

# COROMAL CAPERS

Volume 1  
Issue 5  
October 2007



## COMING RALLIES

NOVEMBER

**BATEAU BAY**

November 3-4

(Annual General Meeting)

DECEMBER

**KIAMA**

December 1-2

East's Beach Tourist Park

NATIONAL RALLY

**FORBES**

Dec 27th to Jan 7th

Forbes Showground

JANUARY

**BLACKSMITH'S**

TBA

## CLUB NEWS

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Blue Lagoon Resort on Saturday 3rd November 2007. It will start at 11am.

A continental sausage sizzle will follow.

### WELCOME to new members

John and Mary Cerrone

Ron & Kay Hodgekinson (rejoined)

We now have members in Victoria, ACT, and as far a field as the Western Slopes, South and Central Coasts areas of NSW as well as in Sydney.

## EXECUTIVE FOR 2007

PRESIDENT

Frank Smalley

[FrankS@coromalcaravanclub.org.au](mailto:FrankS@coromalcaravanclub.org.au)

VICE PRESIDENT

Ben Dezman

[BenD@coromalcaravanclub.org.au](mailto:BenD@coromalcaravanclub.org.au)

SECRETARY/ PUBLIC OFFICER

Elizabeth Griffin

[ElizabethG@coromalcaravanclub.org.au](mailto:ElizabethG@coromalcaravanclub.org.au)

TREASURER

Ian Weal

[IanW@coromalcaravanclub.org.au](mailto:IanW@coromalcaravanclub.org.au)

RALLY CO-ORDINATOR

Bruce Clark

[BruceC@coromalcaravanclub.org.au](mailto:BruceC@coromalcaravanclub.org.au)

NEWS LETTER

Sue Milne

[SueM@coromalcaravanclub.org.au](mailto:SueM@coromalcaravanclub.org.au)

DELEGATES TO NSW

STATE ASSOCIATION

Frank Smalley

Jeanette Burton

[JeanetteB@coromalcaravanclub.org.au](mailto:JeanetteB@coromalcaravanclub.org.au)

## September/October/November HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To our members who have a birthday during this period

**SEPTEMBER** Martin Castles 4<sup>th</sup>

Belle Scott 26<sup>th</sup>

Donata Blinco 26<sup>th</sup>

**OCTOBER** Penny Dezman 8<sup>th</sup>

Pat Middleton 15<sup>th</sup>

Pam Allen 19<sup>th</sup>

Kate Smalley 30<sup>th</sup>

**NOVEMBER** Robert Brown 1<sup>st</sup>

Marlene Blinco 2<sup>nd</sup>

Ian Weal 8<sup>th</sup>

Bruce Clark 28<sup>th</sup>

Ann Marshall 30<sup>th</sup>



If you would like others to know about your special event (births anniversaries etc) please let me know.

AGM Elections  
To Be Held 11am Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2007

With the recent upgrading of our Constitution there are changes to the way we now elect our Committee. In the past, nominations were submitted at the AGM, and only those present had the right to vote.

This was unfair to those members who were not able to attend that particular rally and there were some who would not attend for the fear of being “roped into” the Committee.

The Office of Fair Trading issues a model Constitution for clubs like ours and with the exception of the membership requirement and actual committee positions we have adopted it, in its entirety.

Under our new constitution nominations for committee positions must be submitted, in writing, bearing the signature of the Proposer, the Secunder and the Nominated person. We now also permit postal and proxy votes.

Shortly you will all receive (or have already received) a nomination form.

The procedure is, as follows:

Ben has been appointed returning officer.

All written nominations must either be posted to our mail box (P.O. Box 4248 Penrith Plaza 2751) so that they are received by last mail on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2007, or handed to Elizabeth, or myself in her absence, at the October rally They must be IN A SEALED ENVELOPE CLEARLY MARKED NOMINATION FORM

Ben will clear the mail box Thursday evening and on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October Ben will open all nomination envelopes and compile a list of nominations, the nomination forms will be sent to Elizabeth for notation. A list of nominations together with a postal vote form and a proxy vote form will then be sent to all financial members.

Postal vote forms must be posted to our mail box (marked on the back with the words Postal vote and position (s)) so that they arrive no later than last mail on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2007.

