

## From the President

As we enter another calendar year, I trust you enjoyed your Christmas and New Year celebrations with family and friends and that you are ready and able to join in with the rallies planned for the Club in 2024.

We certainly ended the year with a bang in that our Christmas rally saw all sorts of chaotic weather but with the help of our borrowed gazebos and the park's camp kitchen, we were all lucky enough to enjoy a great weekend of food, drink and good company—together with the heat, torrential rain and gale force winds. Some of our members were luckier than others with Ken and Brenda setting off for home just 45 minutes or so before the winds brought down a large branch of a large gum tree which landed right on the concrete slab where their campervan had been. And on Sunday night, John P moved his ute ready to hitch up next morning which was lucky because another tree came down and would have landed right on top of the ute if it had been in the original spot. Let's hope the weather gods are kinder to us in 2024! Your new committee is working hard to make rallies fun and interesting and we just need some reasonable weather to assist us.

From ACCSA (Association of Caravan Clubs of SA) which we are affiliated with, is news that the State Rally in October (16-22) will now be held at Port Elliott. Goolwa was way too expensive and had restrictions on the activities allowed where Port Elliott are giving us sites for the marquee and allowing entertainment in the evenings. ACCSA are paying all deposits (one night's fee) for attendees and they have negotiated a fee of about \$36 per night for the other nights plus a small registration fee which will cover things like entertainment, pizza night etc. Plus there will be food vans, coffee vans, activities and excursions to choose from and going by the way the national rally ran in 2023, it will be a great time. It is our scheduled October rally so please sign up when the time comes to let ACCSA know our Club participants. More details will be out soon.

I look forward to catching up with you in the near future at Meningie, Wallaroo or Peterborough or beyond.



*Lesley Davis*  
President

*Far left: Where the Banwells had been.*

*Left: That tree is right where John's car had been.*

## 2024 Rallies

### Meningie 1-5 February

Vans listed as attending:

3, 8, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 29, 44, 56.

BBQ organiser: Lyn Osman

Payment in full should have been made by 8 January.

### Wallaroo 29 Feb—4 March

Vans listed as attending:

2, 3, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 44.

No deposit required.

### Peterborough 4-8 April

Vans listed as attending:

8, 14, 19.

No deposit but bookings need to be made by 15 March—more details to come.

### Clayton Bay May 2-6

### Waikerie June 13-17

### Lunch (TBC) July

### Stony Creek August 1—5

### River Ramble Sept 5 – 14

Loxton 5-8

Fort Courage 8-12

Renmark 12-14

### Port Elliott 16—22 October

### Nuriootpa 7—11 November

### TBC 5-9 December

### NOTE:

If your van is not listed for any of the above and you wish to go OR if you are unable to attend, please either text or phone Colleen on 0431 451 848 or email her at

[colleen.johnson1015@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.johnson1015@gmail.com)

**Congratulations to these members!**



## BIRTHDAYS

Feb 21 Don Jennings  
23 Cynthia Hodge

## ANNIVERSARIES

Feb 12 Robert & Vicki Clark  
17 Don & Lyn Jennings (50)  
18 Jim & Lee Daniels

## Treasurer's Report

for December 2023:

Opening balance:	\$3608.89
Plus deposits	
Pt W BBQ	\$72.50
Xmas raffle	\$180.00
	\$252.50
Minus expenses	
Xmas dinner	\$817.95
Web exp	\$211.16
Rally draw	\$40.00
Flowers	\$95.00
Pt W BBQ	\$68.65
	\$1232.76
Closing balance:	\$2628.63
Holding a/c:	\$2000.00
<b>Current a/c balance:</b>	<b>\$4628.63</b>

The club ran the dinner for about the same cost of the dinner subsidy (\$395) and entertainment (\$400) paid out in 2022 so no extra cost to provide all the food. The winners were all who attended at no cost and had a great night with plenty of yummy food

*Ramon Hodge*  
Treasurer

# ADELAIDE CARAVAN CLUB

## Minutes of GENERAL MEETING held at WILLUNGA on 10/12/2023 at 10 am

**Chairperson:** Lesley Davis

**Minutes:** Trish Parker

**Present:** 30 Members

**Apologies:** Kevin & Lorna Bretag, Brian and Ruth Neindorf,

Lesley welcomed all, and acknowledged the 50 years that the club has been incorporated. She congratulated our longest serving member, Yvonne Johnson who was a foundation member. Message of congratulations received from Keith and Dawn Wurfel.

