



Alfred County Herald 2025

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Chairman's Chatter

Good day fellow caravanners. I trust you all had a productive and good time and that all of you are well.

The Mac Nicol's outing was a highlight, and the resort will be considered again. We are also looking at resorts to visit next year. Proposals for resorts in our area would be appreciated. We believe that Mittenwald has new owners and will be investigated.

The payment for the Umtentweni rally is to be made by 19 May 2025.

The intention information for Rally SA will also be attached to the email accompanying this newsletter.

Johan von Backström

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Mac Nicol Rally Report: 11 – 13 April 2025

We were all looking forward to another extraordinary enjoyable rally at a resort that has become dear to us all – Mac Nicol Resort at Bazeley beach. The Bookers and von Backströms decided to leave early Friday morning to have a whole day to setup camp and settle in.

To our surprise, Martin and Susan was there before us and chose to set up camp close to the swimming pools. Glenda however, had a different idea to set up camp closer to the reeds, more to the back of the resort. Finding Martin and Susan where they parked, made us all setting up camp there. This was not a bad place to have the rally.

The level above us, was allocated to a group of motorhomes who also had a rally at Mac Nicol. Just as we all had a different make of caravans, so was there a big variety of motorhomes. The disadvantage of the motorhome (this is my opinion) is that, once parked and setting up your site, you cannot pack up and go somewhere quickly. To counter this, they all towed a smaller vehicle, or had a small motorbike on a lift at the back of the motorhome. Similarly to us, they also “kuier” at one stand and then moved to another. A happy bunch of people.

The picture below shows the fruit of the Fish Poison or Sea Poison tree. All parts of the tree contain saponin, a poison and the seeds are traditionally used to stun fish.



The resort is neat, and the sites are well planned. A snippet of our vans at the rally is shown above.

Bill and Sheila Pellew were the Marshals for the weekend. On Friday evening, they provided us with “wors”, buns and a choice of sauces. Indeed, very well prepared for this illustrious occasion. Bill has shown signs of a “kokkedoor” chef in making.



On Saturday afternoon, we were invited to play a domino game called “Mexican Train”. What an exciting and person involving game it was. It captured our attention, it was very funny and it also allow the participant to work out “schemes” to outwit the other – sometimes difficult to read the strategy of the opposition.



There also was time to be with family, enjoying each other's company.



Saturday evening, the owners of the resort arranged some very hot braai fires to be enjoyed by all campers at the resort. Quickly we “braaied” next to campers from other organisations, sharing the continuous joy of outdoor life. What separate us was the ability to eat with our own region and enjoying showing passion for the special person in our life as well as just sharing interests and enjoying our food.



Apart from sitting, enjoying the outing, reading books that was not finished at home, it was also time to close the rally. Sunday mornings are reserved for a special time of religious reflection and then the long-awaited friendlies.



It is so nice to see caravanner come to our rallies lately. Ann Foxcroft delivered the usual, so practical and applicable religious message. Apart from the regular welcomes, statistics, Bill Pellew was the “Fines Master”. His wit, to the point accusations, explanation of sins committed, had us laughing and paying up our fines.

From the committee, thank you all for your attendance.

Last Note

With the writing of the newsletter, the news came that Hibberdene cannot accommodate us anymore and we had to find a new venue. Frank and Dot Ellison did some scouting and proposed that we go to Umtentweni Caravan Park. We have last camped there three years ago. It seems that the new owner has had some upgrades done. The Committee reviewed other options and collectively decided to go to Umtentweni Caravan Park.

Frank Ellison, the Chief Rally Marshall comments are posted on page 4.

Thought for daily living.

We all act and behave on the “truth” we perceive it to be, which may not be the truth at all. What are the “truths” you have about you and others?

Banking Details

Caravan Club of SA – Alfred County

FNB Marine Drive Shelly Beach

Branch Code: 250062

Account No. 63003321287

Use your surname as reference

NB. If paying EFT R20 rally fees + park fees.

BIRTHDAYS

9 April Laraine Coetzer

16 April Bill Pellew

26 April Arie Haage

24 May Johan von Backström

ANNIVERSARIES

15 April Leonard & Wanda Cronje

6 May Frank & Dot Ellison

IN OUR THOUGHTS

Louis Manté

Rosemary Haage

FROM THE PEN OF THE CHIEF RALLY MARSHAL

What an entertaining rally we had at Mac Nicol's, Bazeley Beach, all kudos to Bill and Sheila. They worked hard to give us a good time. If future rallies continue in the same format as the recent ones, we will have many new caravanning members knocking at our door. (HOPEFULLY)



The next rally is at Umtentweni Caravan Resort, one we have not visited for many years. The marshals for the weekend will be Johan and Breggie, "watch this space". The rate for this rally will be **R100 PPPN** plus **R20 rally fee** and **R10 county Imali**. Johan and Breggie will make an oxtail pot for Friday evening and will **R60 PPPN**. Please pay into regions account and advise Glenda of your intention by 18 May latest. Details and costs of any additional items i.e. food will be advised.

Also remember that Umtentweni seemingly has electricity meters at their sites. Please check the reading of this meter when arriving and when vacating the site. **Expected cost for electricity could/will be R10 per night.**

There will be no rally in June as Rally Natal will happen the weekend of 13/14/15 at Karridene. The intention and booking details is circulated and we trust as many County members as possible will make an effort to be there.

The July rally will be the A.G.M. at Marlon. Please diarise this event for 25/26 and let's get as many members and guests as possible.

Frank Ellison

SCRIBE

Being considerate toward others is a vital quality that should always be demonstrated. It helps create a comfortable and respectful environment for everyone. With this in mind, we kindly ask all smokers to be mindful of those who do not smoke. **Please refrain from smoking during both informal and formal gatherings.** Let's work together to ensure that everyone feels at ease and included. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Declaration: I hereby declare that all material in this newsletter has NOT been copied from any website and contains the original pictures either taken or supplied by members. These are posted with their respective approval.