enjoyed the time before heading back to camp and retiring for the evening.

Day 4 Thursday – Mallacoota to Eden

We farewelled Greg and Marylyn, and Alan and Meryl this morning as they headed back to Melbourne, leaving 5 caravans to continue the journey. Our destination today was Eden, a short trip of 79klm, therefore, there was no hurry to get away early. We departed Mallacoota at 10am and arrived at Eden about 11am. Today was left free to explore the town, David had to undertake some repairs to the water pump having developed a leak and was quickly fixed. A large cruise ship was in port which was interesting to see as it dwarfed the dock area. After happy hour we went to a lookout point to see the ship depart and head out to sea.

Day 5 Friday – Eden

We woke to rain which didn't stop until 2pm. The trip we planned to Green Cape Lighthouse was cancelled, and we decided to go to the Killer Whale Museum as an alternative. The museum had a large number for artifacts based on the shore-based whaling industry and told the interesting story of the unique working relationship between the whalers and killer whales of Twofold Bay. As whales headed south the killer whales would herd and hold other whale species into Twofold Bay and alert whalers of there presents. The whalers, in return would reward the killer whales with parts of the harvested whales. The skeleton of "Old Tom", the most famous of the killer whales is on display as the centre piece of the exhibits.





After the museum the day was left free to explore or relax. Happy hour was a good time to catch up and chat about the days activities. The caravan park had a food van in the evening and a few of us indulged in burgers or hot dogs which were delicious.

Day 6 Saturday – Eden

Today, with the weather having improved, our group headed off to Green Cape Lighthouse located in the Ben Boyd National Park. After a 45 minute drive from Eden, we arrived at the car park and then made the short walk to the Lighthouse and lookout with its spectacular views over the Tasman Sea.

Green Cape Lighthouse is the southernmost lighthouse in NSW and made the record books when it was built in 1883 as Australia's first concrete lighthouse tower. Standing at 29m high, the whitewashed tower overlooks a rugged stretch of the Sapphire Coast.

Despite the presence of the lighthouse a major shipwreck occurred in May 1886. The SS Ly-ee-moon en route to Sydney from Melbourne, struck a reef close to the Green Cape at night. 71 people were lost with the lighthouse keepers only being able to save 15 people.

After Green Cape, we headed off to Boyds Tower which was built in 1847 and stands 23 metres high, it was constructed from Pyrmont sandstone brought by steamer from Sydney. It was originally built as a lighthouse, but the government considered it unsuitable and therefore was never used as a lighthouse, although it did serve as a whale-spotting site. The structure is in good condition for its age and well worth the visit.

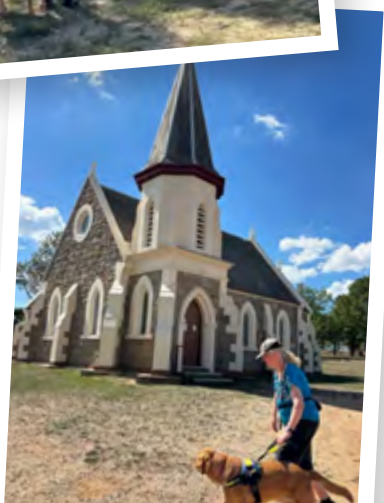
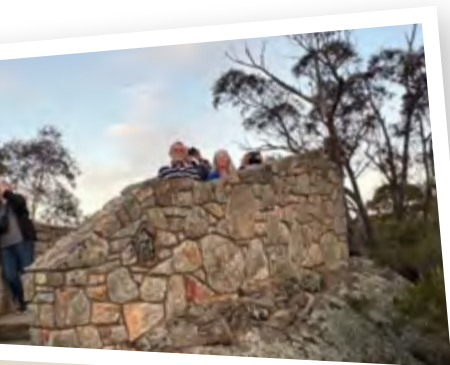
Leaving Boyds Tower we headed back towards Eden and stopped at Boydton and Seahouse Inn for lunch, just making it in time before the kitchen closed. Being a nice day, we sat outside in the garden area and enjoyed our meals overlooking Twofold Bay.

The Seahorse Inn was originally built for Ben Boyd in 1843 using convict labour. Boyd had arrived in Sydney in 1842, set up a bank, bought a paddle-steamer named Seahorse and decided that Twofold Bay would be ideal as the harbour for his operations. However, the cost of establishing Boydtown began to affect him financially and in 1849 the liquidators were called in. The Seahorse Inn was abandoned that year and the incomplete hotel lay vacant for nearly a century. Inevitably it suffered the ravages of decay and vandalism. It wasn't until 1936 that the Whiter family renovated the ruin, added an extra storey and created the modern building it is today.

Day 7 Sunday – Eden to Cooma

It was time to move on to our next destination, Cooma. We left Eden about 10am taking the Princess Highway to Kingswood then turning off onto the Snowy Mountains Highway towards Cooma. It was a sunny morning but as we approached the Great Divide, thick fog set in making the windy climb through the mountains somewhat slower than anticipated. On reaching the other side safely, it was like opening a door, the fog was gone, and a sunny day was once again back. It was approaching lunch time and after going through the hills, a break was needed so we stopped at the small town of Nimmitabel, which had a good traveller's rest area with ample parking for us all. It was a short walk to the bakery up the street for food and drinks before heading onto Cooma. At Cooma we booked in and relaxed for the remainder of the afternoon. We had our traditional happy hour before heading off to Mount Gladstone Lookout to take in the sunset and its spectacular views of the Monaro Plains. The sunset was a great way to finish the day.





