



Meeting DOT POINTS

Wednesday 18th February 2015

President Greg welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies: Camilla, Wendy, John

Service Hours: So far this Feb we have accrued 64 hours of recorded service

Tech Stuff: Geoff has updated the web page so it is “less crowded”. There is now also a link on the secret Facebook page called PINNED POSTS which accesses the web site direct via about 15 links. The website will be updated over time.

Guest Speaker: Craig Morgan, OZ Caravans, Adelaide

- Craig has previously managed caravan parks and been involved in tourism prior to current vocation of caravan service and maintenance
- When storing Pop Top Caravans at home don't clip down the roof
- All caravans must have a smoke detector and fire extinguisher which is “in date” (Chris H did some subsequent research re extinguishers - the life is 7 years from date of manufacture, which is stamped on unit)
- Check smoke detector & regularly change batteries
- Gas leaks are common in caravans particularly behind the fridge and should be checked for regularly (Up to 20% of vans have gas leaks detected during service. You can self-check for leaks by installing a gas safety gauge. Simply turn all appliances off and then the bottle and watch for the gauge to drop.)
- Brakes and bearings need to be checked every 12 months or 10000kms. Grease deteriorates over time particularly in colder climates – moisture gets in during storage and boils when van moved turning grease black.
- Suspension, electric brakes, hand brake adjustment need regular assessment
- Wheel nuts should be checked prior to each trip as well as lights and electricals as moisture can get in
- A full service every 12 months or 10000kms should cover all of the above, costs around \$200 - \$300 and takes 2-3 hrs
- Tyres have a max life of 6 years even if they look fine and have lots of tread left. The Cobalt Chloride which preserves the tyre rubber leaches out leading to potential failure.
- Mirrors - Craig says: If your van is < 7'6"wide there is no need for extension mirrors. If your van is 7'6"wide you must have a right hand extension mirror. If your van is > 7'6"you must have an extension mirror on both sides of the car.
Note: RACQ in Qld says: the law is very subjective - best test is if you can see somebody (e.g. a policeman) standing at the rear corner of the van from your normal seating position then you comply. Remember to remove extension mirrors when the van is not attached.
- Check your ball weight of the van once loaded to make sure it is within design specifications for towing vehicle. Higher ball weight significantly reduces the maximum towing weight.
- Fit Light Truck tyres if possible as these are stronger

- Craig then fielded many questions regarding shackles, suspension modifications, rear vision cameras, weight on the ball, tare weights of vans plus more
- Craig Morgan the Service manager is always available to give advice over the phone. OZ Caravans is located at 1505 South Road, Darlington SA, Phone 08 8296 5000
- ONE OF OUR BEST GUEST SPEAKERS

Charter Function update:

- 41 attendees confirmed so far with more RSVP's anticipated
- RC of Port Augusta has donated PHF credits (but not sure how many)
- RC of Wishart has donated 2 PHF credits
- Members requested to review the fund raising letter sent out by Robin and Annette
- Charter pins and President's Collar have been ordered

Other News:

- Peta advised that the Club has a new bank account and details are on the website
- Short discussion on water shortage at BH. Water is "still drinkable" and we will be able to connect hoses to taps as usual. May pay to carry extra drinking water just in case.
- Advance notice that D9630 Conference will be at Roma in March 2016