**Previous Minutes:** Moved John Peake, Seconded Crawford Cagney, Carried.

### Business Arising:

Christmas Rally location 2024: Most suggestions made at Milang have been investigated and are not viable for a number of reasons. Too small for big vans, too expensive.

Normanville Caravan Park, and Lady Bay Golf Restaurant for Christmas dinner; suggestion is being investigated. More info later.

Meningie Rally Feb 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>. Deposit should have been paid by Dec 10<sup>th</sup>, and in full by Jan 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Correspondence:** nil

**Birthdays & Anniversaries:** as per pip

### Treasurer's Report:

Opening balance	\$3903.11
Income	\$50.00
Expenses:	\$344.22
Closing Balance: \$3608.89 plus holding account balance \$2,000 =	<b>\$5608.89</b>

Moved Robert Clark, Seconded John Peake that the Treasurers Report be accepted. Carried

Moved by Lesley and seconded by John Peake that \$75- \$100 be spent on flowers for Veli and Anneli.. Carried

**Rally Jackpot:** Lyn Osman

### General Business:

**Gazebos:** Many suggested getting our own gazebos. Committee still researching smaller gazebos, weight, cost etc.

**Dogs:** Procedure at mealtimes questioned. Reminder to be conscious of club expectations. Rob reminded members to communicate queries, and display respectful behaviour.

**Raffle.** Expenses were \$175, and Income \$180.

Winners were: Vicki and Trish Booze, Colleen Baileys, Mimi Christmas pudding, Jean Biscuits, Val and Heather Chocolates, Lyn Christmas Cake, Jean and Lyn Consolation prize.

**Bowls Winners:** Ramon & Cynthia Hodge.

**Shot Of The Day:** Keith Law, whose last throw knocked Chris Banwell's winning bowl out.

### Acknowledgements:

Thanks to all who helped with food, gazebos, prizes etc.

Thank you to Hodges who organised the Raffle.

Sympathy extended to Barry Schirmer whose mother passed away that week.

Flowers and note of support will be sent to Anneli and Veli Mattila. His health has deteriorated and he's in hospital.

### Special Recognition Award:

**"Absentia before Dementia"** Keith & Colleen Law and Rob & Vicki Clark, held over from last rally because those who should have been there weren't.

**Meeting Closed:** 10:20 am – followed by 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake.

## Rally Report from Port Willunga



*Above & Left:  
the Thursday  
cooks—Ramon,  
Keith, Neville,  
John and Mark..*

*Below: under the  
gazebos and Ken  
rigging up some  
fancy lights for  
us.*



Thursday and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> December was a good start for the rally with both days being in the 30C's. Most members had arrived by Thursday afternoon at varying times and it was all hands on deck in the afternoon erecting the marquee very kindly borrowed and transported by Lesley for our weekend of celebrations. This was the first time that the club had planned to have Christmas dinner at the caravan park as opposed to going out to a hotel. Happy hour on Thursday night kicked off under the newly erected marquee and it all went off well with the addition of the solar lights provided and set up by Brenda & Jean and Mark and Kym, a very festive addition to the marquee. There was much joviality and laughter to be had for the start of the weekend.

Friday morning was a bit hit and miss with the weather with black clouds forming although the temperature was still in the 30C's. A few wind gusts came and went without too much bother. Some of the members went out to discover the sights and attractions of the area. Some even went skinny dipping! Most of the caravan awnings went up as the wind gusts were somewhat hit and miss.

On Saturday morning at 8 am the rains started with earnest. It was heavy and steady for the remainder of the day and puddles began to form on the dirt sites we were parked on.

The powers that be, gave us a break from the rain at 2 pm in order for us to play our disc bowls on the artificial turf near the camp kitchen. It was the most hilarious game I have attended with many belly laughs and comments along the way. Our British brothers did us proud in taking on the bowls organization & I must say they did it extremely well. Starting time was very important and we certainly kicked off at precisely 2pm. Some of the descriptions of the shots being made were very funny. Here is just a few ..... "Cock a doodle do" "Skipper doodle" "Touchey" "Frilly Knickers!" "Tossers" & "Flickers" were just some of the comments flying around.