Day 8 Monday – Cooma

Our morning was taken up with a visit to Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre in Cooma. The centre provided an excellent history of the Snowy Scheme with displays of artifacts, pictures and dioramas. Over the course of construction, more than 100,000 people from more than 30 countries worked on the Scheme. The Scheme drove a wave of engineering innovation. It introduced the development of 'rockbolting' – a safer and cheaper alternative to concrete lining for supporting rock in tunnel walls. In 1960, 'Snocom' was Australia's first transistorised computer and one of the first dozen or so computers in the world. It helped ensure the Scheme was completed on-time and within budget, by completing engineering and design calculations. Safety practices on the Scheme were well ahead of comparable projects around the world at that time. The Authority made wearing of seatbelts compulsory in all vehicles in 1960, a decade before the rest of the country.

After lunch we went for a drive to explore the town of Jindabyne. Our first stop was the Snowy Region Visitor Centre run by the NSW Parks Service. The centre provide a short video on the Kosciusko National Park, its Aboriginal heritage and wildlife. And a small gallery with local art exhibits. The was also a display of corroboree frogs that were difficult to find due their impressive camouflage. We left the centre and went for a drive around part of the lake and stopped to take some pictures.

Dinner tonight was at the Cooma Ex Services Club where we celebrated Terry's birthday. It was an enjoyable evening relaxing after a big day exploring the area. Hope you had a great day Terry.

Day 9 Tuesday – Cooma to Angler's Reach

Today we continued along the Snowy Mountain Highway to Angler's Reach for our overnight stay. It was another short trip being about an hour from Cooma. After lunch we headed to Adaminaby to visit the Snowy Scheme Museum only to find it closed, fortunately there was still a bit of equipment outside that was used on the Snowy Scheme that we could look at. Across the road from the museum was the Big Trout, a must photo opportunity. We explored the town and after coffee we headed off to Lake Eucumbene and Old Adaminaby to explore, stopping at the picnic area and boat ramp to view the lake.

Day 10 Wednesday – Angler's Reach to Tumut

Leaving Angler's Reach about 9:30, we headed back to the highway for our journey to Tumut about 3 hours away. Parts of our trip was very steep and in one spot we descended over 1000 meters over 7 kilometres. Along the way we stopped at the Kiandra Heritage Precinct for morning tea, the precinct was originally a courthouse during the gold era but now serves as a great rest stop, with fantastic views. We arrived at our caravan park late morning and had the afternoon free to explore the Tumut township. Some of us went to the famous Tumut Broom Factory where you could see a variety of different brooms being made, you also had the opportunity to purchase one if you wanted. The evening provided us with a spectacular rainbow display approaching sunset which was interesting to see.





Day 11 Thursday – Tumut

Today's adventures was a trip to Talbingo, Tumut3 power station about 40 minutes out of Tumut and Adelong Falls Gold Mining Ruins. Travelling back along the Snowy Mountain Highway we passed Blowering Dam and Talbingo to arrive at Tumut 3 Power Station. Construction commenced in 1968 with its completion in 1974. Tumut 3 is the largest power station in the Snowy Scheme and its pipes had to be made onsite as they were too large to bring in by truck. To allow for water pressure the pipes steel is 19mm thick at the top and increase to 30mm at the power station. Each pipe is 488m long and 5.6m in diameter. Amazing to see. From the power station we travelled to Talbingo Dam, water storage for Tumut 3. We stopped for pictures on the dam wall before arriving at the boat ramp and picnic area for a walk and look around. We headed back to Talbingo for a quick look around, the town was a construction camp during construction of Tumut 3 and now a holiday destination for those that like fishing. Heading back to Tumut we stopped at Blowering Dam, as the dam was low, we were able to drive down onto the dam and waters edge that provided great views of the dam wall. We then went to Adelong Falls Gold Mining Ruins. Gold mining in Adelong Creek took place around the 1870's, the Reefer Battery ore crushing mill on the creek could be easily seen from the viewing area. The site has a great undercover picnic area where we had lunch before heading back to camp for a rest then happy hour. This being our last day of the tag along trip we decided to have a pizza dinner, the guys headed off to the pizza shop and arrived back at the park with the feast. It was a great wat to end our trip, great company, a warm evening and fantastic food.

Day 12 Friday – Home

We all headed off today for home or a slower pace with stops along the way.

All in all another fantastic trip taking in some spectacular and interesting parts of our country.

