

Peninsula Caravan Club Inc.

Newsletter NOVEMBER 2009

Hello to All

A reminder that there will be no Rally for the Club in December 2009. Our next function will be the Xmas lunch Saturday 5th December (please contact Secretary, Bev.Byng) "A Picnic in the Park" will be held in January 2010. The Committee will advise the time and place.

I would like to personally thank the Members who wrote reports for the newsletter when requested, it helps to make the job easier. If you require an item placed in the newsletter at any time you are very welcome to contact me. Travel news is also welcome. Thank you to those who donated Raffle prizes, and to all the Activity Organisers who created so much fun & frivolity over the past year.

Finally-Thank you to all the new members who chose our Club to join in 2009.

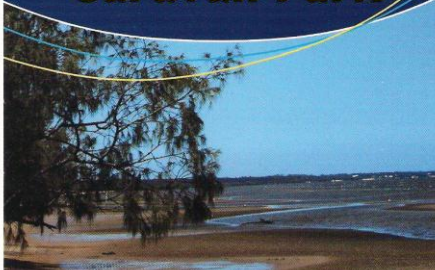
The Editor, June

EMERGENCY DETAILS- FIRE OR MEDICAL


*To seek urgent help, continual quick short blasts of a whistle or car horn (3 seconds on/off). Upon hearing this members are requested to proceed in an orderly manner to the site of the whistle or car horn bringing with them mobile phone, fire extinguisher, water bucket, fire blanket, torch and first aid kit **POST CODE 4510***

***Next years Rally, February 2010**
Hosts Rod & Kate Russell*


Beachmere Lions Caravan Park



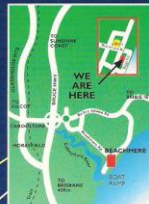
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REMINDER FROM CYRIL; TARP & DISC BOWLS WILL BE REQUIRED (FEB.2010)

If you are not attending then it is your responsibility to immediately arrange an alternate transporter of these components to the venue.



*The Committee would like to send warm wishes for a Merry Christmas to all our club & associate members, CCCQ club members, our Sponsors & their Families. We wish you all happy & safe Caravanning in 2010.
Enjoy Life...On the Road.*



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ROVING REPORT –Kilcoy Show Grounds

Our arrival at Kilcoy was a day earlier than planned, so once more we were with the early birds; upon our arrival we were surprised to have sunshine & a lovely cool breeze, as it had looked like rain when we left the bay. The Byng's, White's & Crowe's went to the Pub for dinner & upon our return enjoyed a night cap before retiring. At 10.30pm Peter checked his mobile & found a message from Ron. We rang Ron 7.30am Thursday & were shocked to know Christine had been taken to Hospital by ambulance, and after various tests etc she was operated on at 6pm for a perforated appendix, and is now recovering . All the Club members send their very best wishes to Christine for a speedy recovery.

The weather was extremely hot & we were grateful for the "Tin Tarp" & racecourse grandstand to shelter from the heat. The vans with air-conditioning got a good work out. Eric caught a cold & was not well. Kevin & Kerry visited the local pool, Peter & Jill visited a local winery, while others went for drives in their cars. I believe it was 41% in some annexes. Kilcoy had a great IGA for all our needs & air-con. We received a visit from past members Daryl & Sue Deveney, who now live at Kilcoy, at Happy Hour on Friday.

Saturday commenced early for the committee with a meeting at 8.30am. At 10.30am we all met in the grandstand with the Activity organisers Kerry, Rae & Jim –what a lot fun is was trying to make horses from a brown paper bag, stuffing & a broom stick; some attempts were very good & some were extremely funny. We re-assembled at 3.30pm for a fun afternoon & evening. Congratulations to all for a job well done; a great activity for the venue.

Thank you to Kevin & Rae for the Photo CD's, especially to Rae who takes all the photos. I look forward to seeing those of you who will be attending the Christmas lunch. Peter & I would like to wish everyone a very Merry & safe Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Reporter... *JUNE*



ACTIVITY REPORT

Spring racing "The Peninsula Cup" PCCI Member's and special guests.