Ben will clear the mail box on Thursday evening and will bring all postal votes, unopened, to the AGM. They will not be opened until the elections are in progress.

If there is only one nomination for any position, then a vote will not be required and the person will be deemed elected.

You may not be aware but the committee has three positions which do not have responsibilities and are currently not filled. It has been decided that one of these position will be included.

The positions on the Committee which are to be elected are:

Position	Currently held by
(1) President	Frank Smalley
(2) Vice President	Ben Dezman
(3) Treasurer	Ian Weal
(4) Secretary	Elizabeth Griffin
(5) Rally Coordinator	Bruce Clark
(6) Assistant Rally Coordinator	Vacant
(7) State Delegate (2)	Jeanette Burton & Frank Smalley
(8) Newsletter Editor	Sue Milne



## ON THE DRAWING BOARD.

In 2008, some Coromal Caravaners are keen to do a tag-a-long to the National Parks of Western NSW. Planning is underway to put together some sort of sanity for the adventurous. Tag-a-long means that members are free to join the main convey for all or part of any legs of the trek they wish.

This trek will be for about 25 days. It will start with the September rally at Wellington Caves (27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September) and finish at the rally at Goulburn 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October.

DATES: On the road from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September, to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. 2007.

Visits to: Cobar, Mt. Grenfell, White Cliffs, Mutawintji, Broken Hill, Tibooburra, Sturt National Park, Kinchega National Park, Mungo National Park, Mildura, Echuca, Albury. (Most ports in between)

Cost: ??

The main expense will be petrol. You know your vehicles. ? how much per litre & distance between fills.

Food - We will stock up at Supermarkets at Broken Hill, Mildura, etc. It's possible that we make up a kitty for some communal meals together. I will include planning the occasional pub meal when convenient - evening at White Cliffs, Tibooburra, and Menindee. This is open.

Remember that we will have fruit fly exclusion zone with restrictions on fruit going into Broken Hill. A list will be available nearer the trek.

In the budget allow for admission to museums, galleries and the odd cost of rides on paddle steamers on the Murray River and the like. (Maybe, we could visit a winery or two.) Sometimes it's nice to just have a treat.

I'm planning to keep accommodation as low as possible. It will cost more at town caravan parks and I am planning to use FPA. Membership cost \$25.00 for 2 years and will give us a 10% discount.

The National Parks cost \$3-\$5 per person, per night, depending on which park.. For information about visits and passes to National Parks visit the webpage on

[www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)

Please note that there will be some camp sites without power, especially in the National Parks.

If you are interested, contact Elizabeth via the Club's website.

[www.coromalcaravanclub.org.au](http://www.coromalcaravanclub.org.au)



## YARNTEN , WOLLOMBI RALLY 3-5 August 2007

A fine August weekend saw 11 caravans, containing 23 adults and 4 juniors enjoying a rally at the Wollombi Campsite, near Cessnock. All vans safely negotiated the low level crossing, which had been flooded recently to arrive at a lovely campsite, with fantastic views of the country.



Many arrived late on Friday to help Jim celebrate his birthday.



Saturday started with a BBQ breakfast and welcome the late comers. The day was spent exploring the area, including the many wineries and small villages. Several toured the Convict Trail of the Great Northern Road. then met for lunch at the Wollombi Tavern and to try the infamous Dr Jurd's Jungle Juice.

As the tourists returned to the camp, all joined in Happy hour and watching the setting sun. A campfire was lit and following tea, a movie (Blue's Brothers) was shown. The night ended with apple & cinnamon jaffles, cooked over the campfire. We were protected from the wind by Frank's new screen.



Early the next morning a small group formed around the embers of the campfire, watching the sunrise. Later, over a cuppa, Elizabeth introduced the Tag-A-Long trip to western NSW. Several campers



assisted Frank to erect his new marquee. Gee Frank, you will soon need an extra trailer to carry all this gear-or is a new bigger van in the wind???

It was time for some to return home, while others decided plans for the day.

As the sun set, there were 14 campers(5 vans) left to enjoy an extra night. A impromptu baked meal, cooked over the campfire was organized. This was partaken in the camp kitchen. The evening concluded with discussion and listening to music by the wood fire.