DIVISIONAL RALLY REPORTS

DIV 1, 2 & 3 RALLY REPORT

COMMITTEE DETAILS

Vice President	Div 1	Steve Clark	bj.plastics@bigpond.com	0419 369 728
	Div 2	Allan Jennings	ayjay357@bigpond.com	0458 219 279
	Div 3	Dot Penny	pennyspack@gmail.com	0411 899 935
Secretary	Div 1	Kevin Kennelly	kfkennelly@gmail.com	0407 000 734
	Div 2	Bill Penney	twopennies@bigpond.com	0436 411 000
	Div 3			
Treasurer	Div 1			
	Div 2	Ken Slade	kmsjes1@bigpond.com	0490 338 037
	Div 3			
Marshal	Div 1	Kerryn Maxwell	kerrynmaxwell9@hotmail.com	
	Div 2	Pat Glover	jpglover@hotmail.com	9733 4827 0438 610 124
	Div 3			



CAPEL SOUND

April

Capel Sound Foreshores proved an irresistible rally for the 15 vans that attended. This included members of all 3 divisions, plus some visitors! We enjoyed beautiful autumn weather, large sites by the Bay, and good company. Friday night started early with the usual pre-dinner drinks and nibbles, then we had a short walk across the road for good Italian food at La Porchetta.

Saturday began slowly, then social time over Morning Tea in the camp kitchen. After lunch most of us headed to Kerryn's workplace, Southern Plants Wholesale Nursery, Dromana, for a guided tour of their huge property. Acres of seedlings and plants on a scale we couldn't imagine, supplying all Bunnings stores in Vic, Sth Aus, NSW and Tassie. Golf-buggies were provided for all those who wanted. Special thanks to Kerryn for organising this! Later our Happy Hour included games of Finska, tea was pre-ordered Fish and Chips and hot cross buns were provided for dessert.

Sunday morning was farewell and safe travel for some, a later midday check-out for others, and an extended weekend for those who wanted to stay a night or two longer. Once again a successful, relaxed and welcome weekend caravanning together.



Later our Happy Hour included games of Finska...

BRIDGEWATER

May

With everyone's caravan set up complete, an enjoyable Friday late afternoon catchup with drinks and nibbles was shared in the lovely camp kitchen in the park. The Caravan club uniform and photo publicity form were discussed and the drawing of the lucky van prize (write the newsletter report) was sorted. Dot and Graeme had caravan trouble so were staying at the hotel and came to chat before joining us all for dinner. Most of the group opted for the short walk that took us along the pretty treelined river footpath and safely to the Bridgewater Hotel where everyone enjoyed their meals and conversations. The return walk was in the dark but the foot path lighting was great until it ran out just before the Parks access gate but some of us had phones and the torch function worked well. Everyone headed off to their vans to warm up and rest after the days big drive.

Saturday morning was cold but once the sun came up it was lovely. Some fishing rods came out and there was talk of a 1mt Cod being caught by someone in the park but I believe there was no such luck for our lines.

We enjoyed morning tea together before everyone headed off at their leisure to see the sights. I believe most looked at the Eucalyptus Distillery Museum at Inglewood and looked through the various brick a brac shops and the local winery for a tasting or the local bakery for some tasty treats.



Late afternoon came around all too soon and it was time for a fire to ward off the chill in the air. The sky looked like it might rain but we only had a minute of drizzle before it disappeared. The Caravan Park donated the fire pit and 2 bags of wood for us to use. So, with a cozy fire burning we had a few drinks and nibbles while Steve gave the VP report. Some of us braved the chill and cooked and ate dinner in the camp kitchen and stayed around after, chatting around the fire.

Sunday with a chilly breeze again we packed up and soon were saying goodbyes to everyone who was heading home. Another great weekend had come to an end.

The sky looked like it might rain but we only had a minute of drizzle before it disappeared.



MULWALA

June

Dive 123 was in mowala, over the kings Birthday long weekend, 10 vans braved the wet and cold, we had the comfit of staying at the sky club caravan park, walking distance to the club.

Over the weekend being cold and wet it didn't stop us from sight seeing, such as walking the main street of yarrawanga, picking up little treasures along the way, or even just a coffee, opp shop was a must to find some quirky soup mugs. There was markets winery's, gin distillers, some of our members were happy to stay in their Van's to read, knit, or jig saw making.

Friday night was pizza and pasta at the club, Saturday was a soup night, our members made a variety of soups, lamb and veg, potatoe and leek, pumpkin, tomato, chicken and minestrone, we all gathered in the small but cosy camp kitchen.

Saturday night mowala sky club has a free light show, some members braved the cold and rain to watch. As they played music, the light beam would dance over lake Mowala to create the show.

Sunday afternoon tea we all were invited for cake and coffee at Steve and Donnas thanks guys it was a great catch up.

Sunday night was back at the club for Chinese it was very tasty, we all rolled out of there feeling full and satisfied.

Monday as we packed up, with the sun ray's beaming down on us typical whens it's time to leave.

All in All it was a great rally untill next month take care and look after yourself.





DIV 4 RALLY REPORT

COMMITTEE DETAILS

Vice President	Robbie Booth	robbiebooth@hotmail.com	0413 222 203
Secretary	Michelle Sommers	Racvccdiv4@gmail.com	0422 286 642
Treasurer	Lauren Clarke		
Marshal	Ben George		

CORRIEMUNGLE

April

With 18 caravans in attendance and one cabin, the Easter weekend got off to a wonderful start, filled with great company and plenty of things to look forward to.

Several members arrived as early as Wednesday, settling in and making the most of the peaceful surroundings. On Thursday night, members gathered at the Simpson Hotel for dinner. Katie and Jason almost didn't make it after realising they'd headed to the wrong destination — thankfully, a 30-minute detour got them there in time. Unfortunately, two meals were missed in the kitchen shuffle, but overall the meal was enjoyed.

