



Caravan Industry Association of Australia

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Caravan Industry Association of Australia Announces New Board

Following an election of members this week a new National Board was announced to lead Caravan Industry Association of Australia forward in its next stage of development.

Elected from a strong ballot of 30 nominees the new Board will be comprised of:

- **Mark Lindsay**, outgoing Chairman of the current Board, holiday park and accommodation operator across multiple businesses located in two states
- **Chris Goddard**, Managing Director of Vehicle Components – a leading independent suspension and off-road coupling manufacturer, with over 40 years experience in the automotive and recreational vehicle industry (current Director)
- **Dennis Austin**, owner of a well known caravan sales, camping store and leisure accessory business in Tasmania for over 25 years (current Director)
- **Faye Watson**, been involved in the industry for nearly forty years including a caravan park and her current retail dealership – Watson's Caravans & RV's Coffs Harbour. Watson has been on the Board of CCIA NSW since 2008 where she is currently Vice-President
- **Grant Wilckens**, CEO and Director of Discovery Parks Groups, responsible for over 650 staff across 34 parks, hosting close to 1.2m customer nights annually across the portfolio and with a value in excess of \$350 million
- **James Kelly**, Managing Director and co-founder Lifestyle Communities which has a market value of \$240 million and owns 11 residential land lease communities in various stages of development and/or completion
- **Rudy Pieck**, with over 25 years of experience in public practice, he is Chairman of Partners for BDO (SA), is a member of the 5 person

National Board for BDO Australia Limited, and leads BDO's tourist park specialization team in Australia

- **Donna Cocking**, has 19 years experience as owner/operator in a family tourism business, has held numerous committee and board positions including State Director WA for Top Tourist Parks, and is the immediate past President of Caravan Industry Association WA
- **Gerry Ryan OAM**, founder of Jayco, the largest caravan manufacturer in Australia accounting for nearly 50% of manufacturing production in the industry. Ryan also has extensive interests and/or governance positions within sporting, tourism, leisure, and entertainment businesses in Australia.

"We are excited by the breadth of industry and commercial knowledge that the new Board will bring to our Association, and to the industry in general," said Stuart Lamont, CEO of Caravan Industry Association of Australia.

"With a change of leadership there will always be challenges, but we are confident that we are equal to them, and will move boldly through the transition for the good of all industry participants."

We would like to acknowledge the outgoing Board members who have contributed significantly to the organisations growth over the past few years, and who have overseen the merger of two national bodies into one peak national body for the industry, the collaborative reduction with state caravanning associations of individual marketing brands into one industry message – Let's Go Caravanning and Camping, and the development of strategy around whole of industry accreditation programs carrying the recently launched Accreditation Key," said Lamont.

The introduction of the new Board will also be overlaid with a newly formed Advisory Council made up of State Association CEO's as the operational guardians of these important industry organisations, which is due to take effect from November 2015.

"The ability of the state associations and the Federal national body to work even closer together will see great benefit moving forward. Consistency of message as well as leveraging individual activities together will mean better outcomes for the industry and greater returns for industry investment," Lamont finished.

Reducing from 14 in number to 9 the newly announced Board will take office on July 1 2015.

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ENDS: Please use the full name when referring to Caravan Industry Association of Australia, not the acronym CIAA, as several unconnected organisations use this acronym. For further information including requests for comment or imagery, please contact Callie Henderson, Ph 07 3262 6566, email callie@caravanindustry.com.au

Caravan Industry Association of Australia is the national peak body for the Australian caravanning and holiday parks sector (caravan holiday parks, caravans, motorhomes, camper trailers, tent trailers, camping, cabins, plus other RVs and industry suppliers). Caravan Industry Association of Australia is a member of the National Tourism Alliance, a category sponsor in the National Tourism Awards, runs an industry accreditation program, and coordinates committees in areas of marketing, research, and industry training.

Caravan Industry Association of Australia is a membership based organisation with the individual State Caravanning (Parks and Trade) Associations as members, has over 1,200 industry businesses which make a financial contribution towards industry promotion and development through a cooperative Fund, and communicates to over 256,000 caravanning and camping consumers through a consumer VIP Club.