VENUE: KILCOY RACE TRACK

A full 6 event program, track report is good, fast, weather clear.

The gala day began with a meet and greet with owners, trainers, jockey's and race track officials. Also the horses were the guests. It was noted that several brown paper bags were being passed around to officials. The mounting yards proved popular to some guest's.

The races began on time, a huge crowd was now in attendance, Charles and Camilla were in the crowd as Camilla had been scratched .The starter was late releasing the barriers, race 1 was over and the bookies cleaned up, the rest of the program went off well (race three protest was dismissed after a vet check could not locate any nuts in the Maiden Mares handicap)

Awards were presented for the best thoroughbred sired from a blood line of one brown paper bag, filling and a broom stick Fashions in the field, and ladies hats finished the day. Celebrations followed on into the night. Birthdays & Anniversaries were announced followed by a delicious banquet, thank you to everyone for their contributions. Our Music men -Maca John & Terry entertained us with various songs & Xmas carols. Also thank you to our maiden Marlene for her beautiful singing.

Congratulations to the Activity Organisers Kerry, Rae & Jim. I'm sure you will all agree it was a great event.

Reporter... *Max*

Activity Organisers–Please propose a toast to Members Celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary at Happy Hour (Sat).



BIRTHDAYS

Dec 4th.....Max Martin

Dec 15th.....Kevin White

Jan 7thPeter Quinlan



Dec 27thLil Torrington

Jan 2ndVicki Mackenzie

Jan 8thLorraine White



ANNIVERSARIES

Dec 23rd....Ron & Chris Vasily

Jan 3rdCyril & Lil Torrington

Jan 16thPeter & Jill Quinlan



PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello everyone. Well the last rally for the calendar year has come and gone and I guess we all are now putting our thoughts towards Christmas. Our rallies commence again in February 2010 and the rally calendar really looks enticing with many never before visited venues to explore. I remind all that you are more than welcome to take up the club equipment carrying duties even if it is only for a couple of rallies. This somewhat thankless task continues to fall on the shoulders of a small minority. Also if you have come across a venue that you think is suitable for our club to visit, noting the criteria that it should not be outside a 2.5 hour travelling radius of Redcliffe, then please fill out the Venue appraisal form and hand in to the clubs secretary. Photos will be of great advantage to the committee.

As you will have read in the minutes of the committee meeting held at Kilcoy rally, the committee has agreed to the purchase of a projector. Rally venue activity organisers may consider using it as part of their activity. Any member may seek to use its facilities for sharing photo's of trips of interest with the members at a rally. Unfortunately due to the sensitive nature of the equipment it will not be available for member's personal use. Its inclusion into our equipment portfolio is exciting and your committee are already planning such things as movie nights, photo exposés, information reviews, historical rally photo displays, data sharing to name but a few. So get cracking on your photo compilations as they have been well received in the past. See you at the picnic.

Regards *Kevin*

THE ATTENDANCE BOOK this is signed for insurance purposes for injuries. If you arrive at a rally with your van as usual, you sign in as a member. If you arrive without your van and you stay overnight in a cabin in the caravan park or at a motel (if no cabins in the park) this will be classed as a visitor and you will sign in as one. The reason being there is no insurance risk. As you will be covered by the caravan park or the motel you are in. If you arrive without your van and are only staying for part of the day you are classed as a Day Visitor you will sign in thus. If you do not come and you have sent an apology I will write your name in the book. PLEASE DO RING IF YOU ARE COMING OR NOT...*The Secretary.*

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2010 CALENDAR**JANUARY-PICNIC TBA**

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 Beachmere- 4510

MARCH- Booked
BIGRIGGEN PARK
 Ph: 07 5463 6190
 Beaudesert, 4285
 Rathdowney

APRIL- Booked
WOODFORD S/GRS
 Woodford -4514
 Ph: 07 5496 1294
 Mrs Margaret Ferris

