



ABN 16 095 568 157

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2009

It is our hope that you will read this Newsletter at your next Chapter Meeting

Board Vacancy

With the vacancy that now exists on the Board following Frans Hamer's resignation and the closeness of time to the Company's AGM the Board does not intend replacing Frans before this year's AGM. Any replacement will act on the Board until the 2010 AGM. If the replacement decides, he or she will seek to be elected by the Members for a full term from the 2010 AGM.

A new Director's Manual has just been completed and will provide a valuable asset to assist future directors. We, the Directors, comprise a Board who are all long time Club Members and motorhomers, who have over many years been very visibly involved in the Club's activities and who understand from experience the needs and objectives of the Club and its Members. We represent backgrounds that encompass small business ownership, management and entrepreneurship, small public company directorship and large public company executive experience. We will exercise care and thought in our invitation to the next Member who joins us in the execution of our tasks and the furtherance and development of this wonderful Club. It is important to us that such an invitee will be acceptable as a full term Director to the Club Membership at the next election.

Rallies:

The line up for future Rallies is:

Rockhampton	24 th National Rally	Qld	Sept/Oct 2009
Quercus Park	24 th Anniversary Rally	Tas	March 2010
Port Macquarie	25 th National Rally	NSW	Sept/Oct 2010
	(contracts not complete, but details agreed)		
Deniliquin	25 th Anniversary Rally	NSW	March 2011
	(contracts not complete, negotiations continuing)		
Kalgoorlie	26 th National Rally	WA	Sept/Oct 2011
	(contract currently being negotiated)		

There are nine other possible sites in various stages of consideration. We have certainly come a long way since the days when we had to convince Councils to allow us to hold a major Rally in their town. Councils are now pursuing the Club to hold a Rally in their town as they realize the economic and social benefit the event brings to their community.

Getting there is half the fun

Policies and Procedures:

Over recent months, the Board and staff at NHQ have been reviewing many of the policies and procedures that affect the operation of the Club and its Chapters. As we grow, these matters become more complex and important to our well-being.

Official new and updated Club policies and procedures number nearly thirty, without considering the difficult area of O H & S. Items covered vary from such diverse topics as Anti Discrimination and Armed Hold-Up, to Risk Assessment and Vehicle Operations.

This is an ongoing, time consuming process and will be reflected from time to time in these Newsletters and in appropriate updates to the 'Blue Book'.

Since the last Newsletter we have held the annual PAC (Professional Advisory Committee) meeting at which our local legal advisor and accountant reviewed the level of corporate governance practiced by the Board and the Company. No issues were raised and the OH&S policies and procedures, along with other policies and procedures, have been approved and signed off by the Board.

A number of special resolutions to amend the Club's Constitution have been proposed for consideration at the AGM and these, which are mostly questions of good housekeeping, will be described and explained with the Notice of Meeting for the AGM.

Lobbying and Member Benefits:

The lobbying activity continues at an almost frenetic pace, however in many instances we are trying to adopt the less aggressive term of 'Club Representation'.

At local government level, the rewards can be seen in the growth of RVFT's™ to 72, with another 21 towns going through the assessment process. Dump point installations now number 163 and it is interesting to note that CMCA has been responsible for a great many of these.

60% in WA; 59% in SA; 24% in VIC; 30% in NSW and 23% in QLD. What an outstanding result for our Member Benefits Team! At the same time vehicles in our LNT© scheme now number 4,680.

As for state government activities: our various State Representatives and Board Members have been very active. I will detail these representations for you at the Chapters Forum at the Rocky Rally.

Notable among these activities was Phil Chadd's (W28874) representation to the WA Government Economics and Industry Standing Committee. A Hansard transcript was made of this 'hearing' and has been made available to the Club. The presentation by Chairman Diana Worner at Kiama to the NSW Local Government and Shires Association 2009 Tourism Conference resulted in the NSW Lands Department convening a meeting of stakeholders interested in the better use of Crown Lands.

This meeting took place last March and as a result the NSW Department of Lands has issued a 'Position Paper' that contains considerable data which indicates a positive move towards our representations.

They have now called another meeting for later this month. The attendees will be: CMCA, NSW Lands Department, the Caravan and Camping Industry Association of NSW (CCIANSW), Local Government Shires Association of NSW (LGSA), and Tourism NSW.

Looming large on the agenda is the question of making available areas such as showgrounds and racecourses for overnight stays by self-contained RV's. Anticipate further discussion on this topic at Rockhampton.