Friday began with a light drizzle, but it soon cleared to a pleasant day. Some members explored the 12 Apostles, capping off their outing with fish and chips. Meanwhile, Caroline, Brad, Katie, and Jason came across an apple tree on the roadside during their drive to Port Campbell. They picked apples, which were later turned into a warm and delicious apple crumble for that evening's dessert.



Back at the park, others enjoyed the scenery and facilities, while the younger members had a go at frisbee golf. In the afternoon, everyone gathered for hot cross buns, followed by 5ZZZ. Dinner was enjoyed either in the dining hall or around the campfire, bringing everyone together at the end of a lovely day.

Saturday started with a hearty breakfast provided by the committee: pancakes with all the toppings, and yes — more hot cross buns. After breakfast, many visited the Timboon Market, exploring local stalls and produce. Following the market, a group went strawberry picking, returning with punnets of fresh berries — a sweet reward for their efforts.

Lunch was enjoyed along the local food trail, with some stopping at Schulz Organic Dairy Café, others visiting the Delicious Farm Fudge Café, and a few finding their way back to the Simpson

Hotel once again. Scattered showers didn't dampen anyone's spirits, and by late afternoon we welcomed more members and guests: Warren, Joanne, Thomas, Emily, Felicity, James, Sally, Mary, Nathaniel, Jason's and Eda.

That evening, we met in the great dining hall for a shared community meal. With plenty of apples left from the day before, Caroline, Colleen, and Campbell prepared another apple crumble, enjoyed with cream and ice cream. One helpful member had everyone smiling after discovering she'd used vegetable oil instead of dishwashing liquid — and couldn't quite figure out why her plates were still slippery!

Raffle winners were:

🍷 Eric & Sharon

🍷 Carol & Laurie

🍷 Caroline & Brad





A group ventured out to Apostle Whey Cheese and Gorge Chocolates...



Sunday brought excitement for the kids as the Easter Bunny made a visit. Once the Easter egg hunt began, there was a blur of colour as children dashed off in every direction, quickly filling their baskets with treats. Morning tea followed, giving everyone a chance to come together, share stories, and enjoy a few laughs.

Later in the morning, we welcomed Belinda and Steve Martin back from their trip to Tasmania. Following their arrival, a group ventured out to Apostle Whey Cheese and Gorge Chocolates, enjoying the delicious local produce and sweet treats. The day was finished off with a relaxing visit to the Sow & Piglets Brewery, where a few members sampled the local brews before heading back to camp. The evening wrapped up with more conversation and plenty of laughter around the campfire.



Monday morning was relaxed, with no need to rush. Many enjoyed the last of the morning tea before packing up and heading back to daily life.

Thank you to everyone who came along and helped make the weekend such a success. We look forward to seeing you at our next rally in Cowes.

COWES

May

Welcome to Phillip Island!

Our May Rally took us to the beautiful Anchor Belle Caravan Park in Cowes, Phillip Island. This was a special combined rally with Division 6, and it was wonderful to see some familiar faces we hadn't seen for a while.

In total, there were 21 vans from Division 4, one visiting van from Division 5 (Lisa and Russell), and three trialling member groups—Debra & Geoff, Ash & Nic, and Debbie. It was fantastic to welcome some new faces to the group.

Friday Fun on the Greens

Some members who arrived early on Friday enjoyed a friendly game of croquet at a local club—thanks to Mike for organising this relaxing start to the weekend.

Saturday Sights

We kicked off Saturday with a shared morning tea featuring delicious cakes and slices—and Ben's famous sausage rolls, which didn't last long at all!

After some lively conversations and a cuppa, members set off in different directions to explore the island:

- Some braved the weather and headed out to The Nobbies.
- Others enjoyed a stroll through the main street, stopping for coffee and browsing the shops.
- A group visited the Vietnam War Museum, followed by a classic sausage-in-bread lunch at the beach.
- A visit to clip n climb for some of the kids to celebrate Harry's Birthday

4zzzz & Birthday Fun

In the afternoon, we gathered again for 4zzzz, another chance to catch up over some good food and a drink of choice. We also celebrated Harry's birthday with cupcakes and fairy bread—Happy Birthday, Harry!

Dinner at the RSL

That evening, about 70 of us went out for dinner at the local RSL. A great meal was enjoyed by all, and while some called it an early night, others kept the fun going in the camp kitchen—rumour has it a few didn't get to bed until 2am!

Sunday Farewells

Sunday morning saw a mix of early departures and a few brave souls enjoying a quick dip in the pool before our 11am checkout.

Thanks to everyone who came along and made the weekend such a success. Until next time—happy travels!



COBRAM

June

Seventeen vans. Six -hour drives. One trivia champion named Sir Burp-a-lot.

Now that's how you rally, folks!

We had a fantastic turnout in Cobram, including visitors from Division 1 – Phillip and Michelle Bright. Some members clocked up to six hours on the road to join the fun, and their efforts certainly paid off.