MAY- Booked
LAKE DYER/Camping
& Caravan Park
 Ph: 07 5465 3698
 Laidley-4341

JUNE- Booked
KILKIVAN/Bush Camp
 Ph: 07 5484 1340
 Contact Steve or Sue
 Rossmore Rd.
 Kilkivan-4600

JULY- Booked
 Esk Caravan Park
 Ph: 1800 462 375
 26 Hassall Street, Esk4312
 (Xmas in July)

AUGUST-Booked
GLENGARY
 Educational Centre
 Ph: 07 5427 9176
 Lockver Vallev-4344

SEPTEMBER TBA
 Date to be announced
 State Rally,
 Toogoolawah-4313

OCTOBER Booked 4574
 Kenilworth S/grounds
 Ph: 07 5446 0131
 Care Taker, Clem Hassall

NOVEMBER Booked
 Dickey Beach C/Park
 Ph: 07 5491 3342
 Beerburum Street
 Dickey Beach, 4551

DECEMBER
 No Rally (Xmas)

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Hello Everyone, It was very pleasing to see the majority of members at our latest rally. Thank you Rae and Kerry for the activity it was very well received. Also thank you to everyone for the excellent "eats" WELL DONE! I ask all again to remember that the attendance book must be signed at every rally for insurance purposes. As this was our last rally for this year and I haven't received any offers from anyone to be Secretary for the 2010-2011 terms, I must thank Rae for volunteering to be my assistant, unfortunately Rae is unable to be full time Secretary next year, remember any of you guys can do it, also it would be a shame for the Club to fold as the Club can not operate without a Secretary, so hopefully someone steps up to the plate and considers the job.

See you all at the luncheon next week if not "Picnic in the Park" in January. Eric and I wish all a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe New Year.

Till next time... **Bev.**

**TREASURERS REPORT**

I just want to say how happy I am to be part of the committee for our Caravan Club. I will certainly do my best to do as good a job as Neil & Faye did. With their help I am learning to work out what has to be done.

Our raffle this month raised \$114.00, which is great support for our raffles. Thank you to Keith & Shaneen for donating the prize & congratulations to Terry who was the lucky winner.

I would also like to give a big thanks to Kevin for all his help & patience. I wish you all a Happy & Safe Christmas & New Year.

Regards... **Vicki**

**GOSSIP LINE**

WHO WENT TO HAVE A SHOWER WITH THEIR UNDIES STILL ON?
WHO TURNED UP WITH A NEWER VAN WITH STOVE AND ISLAND BED?
WHO WAS THE ONLY MALE IN THE FILLIES' HANDICAP AND WON THE RACE?
WHO WAS INTERRUPTED BY THE WARBLING MAGPIES AT THE COM/ MEETING?
WHO LEFT HIS SHOWER PACK IN THE AMENITIES AND IS IN THE N'LETTER AGAIN?

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS; A REMINDER THAT YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO ATTEND A MAXIMUM OF THREE RALLIES PER FINANCIAL YEAR

ACTIVITIES ROSTER

DECEMBER 2009 (No rally for this month)

JANUARY 2010 PICNIC IN THE PARK (TBA)

FEBRUARY 2010 BARE FOOT BOWLS

KEITH&SHANEENHAMBLETON/DAVID&ANDREA
WRIGHT

RAFFLE ROSTER (prize minimum value \$20.00)

DECEMBER 2009 (no raffle for this month)

JANUARY 2010(no raffle for this month)

FEBRUARY 2010, DAVID&DEBBIE SMITH

If you are unable to attend your nominated rally please get in touch with the next member on the raffle list. Should you be unable to find a replacement from this list, please advise the Secretary Bev Byng by phoning 3869 0345

**RALLY CO-ORDINATORS REPORT -Kilcoy Show Grounds**

Arrivals; Wednesday-A&L White, D&A Hellewell, E&B Byng, P&J Crowe, A&D Howard

Thursday-C&L Torrington, J&R Williamson, P&J Quinlan

Friday-K&S Hambleton, K&K Keary, M&J Martin, T.Trowbridge & Marlene (visitor), J&H