On yet another level, our initiative in promoting co-operation with other RV clubs with similar ambitions to ours, is beginning to bear real fruit. Several preliminary meetings have been held with the various interested and appropriate parties and we're close to completing a Memorandum of Understanding between the National Association of Caravan Clubs (NACC), Australasian Touring Caravan, Motorhome and Camping Club Inc (ATCMCC), Australian Caravan Club Limited (ACC) and ourselves.

This group has come together as 'Motouring Australia' with the expressed objective of presenting a common front in our efforts to enhance the RV lifestyle.

The strength of our combined representations will be of great assistance as we present a united 'RV' front.

The Wanderers' Mate:

As the second edition of our annual publication has now been distributed, we are very pleased at the positive feedback from Members who have found it both very valuable and user friendly. It is a credit to all involved; especially Members who contribute data. Remember, if you see where material in the current version requires updating, please contact NHQ with those changes.

GeoWiki:

Our comprehensive database is gaining use and popularity every day. The success of the system is due, not only to the unselfish devotion of Julian Lawrence (Q46136) and Ian Brown (Q33014), but also to the ongoing updates that Members are providing as they travel and find new information useful to all Club Members.

There have been a series of articles published in *The Wanderer* this year including step by step guides and instructions. These articles are all excellent and informative reading.

Chapter Forum:

The growing number of Chapter representatives who have attended the Chapter Forums at the recent Rallies have provided us with encouraging, positive feedback and once again we ask you to accept our invitation to attend the Forum at the Rockhampton 'Hospita-Bull Rally'. Please RSVP to Colin Thompson at NHQ as soon as possible. Any particular queries may be directed to me beforehand, so that answers can be provided. Of course I, (as are any of the directors) am available by phone at any time. My number is 0418 221 023.

Membership:

It is very interesting and gratifying that despite the horrors of the present economic recession and an obvious general slow down in the tourism industry, our Club is continuing to attract new Members at a most satisfactory rate.

We do not envisage a significant slowdown in new Member joining, in fact, we are still receiving an average of 700 each month. Net growth of Members is at 3.5% which we believe is quite good under the present circumstances. As for the Board projections; in his report to the 2006 AGM, our then Chairman, Gary Rebgetz, advised Members of an anticipated slow down in 2007/2008. Gary then went on to say that following this period "we would then be looking at an upward trend in the Membership growth rate for the 2011/2012 financial year". I am sure Gary never anticipated the severity of the Global Financial Crisis that hit at the end of 2007, but his projections were very close to the mark and we have relied on them in our planning. We have been diligent in building up cash reserves (with NO

debt) and at the same time ramping up Member Benefits as both actions are helping CMCA weather this financial storm.

CPR:

There are two developments in the area of providing for medical heart related emergencies. Firstly, the President of The Gippslanders Chapter in Victoria, has organised a specific seminar to be conducted on October 16.

This training may be of interest to some of the Victorian Chapter members and details can be obtained from Victorian First Aid Services, 0488 405 605.

Secondly, the Royal Life Saving Society has developed several devices that they term 'CPR in a Box'. The Society will be manning a stand at the Rockhampton Rally and will conduct seminars on the subject; providing demonstrations and advice that will be valuable to all our Members.

Chapter Information:

At each major Rally, there is a 'Chapter Information Stand', offering advice and assistance to Members interested in learning more about or joining a Chapter.

We will be sending a copy of the Chapter Profile Form that we have for your Chapter in the Rally Information File, so that you might update it, where necessary.

If your Chapter hasn't provided a profile please do so at your earliest convenience.

Reflection:

As we gain the 'wisdom' and 'advantages' of advancing years, I thought that the following presented an interesting reflection.

Lord, you know that I am growing older.

Keep me from becoming talkative and possessed with the idea that I must express myself on every subject.

Release me from the craving to straighten out everyone's affairs.

Keep me from the recital of endless detail; give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips when I am inclined to tell of all my aches and pains; they are increasing with the years and my love to speak of them grows sweeter as time goes by.

Teach me the glorious lessons that occasionally I may be wrong.

Make me thoughtful but not nosey; helpful but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom and experience, it does seem a pity though, not to use it all.

But you know Lord that I want a few friends at the end.

Amen.

Judy and I will be leaving within the next couple of weeks to make our way to wonderfully warm Queensland.

If you are also travelling, look out for us or do drop by 'The Twosome Traveller' at the Rally.

If you have HF Radio, our selcall is 8146.

Travel safely,

Vincent Moran N14036