Friday Night – The Early Bird Special

The keen beans (mostly retirees who don't wait for weekends to start having fun) gathered Friday evening at the Barooga Sporties Club. Sixteen members enjoyed a no-fuss, no-muss dinner, with a big thank you to the courtesy bus that made sure no one got lost or left behind. The meals were solid, the company was top-notch, and the weekend was off to a great start.

Saturday – Clouds, Cobram, and Clever Cookies

Saturday served up cool temperatures with the occasional tease of sunshine. Members regrouped in the morning for a well-earned cuppa and morning tea, sharing stories, snacks, and a few layers of clothing to keep the chill at bay.

That afternoon, groups set out to explore Cobram's local delights. Some took in the sights, others browsed the shops, and a few hunted down the town's best coffee (verdict still pending).

But the real action kicked off that evening in the camp kitchen, where we defied the cold and dove headfirst into TRIVIA NIGHT – hosted by our very own quiz wizard, Ben. A round of applause for the effort he put in; it was entertaining, well-paced, and just competitive enough to cause minor squabbling among teams.

Seven teams joined the brain-busting fun – including a fearless kids' team, who gave the adults something to think about.

Top 3 Scores:

- 👑 Sir Burp-a-lot – 53 points
- 🥈 Winners are Grinners – 52 points
- 🥉 The BBs – 51 points

(We suspect a few lucky guesses... or very educated flukes.)



Sunday – Chilly With a Side of Bacon

If you thought Saturday was cold, Sunday was sooo cold, But our trusty committee delivered with a hot breakfast of bacon and egg sangas, making it all worthwhile.

Later, some members treated themselves to afternoon tea at the delightful Strawberry Café, while others defrosted in the heated pool and spa – a genius move if ever there was one.

A special thanks to Michelle Sommers, who debuted her brand-new Thermomix to whip up a batch of warm, fluffy scones.

Dinner was at the Barooga Hotel, where bellies were filled and stories were shared. The perfect end to a wintry Sunday.

Monday – Sunshine & Stitches (Almost)

We woke to a beautiful sunny morning – because of course the sun comes out when it's time to pack up.

But what's a rally without a little drama? Poor Ben managed to headbutt his awning and earned himself a nasty gash that looked like it might need stitches. Luckily, Nurse Jo came to the rescue with calm hands and a first-aid kit. A hero in every sense!

Home Time

Some lucky members rolled north to chase the sun, while others braved the southern route back to Melbourne's chilly welcome. Either way, we all left with full bellies, happy hearts, and maybe just a touch of trivia-induced brain fog.

Thanks to everyone who made this another memorable rally. Until next time

Brad & Caroline Lee



DIV 5 RALLY REPORTS

COMMITTEE DETAILS

Vice President	David Breese	dave.58@hotmail.com	0425 715 349
Secretary	Gay Blake	RACVCC-Div5@outlook.com	
Treasurer	Tony Grigg	winandtony@telstra.com	0409 998 636
Marshal	Mounir Michael	Marshall-racvdiv5@hotmail.com	0423 217 358



STATE RALLY

LAKES ENTRANCE

March

Once a year the Association of Caravan Clubs Victoria (ACCVic) hosts a caravan and RV rally in country Victoria, for 2025 Lakes Entrance was the location for the event with 8 affiliated clubs from around the state attending. We stayed at Eastern Beach Holiday Park and as the name suggests, just a short walk to the beach making it an ideal spot to relax, catch up with old friend and make new ones. ACCVic did a fantastic job organising and running the event with a well thought out program of activities for the weekend.

The RACVCC was well represented with 17 caravans in attendance from different divisions. Our club joined in all the activities and mixed well during the event and caught up at happy hour for a chat. It was also great to see a number of our newer members attend their first State Rally.

Arriving Friday, everyone set up their caravan or RV and headed to the marquee provided by the local Rotary Club to register, receive a welcome pack with a club representative hanging their club flag. The weather was warm and sunny, but it was pleasant in the marquee with the ocean breeze flowing through whilst everyone chatted over drinks and snacks. 8 clubs from various parts of Victoria participated in the rally, Alan Andrews the ACCVic President welcomed everyone attending and provided an update of the weekend activities. Following Alan, the President of Victorian National Rally Committee, Rob Taylor provided an update on the upcoming national rally to be held in Bendigo in 2028.

A BBQ dinner of sausages, burgers and salads was provided by the organisers ACCVic and kindly cooked and served by the Gippsland Caravan Club. There was plenty of food to go round and it was cooked to perfection and enjoyed by all.

The time passed quickly but all good things must come to an end, we all headed back to our RVs for a rest.



A BBQ dinner of sausages, burgers and salads was provided by the organisers ACCVic...



Saturday, we woke to another sunny day. First item on the agenda was a long table breakfast in the marquee, where everyone came together for breakfast and briefed on the day's activities. The morning was left free for people to explore Lakes Entrance and its wonderful esplanade or attend morning coffee at the Waterwheel Beach Tavern at Lake Tyres Beach. It was the perfect place for a coffee and chat whilst looking out over Lake Tyers and the 90-mile beach. After coffee some went for a walk along the beach before heading back to camp for lunch. There were several activities organised for the afternoon and were well attended, the painting class was very popular, and the budding artists tried their hand at water colour and acrylic paints. Committee member Ken who belongs to the Coromal Club, who is an artist, provided excellent instructions on how to mix colours and techniques of painting with water paints. During this session we painted bookmarks and Christmas cards to take home.

