

Dear %custfullname%

Winter has well and truly arrived now and despite the cold there are still a large number of motorhomes and caravans on the road enjoying all that New Zealand has to offer.

Inline water filter

We have developed a method where we can add an inline water filter to the cold-water supply to the kitchen tap in most motorhomes. The cartridge is reasonably simple to change when required. I am told that it improves the taste of your cup of Tea!

Installation is dependent on how accessible the cold-water pipe is and making the filter accessible for servicing in the future.

Please contact us for a pricing to have this fitted to your motorhome.

Batteries

We have received a few calls about the battery readings on motorhomes and I thought it worthwhile to provide a summary of the information that various motorhome manufacturers provide.

<u>Battery voltage</u>	<u>Condition of battery (remaining usable capacity)</u>
More than 12.7V	Battery fully charged or being charged.
12.3V	Approx 50%
12.0V	Approx 25%
11.5V	Approx 0%

Briefly, any reading above 12.7V indicates the battery is being charged or has just received a charge. Anything below 12.0V indicates the battery needs to be charged. Readings in between are in the working range. You will notice that as soon as you turn on lights etc the battery voltage will drop from 12.7V which indicates there is a load being applied to the battery. The battery voltage at 11.5V is not completely discharged. There is still some storage capacity left but if you completely discharge a deep cycle battery (<10.0V) you will significantly shorten its life expectancy.

The numbers above are based on nothing being turned on inside the motorhome and no incoming charge including solar panel.

In an ideal world you would not let your batteries go under 12.0V.

Solar charging in winter

If you notice your batteries seem to be going down quickly in winter it may be a result of "incremental losses". To explain, you may use say 50 amp hours from your batteries over a 24 hour period but because there is less sun shine in winter and more overcast days you might only add 30

amp hours back leaving a shortfall of 20 amp hours. Over a 5-day period this will add to a shortfall of 100 amp hours. At this stage it is likely you will have electrical problems in the early evening. In most cases you will see the TV shut down when its low voltage protection kicks in closely followed by other systems.

The solution is to either add more solar capacity to your roof or add more batteries. It will depend on your existing configuration and budget to give the best answer to this.

Automatic Satellite Dish

If you have an Automatic Satellite Dish on your motorhome (Kiwisat or similar) you may have noticed that there is the odd occasion when it does not find the satellite and gives an error. Sometimes this is a result of the motorhomes rear being pointed directly at the Optus Satellite (northwest). When the dish fine tunes the signal, it tries to rotate past the limit switch which leads to an error and no TV signal. If you experience this, you only need to move the vehicle a few degrees to the side and the dish will locate the satellite without problems.

Christchurch Motorhome and Caravan Show

As in previous years UCC will remain open all weekend at 7 Foremans Rd rather than exhibit at the show. The main reason is that we can have all our stock on display and if someone wants to go for a test drive that can happen straight away rather having to come back another day. If you are in town for the show please drop by and see us.

In our last message some people did not get the included pictures but a lot of HTML text. It appears this was a result of how the pictures were placed in the document and how some email servers (gmail in particular) processed the picture. Our software provider is aware of the issue and is working on a solution for this issue.

Kind regards

Rob & the Team @ UCC Motorhomes and Caravans

If you do not wish to receive these emails from UCC Motorhomes please reply to ross@uccmotorhomes.co.nz with "unsubscribe" in the subject line