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## CMCA expands its RV park model to welcome non-members

The Campervan & Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) has expanded its CMCA RV Park model to allow non-members access to its network of RV parks around Australia.

CMCA is the largest recreational vehicle club in Australia with over 70,000 members, and its RV parks project provides an alternate accommodation option for travellers with self-contained vehicles (a unit that captures its waste) who are only looking to access basic facilities such as potable water and a black/grey water dump point.

These parks were initially designed for member only purposes; however, after consultation with the membership and other strategic partners, the club's board believes that now is the perfect opportunity to further develop this low-cost camping option, and it has been agreed to allow a percentage of non-members to access these sites.

CMCA chairman Garry Lee said, "This is an exciting step for CMCA as we look at ways to grow our membership. Enhancing participation is one way we can continue to grow and prosper as a club".

The park rules and regulations remain the same for both members and non-members; however, only up to 15% of the sites may be available for non-members during busy periods. Each park will be assessed individually to determine this mix.

"For example, only once in the last two years has our RV park in Ingham, Qld been at full capacity, and that was only the result of a major tourism event held at the time.

"There are times throughout the year where our parks are underutilised, and this gives us an opportunity to make them available to non-members for a slightly higher fee, which can be reassessed at any time" he added.

By allowing non-members to use these parks for a higher fee, the aim is to entice them to join the club.

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"We hope members will use this opportunity to welcome non-members to our parks so they can develop a feel for the community they could become a part of.

"This concept opens up a larger market, and local Government has been more accommodating already. We have gained interest from 40 councils across Australia who will consider allowing CMCA to lease or purchase suitable blocks of land for park development" said Mr Lee.

The number of commercial parks available around Australia is reportedly declining, with only 1300-1400 parks currently operating. The demand for a low-cost alternative is increasing and CMCA is now meeting this need across the country.

The club already has RV parks operating in Ingham, Bundaberg, Chinchilla (Qld) and Railton (Tas). The club's park in Euston (NSW) is undergoing redevelopment and a sixth park in Penola (SA) is in its early stages of development.

## **Further information**

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