The 'Sit and Stitch' session was run by Janice from Div 5. Members brought their own knitting, patchwork and other items to work on while chatting and sharing ideas. A very talented group had an enjoyable time, and their craft looked amazing.

Members bought their own knitting, patchwork and other items to work on while chatting...

The games group run by Jen from Gippsland Caravan Club, enjoyed playing botchy, disk bowls, putt-golf and fiska during the afternoon. A fierce competition pursued with dreams one and lost by the avid participants determined to win. After a couple hours of intense battles on the field, painting or craft it was time to relax over drinks and nibbles and tell stories of what could have been.

An outdoor film screening on The Green was scheduled following the regular afternoon Happy Hour and Bring Your Own Everything (BYOE) dinner at the marquee. Unfortunately, it had to be cancelled due to the projectionist's health issues. The marquee for table games and socialising to the rescue.

Sunday morning, we woke to an overcast sky but this did not deter us going on optional tours that had been planned. Two groups headed off, one to Buchanan Caves and the other a boat trip on the Gippsland Lakes.

The Buchanan Caves was a pleasant 45-minute drive from the caravan park through the picturesque countryside. Arriving at the caves we all gathered and walked up to the Royal Cave entrance where our National Park guide was waiting. After a short introduction we headed into several spectacular caverns of lime formations created almost 400 million years ago from underground rivers. It was amazing to see the stalagmites and stalagmites formations, pillars and rim pools. A must see if in the area.

The Gippsland Lake cruise was run by Peels Cruises, a family-owned business operating for four generations since 1920, the longest running cruise company on the Gippsland Lakes. Leaving from their jetty we





boarded the Seabird. Fortunately, it was a calm morning and the water was flat calm. The sightseeing trip passed The Entrance, a man-made channel linking the lake to the ocean, into Reeves Channel before heading to the little town of Metung. On return we detoured up The Entrance to see seals relaxing on the rock wall. During the trip the skipper provided commentary of the area and lake features. Interestingly, it took 20 years to cut The Entrance, completing it in 1889, and there are approximately 45,000 cormorants in the lakes complex. We were lucky that our major attractions were in the morning as the weather turned wet and cold in the afternoon, resulting in the proposed Mini Golf being a wash out.

Dinner was organised at the Lakes Entrance Golf Club, a short drive from the caravan park. The hotel had a good selection of meals and catered for people with dietary needs. Pre-ordered meals arrived reasonably quick and everyone enjoyed their meal and the company before heading back to camp for the evening.

The State Rally concluded with a coffee gathering in the camp kitchen on Monday morning. ACCVic President Alan thanked the committee and members for their attendance and participation, provided answers to the Welcome Pack Quiz, invited all to next year's event at Myrtleford, and wished everyone safe travels home. Overall, it was another fantastic State Rally enjoyed by all. Thanks to ACCVic for another great weekend, well organised and run with plenty to do.

*Overall, it was
another fantastic
State Rally
enjoyed by all...*



WERRIBEE

May



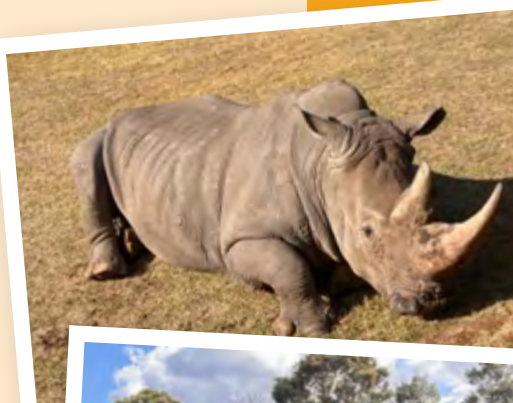
Our rally for May was held at Werribee South on the shores of Port Phillip Bay about 10 kilometres from Werribee, although close to the city it's a great place to visit. We had 7 caravans attend for the weekend and we had all arrived by Friday afternoon. The day was sunny and it was pleasant sitting in the BBQ area where we gathered for happy hour which was a great time to catch up over a chat. Mark and Shirley came and visited us for the afternoon and joined in happy hour and dinner, it was great to catch up with them. After this we headed into Werribee and the RSL for dinner, we had a good selection of meals to choose from the menu, and everyone progressively ordered their meals at the bar. We enjoyed our drinks and chat prior to the meals arriving, which were delicious. After dinner we headed back to camp and retired for the evening.

Set a morning we rose to a cooler and rainy day, because of this we headed to Wyndham harbour and the cafe for a club meeting and a cup of coffee and cake. After this it was free time to relax or take in the surrounding area. Some of us headed into Werribee to have a look around and do some shopping. In the afternoon we had games planned, but as it was cold and wet we all met at Stella and Davids caravan for an early happy hour and chat. Michael and David had rigged up some temporary walls around the awning to keep the wet and cold out and Alan brought his heater which made the area reasonably comfortable. It was planned to have a BBQ dinner that evening but as the barbeque area was open, the group decided we would go into a hotel in town for dinner. We ended up going to the Racecourse Hotel in Werribee which was a warm and had good meals. Only the day didn't go to plan but we all had a good time and after dinner we headed back to the caravan park and retired for the evening.