Hunter, D&N Giles, D&D Smith, K&P White, J&V Mackenzie, M&J Zielke, R&D Howard

Saturday- M&M Thibou (Visitors)

Apologies from R&C Vasily & M.Huxley, M&E Tracey

Hello everyone thank you for making it an excellent finish for 2009, with 20 vans attending (including our visitors) there were only 5 members who couldn't make it. We had 1 cancellation- associate members Ron & Chris Vasily. There was plenty of power with new power boxes having 9 outlets in each, water-well that's another matter, with Kevin's suggestion of having Y taps along with Y pieces & short hoses, which should be part of everyone's kit, we all had plenty of water. I must congratulate everyone for parking their vans where suggested by Eric or me without hesitation, your co-operation is much appreciated. My thanks to Eric for his assistance, hope you are feeling better.

It was a surprise to see Terry Trowbridge, John & Helen Hunter arrive in newer vans (1 less Gazal now) Thank you to the members who bought their Xmas lights. Although it was very hot & sticky it was another great rally. Well that's it for 2009, see you all in 2010, have a Merry Xmas & Happy New Year.

Rally co-ordinator... *Peter*

Please read the Travel news on page 7 – very informative

REMINDER

"Members are expected to wear their Club Shirts at "Official" Club gatherings and any other designated Club activities/gatherings or functions as stated by the Committee.

If you are unable to wear your shirt for any Good reason, then please seek special dispensation from the Committee for that particular time."

Saturday is official Club rally day (Club shirt day)

CLUB SHOP

END CAPS (DIRECTOR CHAIR)	\$ 1.50 EACH
TENT PEG PULLERS	\$ 5.00 EACH
MENS SHIRTS SIZES 'L' & 'XL'	\$ 33.00 EACH
WOMENS SHIRTS SIZE 14, 16	\$ 33.00 EACH
CAPS	\$ 18.00 EACH
CLUB STICKERS	\$ 5.00 EACH
DO NOT OVERTAKE SIGNS	\$ 20.00 EACH
FLAGS	\$ 17.00 EACH



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Equipment that we use for our caravans is expensive to replace and in some cases carries a high safety issue. Hence we all like to keep them in top working condition, however our power lead and water hoses are the most vulnerable as a consequence of their application (running some distance from our van). Members and their guests attending our rally venues are expected to respect others property and in particular never drive over the above mentioned two items regardless of the circumstances.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

Email address: peninsulacaravanclub@gmail.com

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President	Kevin Keary	3885 2603	0432548980	kevinkn@optusnet.com.au
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Treasurer	Vicki Mackenzie	3204 0705	0417253786	jandvmac52@optusnet.com.au
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Continued...

TRAVEL NEWS from Associate members Tom & Bernie Fuller

We are at Coffs Harbour returning from a trip up through Quirindi, Werris Creek, Tamworth, Manilla, Barraba, Bingara, Inverell, Texas, Dalby, Ipswich, Brisbane, and Coffs Harbour. The purpose of our trip was to have some caravan repairs carried out in Brisbane and meet up with other club members at Split Solitary Beach (Coffs Harbour), and along the way check out some free camping sites and see how long we could go off road without 240v. I like at least 3 hrs of TV per night and Bernie enjoys a hot shower before bed, our van has a full ensuite and a 12v TV through a transformer from 240v, we carry 140 ltr of water under the van, a deep cell battery supplying the 12 volt power 2x9kg gas bottles 3 way frig.

We found that by stopping at free camping sites as opposed to caravan parks there are a lot of caravanners/motorhomers out there that live in free camping sites and have only been in a caravan park once or twice a year and freely talk about their experiences and their power systems – solar v's generator. We could do what we wanted – 4hrs TV, a hot shower for both of us each night with hot meals the frig, stove and the hot water system on gas – and last out 2 days before the battery required a recharge (it would not run the TV) maybe 3 days with limited TV. Most of those we spoke to opted for solar, but all carried a generator just in case so their outlay was about \$2500 to \$3000 plus a generator (2kva) \$2200 there were a few who had generators only but these were not the permanent caravanners. So still not sure which way to go – maybe buy the generator and then build the solar system as time and \$'s permit (solar is getting cheaper and more reliable as new technology is developed).

