

CHAPTERS NEWSLETTER

JULY, 2008



ABN 16 095 568 157

Please read this to the Members at your next Chapter Meeting

Isn't it incredible how quickly time passes?
And isn't it incredible how quickly things can change?

Board Business

Following Warren Harmer's resignation from the Board at Broken Hill, we found ourselves with a casual vacancy to fill.

John Bennetts was invited to fill this vacancy and he accepted. John comes to the Board with many years experience as a volunteer for the CMCA in many capacities. John has managed three major Rallies for us, the most recent being Broken Hill.

Director, Bruce Treloar, tendered his resignation from the Board of Directors on 30th May, 2008. Bruce resigned for personal reasons.

He is currently 'living the dream', travelling around the United States. His abilities are a great loss to the Club, but the Board is hopeful he will continue to take an active role in furthering the Club's objectives.

Following Bruce's departure, Karen Griffin was appointed Director of Finance and I have assumed the role of Director responsible for Chapter Liaison.

It certainly can be a volatile world at times; can't it?

I know that Karen has spoken to a number of you by phone and made email contact with many Chapters.

I will try and pickup where she left off. My best number for contact is 0418 221 023. My home number is 02 9958 8146, or email vincentmoran@optusnet.com.au.

It is my contention that the Chapters contain a great proportion of the Club's active members and that they form the heart of the organisation.

It is, therefore, my belief that a great deal of effort is warranted in communicating with the Chapters, in seeking their counsel and in enlisting their help.

Within the Chapters, there is a great wealth of wisdom and experience that is an invaluable asset of the Club.

Board Election

This year there are three vacant positions on the Board of Directors. Please urge all your Chapter members to consider nominating and to exercise their right to vote. For the first time each nominee will have 500 words to introduce themselves and their aspirations for the Club, instead of the previously inadequate 150 words. This change should be of considerable help to Members in deciding which candidates to support.

I am to be one of those candidates. I would like to continue contributing as a director to the growth and progress of the Club. Nominations close 12 noon - 18 July, 2008.

Future Rally Dates

23rd National Rally, Bingara, NSW 13th – 19th October, 2008. Rally Managers: David & Lyn Fricke.

24th Anniversary Rally, Whyalla, SA 30th March – 5th April, 2009. Rally Manager: Paul Pitstock

24th National Rally, Rockhampton, QLD 28th September – 4th October, 2009. Rally Manager: TBA

Happy 21st Birthday

Happy 21st birthday to Tweed Gold Coast Wanderers – 3rd Chapter of CMCA, formed on 31st May, 1987 & also to Southern Explorers – 4th Chapter of CMCA, formed on 7th September, 1987.

We welcome the following new Chapters

86 – Central Highlands Trekkers – from the central highlands of Victoria.

87 – Blue Wrens – formed in the Nowra region of NSW.

88 – Hilltop Rangers – from the Cowra/Goulburn/Yass region of NSW.

89 – Garden State Wheelers – from Sale in Victoria.

Getting there is half the fun

NHQ Liaison

Manager of Member Services, Colin Thompson, & his very capable team will handle all of your Chapter & SIG concerns and inquiries.

NHQ News

Some of the most exciting developments during the last few months are related to the Board's efforts to lobby the relevant authorities for the retention or granting of privileges and rights that help to preserve our freedom and lifestyle.

The attendance at most the Local Government Association Conferences across the country is producing a level of communication, knowledge of the CMCA and the advantages of our schemes and objectives that is even beyond our hopes when we decided to embark on such an extensive program.

CMCA will receive \$100,000 in funding from Queensland Main Roads over the next two years to provide more dump points throughout Queensland. More information is available on our website under 'Club News' and will also be featured in the August issue of *The Wanderer*.

In NSW, the State Parks Advisory Board of the Dept. of Lands has responded very favourably to our representations. The Club has become a member of the NSW Tourism Industry Council.

In Western Australia, Phil Chadd has been appointed to a position on The Camping Ground Advisory Committee.

Member Benefits

The number of RV Friendly Towns continues to grow. It is very gratifying that most of the activity is beginning with various towns contacting us.

The Leave No Trace scheme is a key factor in breaking down the barriers of opposition that have often thwarted our efforts in the past.

New Dump Points are being rolled out right across the states and, of course, the financial support from KEA Campers is aiding this process as we move forward.

The first edition of *The Wanderer's Mate* has received excellent feedback from a broad cross section of the Club's Members.

Constructive suggestions are always welcome, but rest assured that, as we are all using it ourselves, we can readily identify the improvements that will be incorporated in the next issue. In the meantime, please take note of any new information that needs to be added. For instance, when I recently stayed at the Berry Showground (NSW south coast) I found that there is a new Dump Point that is not on our list. It will be now!

Final paper work for GeoWiki is at last completed and this remarkable system will be released on our website shortly.

Don't forget that the Club's data base is only as good as the information it contains, so please don't be shy about sending info to the National Benefits Team at NHQ – 02 4978 8709 or email memberbenefits@cmca.net.au.

Blue Book

The new updated edition of the Blue Book has been distributed to all Chapters & SIGs. If you have not received your copy please contact NHQ and they will rectify the situation. It is also available to download on the website

Chapter Focus Page

Have you submitted your article yet? We are always looking for interesting articles & photos of your Chapter's recent events that we can put in *The Wanderer* and / or the website for all to enjoy. Interesting, happy, sad, and funny – send them in! We also need up to date information for the Chapter Stand at the Bingara Rally.

Chapter Forum

The next Chapter Forum will be held at the Bingara Rally on Wednesday, 15th October at 10 a.m. The Forum is the perfect platform for communication between Directors, NHQ & Chapters, so please ensure a representative from your Chapter attends.

There may be a particular matter you would like to raise that might need a degree of thought beforehand. If so, please let Colin Thompson, at NHQ, or me, know in advance.

The Forum will be followed by a light luncheon for Chapter Representatives at 12 noon. For catering purposes, please RSVP to Colin or me by 1st October (no more than 2 persons per Chapter please).

Banner Parade

As at the Broken Hill Rally, the Banner Parade at Bingara will be presented electronically. For those new Chapters receiving their Banners – please register your nominated representative at the Rally Office by noon, Tuesday, 14th October.

I look forward to seeing you or your Chapter representative at Bingara. Look me up at "The Twosome Traveller".

Safe motorhoming.

Vincent Moran, N14036
Director – CMCA Limited