Sunday we woke to better weather with it being sunny but still quite cool after the day before. We had planned to go to the RAAF museum but when on arrival we found out that you had to book prior to get in, unfazed someone suggested let's go to the Werribee Open Range Zoo which we did. We spent a couple of hours there and went on the guided safari bus tour down to the savanna where we saw giraffes, bison, antelope, rhino, zebra and ostrich, very interesting and informative. Following this we walked around to have a look at the new elephant enclosure. All the elephants were out wandering around and it was great to see them in the large enclosures which is better suited for such large animals.

We left the zoo and headed back to the caravan park to have a late barbeque lunch which was provided by the club. Thanks to Gay for organising the meal of a variety of flavoured sausages, rissoles and bread and members who brought salads or desert to share. Over lunch we did quiz questions which was a great fun, but time passed quickly and before we new it, it was happy hour time. As the wind had picked up, we vacated the BBQ area and head back to Stella and David's awning out of the wind for a chat and drinks. After a couple hours we decided to call it a night, the wind was coming of the bay and quite cool.

Monday morning was sunny and the wind had dropped but most of us were departing for home for various reasons. Although the weather could have been more accommodating we all had a fantastic time and enjoyed the weekend.



NUMURKAH

June

Our June rally was held at Numurkah Caravan Park about 2 ½ hours north of Melbourne. We had 6 caravans attend the rally with us all having arrived by Friday. During winter, we generally try to go north to take advantage of better weather, but this weekend was not the case. A front from Antarctica brought rain and cold weather across the state and Numurkah was not spared.

To make it more comfortable to meet, Stella and David put up their annex for the weekend as the parks camp kitchen was not completely enclosed, okay in summer but a bit chilly in winter. The parks amenities were clean and park had large sites, most of which were drive through making parking our vans easy.

Friday we had happy hour and were quite comfortable in the warm annex, it was a good time catching up and having a chat. Afterwards we all headed down to the Telegraph Hotel for dinner which Bruce had booked. Some drove down as the weather was threatening to rain, and others rugged up and walked as the hotel was not far from the caravan park. There was a good variety of meals available and after ordering at the bar they arrived promptly. After eating our meals which were tasty and enjoyed by all, (particularly the banana fritters) we headed back to the caravan park and retired for the evening.

Saturday, we woke to a cold morning, and our first activity was a trip to the Tocumwal market. The market has a good variety of goods for sale, new and second hand making it interesting to look around. The gluten free donut stall was very popular; the donuts were very tasty. Some of us made purchases and we were fortunate there was no rain whilst looking around. After a having a coffee we headed back to caravan park for lunch. Some of us we via Katamatite to have a look at the silo art which was quite impressive. Painted



by Tim Bowtell, it was opened in 2023 and depicts the Aboriginal connection to the area and the opening of grain cropping through construction of irrigation channels in the region.

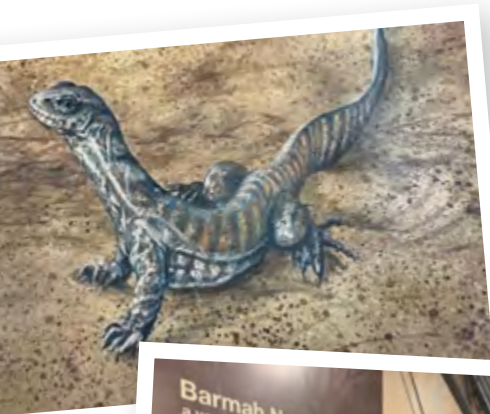
After lunch the weather cleared for a short period, and it was time for disk bowls on the well-manicured lawns. The challenge was best of 3 matches and the team which won the most rounds. It was men against the ladies, and the lead moved between the 2 during the afternoon. After a hard-fought battle, the men won by a narrow margin to claim the event. Nothing was taken too seriously, and we all had a good time having fun.

Happy hour was back in David and Stella's annex before our casserole dinner followed by deserts. Thanks everyone for cooking up such a delicious meal.

Overnight, the rain set in and continued all through Sunday and into the evening. In the morning, we headed down the street to a coffee shop, which was doing a roaring trade being the only café open. We ordered our coffee and cakes, and as it was cold and wet out stayed for a while in the warm. We went for a dive to Picola to look at the silo art as the Cars and Coffee display was not on. After looking at the silo art we headed back to Nathalia and visited the information centre with its 3d images on the floor of different animals and history of the Barmah Forest. On arriving back at the caravan park and it being so wet, the afternoon was spent relaxing in our caravans until happy hour. Happy hour was another great time getting together and we all then head back to our vans for dinner and retire for the evening.

Monday concluded the rally, some of us continued north for the winter while others headed home. It was another enjoyable weekend socialising and having a good time.