Free camps-Currabubula (just north of Werris Creek) – in a park on the side of the road, no facilities; however a toilet is available in the adjacent showground. Split Rock Dam (Manilla) not real well maintained in camping area, Power \$15 per night unpowered \$8 good hot showers, water and toilets although we were told we could camp down near the boat ramp for free. Texas- In the pastoral reserve along the river nice and quiet and beautiful scenery overlooking the clear slow flowing river – no facilities however hot showers and toilets are available in the main street of Texas 1klm away. (Around 12 vans were camped along the banks.) Dalby – At Bowenville Reserve on the side of Oakey Creek quiet –toilets only – half a dozen vans on site. (Careful if you park down on the flat near the creek as it is black soil and if it rains you will not get out) Lake Dyer at Laidley (half way between Toowoomba and Ipswich) well maintained council site with on site caretaker first night \$22 second night free and then all subsequent nights \$22. Full facilities showers, toilets, washing machines, power. There is another site in Camps 4near Laidley, Thornton Centenary, this is now subject to the same fees as Lake Dyer and the key to the facilities needs to be collected at Lake Dyer before the 20klm drive out. (Not as good as Lake Dyer according to the other Nomads)

Our schedule brought us to Split Solitary Beach Coffs Harbour on the Thursday before the others were due to arrive (on Sunday and Monday). It poured rain on the Thursday night but settled down to a few showers on Friday (about lunch time) so we did a little retail therapy arriving back at the van at about 4.30pm at which time it started to pour rain again which very soon became torrential. We kept an eye on the creek to the back of the van which continued to rise. At about 7pm panic set in so I phoned the office and left a message on the answering machine, about 10 minutes later they came around and told us to evacuate to the visitors car park. 15minutes went by and we were packed up hooked up and ready to go, but our next door neighbour was in trouble his wife was on the phone trying to get some relatives to come and help(they were never going to be there before the van went under water) and he was trying to pack up himself- he wasn't sure how the awning came down (so in the dark didn't have a chance), his tap and hose fittings were brass needed to be screwed on and off with a pair of multi grips (these were somewhere in a toolbox on the rear floor of the car). By the time we got his awning down and the van on the ball the water was up to our knees it was about 8 to 8.30. We pulled up into the visitors' car park (which was a few feet above the water level) through water a foot deep and running quit swiftly down to the area which we were `camped. On arrival at the visitors car park the managers were instructing us to cram into this little area which to my way of thinking was ridiculous as the road out of the park was still not covered in water and the road out went quiet steeply to high ground so I kept going up to a vacant block of land at the top of the hill. Next morning we were surrounded with vans as the water in the car park started to come up to the floors of the vans at about 9.30 so they headed out – I understand that by this time the water was over the wheels of the 4WD's and the Commodore (the van I helped pack up) was up to the headlights, one petrol 4WD just struggled through breaking down just above the water line the next morning we went back onto site as all the water that went through the place 4to 5ft deep (1200/1500mm) was gone and the creek was just a trickle.

What we learnt from the experience was that when caravanning you should have a practiced routine for packing up your site and you should be able to do this in the dark and both occupants of the van should have their assigned duties and as well be able to assist each other or take over the others duties. There were two vans almost lost because neither of them were able to get their awnings down and their wives had never helped to pack up the outside of the van (Don't know what happens if he has a heart attack in the middle of no where). There are other things – quick snap or click on fittings, tools with quick organized access (leg winders and remember a battery drill does not work real well under water). The best advice does not necessarily come from the park owner (they have a vested interest to keep you there) if you have a way out to higher ground – take it!!!!!!! It may be the biggest flood (as this was) and it's too late when the van and car are floating down the creek.

Regards from Tom & Bernie Fuller