Monday saw all campers preparing to leave another great rally.

We will be returning to Yarnteen, for our Christmas In July Rally next year.



## Shoalhaven Heads Rally 31st Aug, 1/2 Sept



This was an enjoyable rally in a quiet and green park. Our Rally Marshall/Social Director proudly informed us on our arrival that he had all the instructions for the card activity for Saturday night.

We took over the camp kitchen for dinner on Friday night. It was an ideal spot, out of the cold and perfect for camaraderie.



On Saturday, we welcomed Mary and John Cerrone as new members, and chatted and drank coffee for quite some time before moving on to our activities. Some went walking, some cycling, some walked to the local markets, some just "veged out". El Presidente went shopping for an update van while others of us per-

formed what is becoming the traditional "scouring of the camping/outdoor/\$2 stores for bargains".



A walk on the now cool, windy beach gave us the incentive to look forward to happy hour from which we adjourned to the camp kitchen at sundown. It was chilly!

Dinner was again a sumptuous affair with the traditional and obligatory refreshments.

The card activity evaporated due to the lack of cards, but no one noticed. The talk, laughter and good times continued well into the evening.



On Sunday, Berry markets beckoned us (maybe there are bargains....) so late checkout was quite an attractive option. With seven vans attending, it was a great time to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. It would be a great rally location for a long weekend.



Penny & Ben

### WEBSITE

Remember to check the club website for updates and details of future events

<http://www.coromalcaravanclub.org.au>

## HINTS & TIPS

When purchasing a caravan you'll need to add an electric brake controller to your vehicle. Nearly all dealers will advise you of this. One thing that is not clearly advised to all purchasers is you'll also need to run an active 12v wire to run your fridge on 12v and charge your battery whilst driving to and from your destinations. The wiring to the fridge needs to go through a VSR. (Voltage Sensitive Relay) These can be obtained thru Camec and reputable Caravan Distributors - Repair Centres. A VSR simply cuts the 12v line to your fridge when the vehicles motor is not running, hence the alternator is not producing power. It activates the 12v line again after the vehicle is started and the alternator reaches an output of 13.85 volts, again powering your fridge. Whalla!!!. Leaving your fridge on will no longer flatten a vehicle battery.

Whom ever installs your electric brake controller can also install the active 12v wiring VSR and negative return, a simple but necessary addition. Please, insist upon a minimum of 6mm wiring being utilised for both the 12v active and negative return. Anything less does not cope. (How many people have you heard complain the fridge is useless on 12v. The answer is inadequate wiring. Some auto electricians install a 4mm wire as they have no idea a thermal fridge draws the current it does, hence the fridge doesn't work) To achieve maximum benefit of your alternator charging the van battery and running the fridge, a 9mm wiring is better again, however you'll need to update to a 12 pin connector on both the van & vehicle to utilise 9mm wire as they have larger terminals. Some vans will have a 12 pin connector already. Should your van have a 12 pin connector standard, the chances are the fridge and battery wiring are independent of each other, so in this case insist on independent 6mm wiring for the 12v active to the battery, fridge and negative return, 3 x 6mm wires. In this scenario only the fridge wire goes via VSR

Fuses. All 12v active wires should be fused as close as possible to the vehicle battery and should be 20 amp on 6mm wire. 9mm wire requires 30 amp to gain the benefit of the larger wire.

With the above configurations your fridge will work and the battery will charge. The heavier the wiring, the less resistance the better the operation.

Footnote: Your Thermal Fridge does not and should not draw power from the vans in house battery as there is a diode in line to avoid this occurring. Most auto electricians wouldn't be aware of this, so do not allow them to mess with your vans wiring trying to achieve this. Your Thermal Fridge should only draw current from your vehicles battery via a VSR.

## Preparing for a Trip

When traveling it is a good idea to carry a folder in your van with the following information accessible

- \* Name, address and phone number of yourself of your next of kin.
- \* Details of your doctor, specialists and chemists etc
- \* Medical conditions and allergies
- \* List of current medications, dosage and when taken.
- \* Medicare number

This information will be helpful if you have an accident or condition that prevents you from giving the information to emergency personal.