*...we headed
back to Nathalia
and visited the
information centre...*

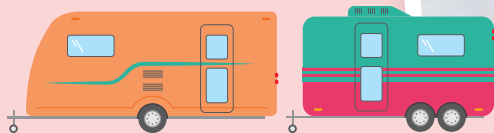


DIV 6 RALLY REPORTS

COMMITTEE DETAILS

Vice President	Lindsay Anders	lindsayanders@optusnet.com.au	0407 045 532
Secretary	Linda Richmond	racvccdiv6@gmail.com	0407 831 083
Treasurer	Charles Allan	allan_family4@bigpond.com	0438 002 095
Marshal	Anne Nichol	bunnyannenichol@gmail.com	0422 410 713

*The parents of poochies,
Luiyf's and Meg, along with
Stones and Kev stayed back
at camp and shared some
delicious home-made pizzas
in the camp pizza oven.*



COWES

May

Six vans from our division arrived at the Anchor Belle Park in Cowes on Friday night.

We celebrated with a few drinks at the Luiyf's van with Div 4 members popping in to say hello. Our resident poochies Cailey and Billie also had two additional friends visit.

We held a shared morning tea on Saturday morning.

As this was a combined rally with Division 4 the camp kitchen was filled with members and enough food to feed an army. It was great to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. After the morning tea, everyone headed off to explore the island. A few went to the Vietnam Veterans Museum, GP track, shopping, wineries, The Nobbies and some caught up with family and friends.

The park was busy and buzzing with club members. We had 10 vans in attendance and 21 from Division 4.

The cold and wet weather hit Saturday afternoon and fivsies were held in the camp kitchen and at our vans. A combined dinner was held at the Phillip Island RSL with 70 members attending. It was a fun night and everyone was mingling and chatting.

The Anchor Belle Park kindly donated wine and promotional merchandise. Div 4 drew 2 lucky door prizes at the dinner and Tania won a bottle of wine.

Uber George (aka Kenny Preston) had some fun antics on the way back to camp with the Smiths and Lisa from Div 4 in the back seat. His face was sore from laughing.

The parents of poochies, Luiyf's and Meg, along with Stones and Kev stayed back at camp and shared some delicious home-made pizzas in the camp pizza oven.

Upon our return from the club we all joined in for a few more bebies and lots of frivolity as usual. The gin won again with a couple of sore heads Sunday morning, oh well, it was fun and the sun was shining for an easy pack up.

Great to see you all and look forward to more adventures at Lake Glenmaggie.



June

In spite of the grim weather forecast for the weekend, 22 brave souls and 2 pooches, Cailey & Mac, attended the rally at Wallaby Rise, Glenmaggie. 6 vans/motor homes arrived Friday and another 5 on Saturday. 8 out of 11 were able to plug into power. The weather, although freezing cold, brought clear skies until Monday when it finally rained.

Ric's birthday was celebrated at the Friday night fire with a Tim Tam "cake" & Bic lighter candle. Sharon had scoured all local shops for cake to no avail, but saved the day with a plate of Tim Tams.

On Saturday people took off in various directions, the great majority winding up at Maffco Brewery & Taphouse. No surprises there.

Saturday night was an organized dinner cooked by the park, in the large undercover shed with a huge fireplace. A huge meal was served. There were roasts of beef and lamb with roast potatoes, cauliflower cheese and other vegies, accompanied by herb damper. We were then served a fruit damper and then two desserts. There was plenty of second helpings on offer for the brave ones.

The following day activities cranked up a little with visits to a trifecta of wineries and breweries; Nakoojee Wines, Glenmaggie Winery and a final and repeat visit to Maffco Brewery & Taphouse.

One van left on Sunday, another was heading north from Glenmaggie, and another couple of vans stayed on for an extra day. A most enjoyable but freezing cold weekend, but hey, we are in Victoria, in Winter.





RACV CARAVAN CLUB

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Date: _____

Name in full: _____

Address: _____

_____. Postcode: _____

RACV Membership Number: _____ Div _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Number: _____

Membership Fee Due 1st September each year: \$60.00. by renewing your membership, you are agreeing to uphold the Club Constitution, follow the Code of Conduct, complete the Media Consent form and comply with the Club's Social Media policy. These documents together form the conditions of your membership.

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 or

Email: Cherie.evans@outlook.com.au

RACV CARAVAN CLUB OF VICTORIA INC

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM



Nomination for the position of: _____

Nominee: _____

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

Signature: _____

Nominee: _____ Seconder: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

When completed, this nomination form must reach the Secretary, RACV Caravan Club, PO Box 165, Ashburton, VIC 3147, or by email to cherie.evans@outlook.com.au by the tenth day of August each year for publication in the next newsletter, prior to the Annual General Election. Candidates may attach a short supporting statement and passport style photo for publication.

If an election is required, candidates will be introduced at the beginning of the AGM and will have the opportunity to address the AGM for 3 minutes (maximum). Ballot papers will be issued AFTER this has occurred.



*An organisation
devoted solely to the
interest of Caravanners*

Registered number A 0006900 V
ABN 83 836 581 725

Registered Office

PO Box 165
Ashburton, VIC 3147

Postal Address

PO Box 165
Ashburton, VIC 3147

Change of Address

PO Box 165
Ashburton VIC 3147

Newsletter material

The Editor, Julie Mason
175B Wonga Road, Ringwood North 3134
juliera6@gmail.com
*Please ensure all newsletter material reaches
the editor by the Thursday after the rally!*

General correspondence

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

WWW.RACVCC.COM.AU

RACV

