



# Caravan Talk

SWIFT CARAVAN SERVICES

## CaravanTalk is Back

We have listened to your feedback and you miss our seasonal newsletter.

**With delight, we have re-introduced "CaravanTalk".**

It will now be electronic rather than paper and we enclose our first edition.

This includes information on common topics raised during our customer servicing and maintenance tips to help you in your travels.

## Do you need your caravan serviced?



Present a printout of this email when booking in your caravan for an under-carriage service in **June 2017** and receive a **\$50 discount.**

*Call us on 03 9729 8477 to arrange a booking.*

*T&C's Apply*

[www.swiftcaravanservices.com.au](http://www.swiftcaravanservices.com.au)

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## Bike Racks

**Bicycles can prove difficult to take with you.**

**Swift Caravan Services can advise you on the pros and cons of installing bike racks including:**

- **Turning circle clearance**
- **Tow ball mass and subsequent weight distribution issues**
- **Ease of access to the car and caravan boots**
- **Sway control**
- **Welfare of the bikes**
- **The practicality of the hitch up process**



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## Resealing

**Either sealed poorly from the start or the sealant has broken down, leaking windows, vents or doors can quickly cause expensive repairs. Foam tape is used to seal some caravans however, unfortunately, it has a limited lifetime. These can be notorious for allowing water seepage. We take great pride in our sealing, and the techniques we use.**

[Read More on Resealing](#)



## Tyres

For caravan tyres, getting old is definitely BAD news!  
They have a birthday, just like us – As a rule of thumb, they are good for 5-6 years!



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## Awnings

As the awning is the outer-most extremity on the left side it cops damage if you caravan comes too close to something. Generally as a repair we replace the cloth and roller system if it has been scraped or torn in the wind. This then provides new tensioners on both sides of the blind as well. We install either the Dometic 8500/8300 or Carefree Awnings.



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## Hail Damage

Hail damage to caravans can be quite extensive. Getting your caravan back to normal is an easy process when you work with professionals like Swift. Need to make a claim with your insurer? Our team is adept with all the major companies and can provide certified caravan insurance repairs



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## Handy Hints

### Swaying Caravan?

Quite often it can be due to a low ball-weight. Try increasing the ball weight (within the car's towing capacity) and see whether that improves the situation.

Check out our [demonstration video](#)

### Caravan Heaters

Diesel heaters are a massive success, fantastic for 'free campers'. We've installed a lot now as they are becoming very popular.

### Breakaway Batteries

The battery that powers the caravan brakes if the caravan ever broke away from the car.

We replace a lot. We probably find 70% are dead flat when servicing caravans.

Unfortunately in a lot of caravans these batteries only get charged from PIN 2 (Auxiliary Wire) when the caravan is being towed thus why they're so often flat, as they don't get much chance to be charged!



## 7-Pin Flat Plugs

Common problem with these plugs is indicators become erratic. The pins on either end of these flat plugs get squashed every time the plug is connected. An easy fix is to carefully spread these outer pins and this usually resolves erratic indicators.

## Running your caravan fridge when driving

Caravan fridges (3-way fridges) run off the car's alternator when towing. Thus make sure an auxiliary wire has been fitted to the tow vehicle and ideally make sure it has an automatic switch so it's only 'live' when the car is running.

## Keeping Caravan Batteries Healthy

We change so many caravan batteries. Remember they can't charge themselves, and left un-charged they don't last very long. Charge them with either a smart charger or a solar panel, all year long.

## Hot Water Service Anodes

In some caravan hot water services is a sacrificial anode that corrodes rather than the tank. Generally look at changing these every 18 months to 2 years

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