

ROYAL FLAIR NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2021



G'Day Royal Flarians and welcome to our September Spring edition of

THE FLARIAN

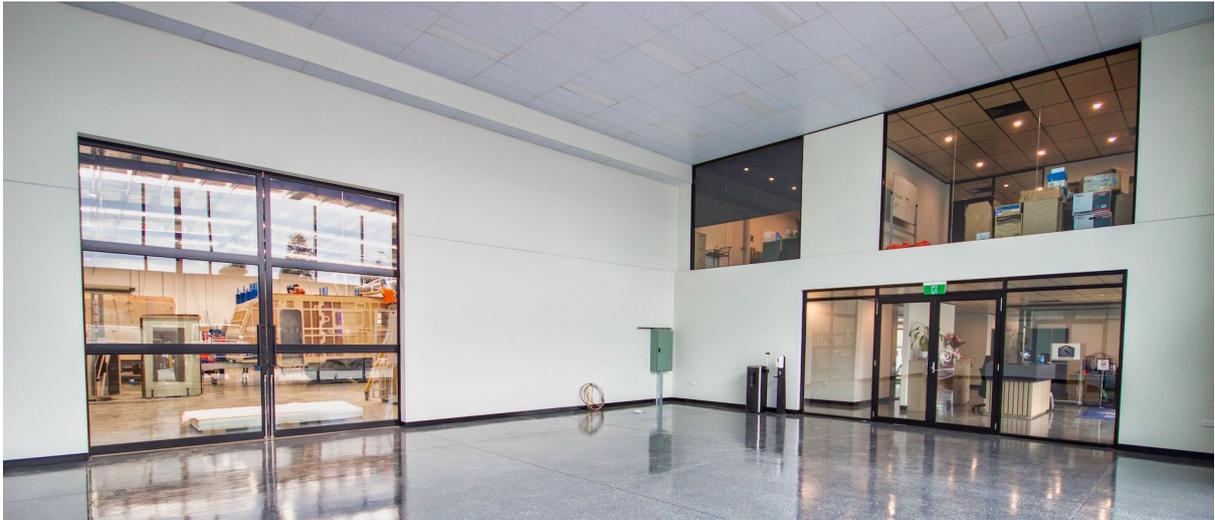
Royal flair Caravans have now moved into their new state of the art factory at Epping (Victoria) and our marketing manager Max has this update.

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“Progress at the new factory continues apace with the showroom fast approaching completion. It has been a lifelong dream of the Deralas Family to have a shiny state of the art showroom to display our vans. Now the floors are complete, things are really coming together and we can’t wait to show you round once Melbourne reopens. We are planning to add big screens, luxurious couches and most importantly a coffee machine for our guests! “



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Thankyou Max and we look forward to updates and when Covid allows to attend the grand opening.

You will notice the shirts worn by the Deralas family are high vis. They are employee shirts only and not member shirts. Design of member shirts may be reviewed later on and we will keep you posted.

Max has also been busy redesigning the Royal Flair Caravan we site. One of the features on it is a section I have been after for some time now and, that is where you can go back and view previous issues of our newsletters. To view them just go to www.royalflaircaravans.com.au and up on the top go to “about” then click on newsletters. We have 2020 and 2021 up. Max is still working on various aspects of the web site and we will keep you posted.

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NAGAMBIE GET TOGETHER 2022:

As you know we had to cancel out our mini get together for next month due to Covid.

We are now planning our usual big event for next October (2022) from 14th to 16th at Nagambie Lakes Caravan Park here in Victoria. Please take note of the following, especially for our new members who have not joined us before.

We already have 25 vans “registered” to come and that tells me we will probably have our biggest attendance ever. Many members have been coming to this great event over the years and supporting it, and therefore we have to give those people preference to the sites they have been on. As such we want to ensure you have the opportunity to have your same sites as you did in April this year. We are taking “registrations” and there is no deposit required until two weeks prior to the event, which means if you cannot come then you will not be losing your deposit. If you would like to register please either message or email me asap.

For our **new members** who have either recently taken delivery of their vans or, who will have them by then, you are also welcome to join us and we look forward to meeting you. There are plenty of sites and we will allocate you one and I will keep a separate list until I can clear up the permanent ones. So please also either message or email me if you would like to join us.

FROM OUR WARRANTY MANAGER MARK:

Please bear in mind the following regarding current warranty claims and parts. While our new factory is in full production we, like other caravan manufacturers are experiencing delays in obtaining necessary part due to Covid lockdowns. Some parts suppliers are completely shut and others only partly open with reduced staff numbers. We are doing our best with warranty claims and we ask you to be patient. Thank you. Mark.

CAMPING NEXT DOOR TO ALICE:

You may recall some time ago we told you about New Home Caravans. This was the caravan company started by Bill’s father Pandelis)(Peter), and was established in 2011 at Campbellfield in Melbourne. In later years it became Royal Flair Caravans, and, Bill’s father worked there proudly making caravans with a vision that the company would expand and continue producing caravans that are still of high quality and very sought after in the market today.

As many of you know he sadly passed away last year, but, the family tradition of producing a great and very much sought after range of Royal Flair caravans continues.



There are still some New Home caravans in existence, and one in particular is owned by Julieann & Rick Smolenaars in N.S.W. who have carried out a magnificent job in restoring it and have named it "Alice". This is their story behind it.

"What we believed as was written on the registration papers it told us the van we purchased was a 1985 New Home Van, this lead the research into two things first of all we had never heard of this brand of caravan and something told us the shape and styling of this van she was much older. This is where we owe a special thanks to all the people that helped with the research of the van maker and the year of manufacture, which has since revealed she was established in 1978 and that New Home is the predecessor of Royal Flair also a special thanks to John and the Royal flair team (Mark Burns) who helped source the new stickers to replace the old ones.

The renovation was very challenging and we questioned ourselves can we do this? As Rick the chef and Jules an Age care disability worker, what could go wrong!!! First the removal and rebuild of the pop-top and the structural rebuild of the roof timbers was a major part of making her water tight.

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Then every external part of the van had to be removed and the old silicon stripped and all metal bits polished, rotted timbers replaced after all of this the exterior was put back together with the addition of some new checker plate to make her shine.

She was then repainted, the under chassis was next, de-rusted, strengthened, primed and re-painted and waterproofed underneath, followed by all the windows and fixtures were removed, fixed and resealed and tinted, for safety Alice then had to be rewired by my brother who is a qualified electrician, I then also fitted a full off grid 12volt battery system throughout the van, the hydraulic brakes were overhauled and external lights all replaced with LED's.

Then the internal work began this was a full refit (except the original kitchen cupboard frames) this included the new ply cladding to most walls and ceiling, a new double bed built with new storage and new cabinets and draws replaced one of the lounges, I handmade all the new cupboard doors and draws for the kitchen fitted new benchtops, new flooring was laid and then the beautiful styling of Alice was completed by Jules to make as proud owners of Alice. If you wish to follow our Instagram Page please see @campingnextdoorto_alice Rick and Jules".

The pictures below certainly show the great effort put into the restoration of Alice.

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Thank you both and we look forward to seeing you at Nagambie next year. The Deralas family will be very proud of what you have achieved.

OK, That's it for our September issue. If you would like to contribute an item please email or message me. Don't forget we also have our Kidz Corner section, so if your children would like to contribute an article we would love to see it. In the meantime please keep safe, and, if you are fortunate enough to be on the road take care.

**Cheers! John
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