

RALLIES

AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF CARAVAN CLUB MEMBERSHIP

We generally rally once a month at different venues decided by the Committee, details of which are provided in the monthly newsletter sent to all members.

A rally is a gathering of the members of a Region of the CCSA in their caravans/tents at a pre-arranged venue. During the rally, usually Friday evening and Sunday morning, all present at the rally have a get-together called a "friendly circle". This is an important tradition that has developed in Natal and is probably unique and was born out of the amiable manner of all Natalians and their desire to be friendly to one another. The opportunity is taken at these occasions to make announcements, acknowledge visitors, make official presentations and generally be sociable.

CCSA holds rallies at least 12 times per year, 6 of these are "National Rallies" where every Region in South Africa rallies on the same weekend, at various venues. The dates and venues for the other 6 are decided on by the individual Committees and are known as "Regional Rallies". Attendance at a rally entitles a member to a "disc". To qualify for a disc, a member must attend the rally for at least one night in their own

RALLY DISCS

Recognition is a very important feature of the CCSA way of life.

To receive a rally disc you must spend at least one night of the weekend at the rally with your caravan/tent. There are two types of rally discs:

- a) National Disc - a round silver disc issued to members attending any National rally in the country. The date and venue are engraved on the disc.
- b) Regional Disc - Each Region has its own individual disc which is issued at Regional rallies. Natal Highway's disc is a rectangular blue disc on which the Region's emblem, the Strelitzia, is depicted. These, too, are engraved with the date and venue.

caravan/tent. Many members display the discs they have earned on "bragboards" at their caravans/tents when at rallies in this way "introducing" themselves to passers-by who stop for a chat.



Many rallies are arranged with a specific theme, which often involves some form of fun voluntary competition, with a floating trophy to suit. Some recent themes include: Fishing, Potjie cooking, wine tasting, building. No-one is participating in any organised by appointed marshals – a Senior who is responsible for co-ordinating the entertainment, functions etc. for the weekend. He is assisted by, usually, two families who share the balance of the weekend's duties. Junior marshals, over the age of 8 years and usually the children of the duty marshals, perform all the 'gofor' jobs and are very valuable assistants to have. In recognition of the work done by the marshals Marshal bars, are presented to them at Friendly Circle on Sunday.

participation is voluntary

Attendance at a rally is simple to arrange. If you plan to be a regular rallier, an application form to be placed on the permanent list is available from the Secretary. This obliges you to inform her, by the Monday preceding the rally, if you cannot attend. Alternatively advise her telephonically, also by the Monday preceding the rally, that you wish to attend. Pre-notice is essential to assist with site bookings and catering quantities. As a member you are welcome to invite friends, and family to join you at a rally as visitors under the following conditions.

Visitors are defined as: Persons who do not reside permanently under the same roof as the member. They are welcome in their own caravan or tent or may visit in the caravan/tent of a member. The secretary will happily advise the ruling tariff for each category of visitor. To avoid any misuse of this offer a person may attend as a visitor twice whereafter they are expected to join the Club as members to be able to enjoy the privileges that a paid up member enjoys.

visitors

If you so desire, when you are away on holiday and the local Region where you are holidaying is having a rally, you can join them and you will always be made welcome in the family of the CCSA. Simply advise the relevant Regional Secretary.

Apart from normal rallies, special Provincial Rallies are arranged which all Regions in the Province are encouraged to attend. A feature of these rallies is usually a tournament or inter-Regional competition. We currently feature "Rally Natal", usually with sport and competitions in the forefront, "Pedal Car Rally" which features a one-hour endurance race with up to twelve teams competing. There are also individual events for children up to veterans.

Belonging to a Club and attending rallies is an ideal way of enjoying your caravan/tent to the full in the relative safety of being with others. If you have not done so – give it a try.

To arrange to attend as a visitor phone the Secretary at the number given in the latest newsletter a copy of which can be found in this website under "news".