The marquee was dismantled on Saturday after we discovered the weather forecast was not going to improve. It was hung up to dry under the verandah area of the camp kitchen. Plan B came into action in that we had no option but to set up in the camp kitchen for our Christmas celebrations. The committee members did the club proud with their talents in cooking a magnificent Christmas feast of varying yummy meats and fish with delicious salads, roast potatoes and all the trimmings and sauces to accompany the feast and finally followed by delicious Christmas pudding and custard or pavlova. The Christmas raffle went well with most people going home with a prize and again thanks to those who arranged same. I'm sure everyone present enjoyed the Christmas celebrations and food. Top marks for all the helpers.

Sunday was forecast with another day of constant rain, so some of the members decided to leave after the meeting in the camp kitchen and the celebration of our 50 years with a yummy cake for the Adelaide Caravan Club. What a milestone. I believe it is the longest running caravan club in SA. (Editor note: might be the second longest—but still an achievement.) Those who stayed on for Sunday night were in for a big surprise of very windy weather and many trees in the park coming down. John & Jill Peake were lucky that they moved their vehicle on Sunday night and the tree that came down near them missed their vehicle by 40 cms!! Lucky you moved it Peakey.

I hope all the participants enjoyed their time at Pt Willunga despite the appalling weather, but that is something beyond our control. On that note I look forward to seeing you all at Meningie in February after a nice Christmas and New Year break. Travel safe my friends and see you when I'm looking at you! next!!!



*Clockwise from top left: Hanging out the gazebos to dry: one Christmas table; Ramon and Cynthia were the bowls winners; Keith took out SOD; the Clarks and the Laws tried to hide when given their Absentia through De-mentia awards; another Christmas table or two.*



Above: the 50th anniversary of the Adelaide Caravan Club was celebrated in style with Michael and Suzanne cutting the cake.



Above: Colleen & Keith got in the mood.  
Right: Ramon with his dinner.



Above: Chris tried to keep Ramon & Cynthia and Keith & Colleen under control at bowls.  
Right: Trevor made all the ladies a special trivet out of recycled wood. Thanks Trevor.

## Program for Meningie

Thurs	5 pm	Happy hour and welcome
	6 pm	Club BBQ (Lyn O)
Friday	4 pm	Disk bowls
	5 pm	Happy Hour
	6 pm	*Pub meal or long table/Quiz
Sat	10 am	Committee meeting
	4 pm	General meeting
	5 pm	Happy hour
	6 pm	*Pub meal or long table/Quiz
Sun	5 pm	Happy hour

\*As a group, we could dine out at the Golf Club or Bowling Club on the Friday night or the Hotel either Friday or Saturday nights (depending on availability). We will decide on Thursday night but if you are really wanting to go but won't be there on Thursday night, let Lesley know and she'll add your name to the list.

On the other night, we'll have an **Australia Day quiz** in the camp kitchen immediately after our dinner.

### Other things to do:

- Meningie Cheese Factory— open daily 8.30 am—5 pm
- Birdman of the Coorong— photo opportunity for the young-at-heart or agile members to be mounted on the ostrich
- Enjoy a walk along the Pelican Path on the Lake's foreshore , the Lions Club walking trail or the climb to the Meningie lookout on its trails.
- Relax with a coffee and cake or pastry at Freshies Café, Breeze Café or the Meningie Bakery.

## Some messages received by the Club

From John & Sue Birchall

Subject: Hello to all

Message: Yes we will be back next year (2024). We have a new little Westie, Piper, now 5 months old, having the last of her vaccinations shortly. John has some casual work until January 2024 with the grain harvest and we are off to Hawaii at the end of January for 4 weeks. Wishing you all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

Regards

John and Sue

28/10/2023

From: Anneli and Veli

Thank you for your lovely flowers and good wishes everyone, very much appreciated. Xxoo Love Veli and Anneli

Veli is doing better and hopefully can come home tomorrow if everything goes well.

12/12/2023

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT  
EDITION IS 10 TH  
FEBRUARY**

### Perks of reaching 60 or being over 70 and heading towards 80!

1. Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
2. In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
3. No one expects you to run--anywhere.
4. People call at 8 PM and ask: "Did I wake you?"
5. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
6. There is nothing left to learn the hard way.
7. Things you buy now won't wear out.
8. You can eat supper at 5 PM .
9. You can live without sex but not your glasses.
10. Your supply of brain cells is finally down to manageable size.
11. You can't remember who sent you this list.
12. And you notice these are all in Big Print for your convenience.

**"As you get older,  
three things happen:  
The first is  
your memory goes,  
and I can't remember  
the other two."**

