



WELTON OWNERS CLUB

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2018

### **MUTTERINGS FROM YOUR NEW CHAIRMAN.**

After twenty plus years of searching for Welton Rally sites, it is a big change for me to be saying “hello” as Chairman. Reflecting on those years, the Club has seen so many people enjoy wonderful years of friendship, shared jokes, sunny days, muddy fields and rally teas.

When we joined the Welton’s, there were ten members, rallies were few and far between and mainly in the Nottingham area. I offered to run a few extra rallies and immediately found myself with a job. When we obtained our 28-day licence fifteen years ago, the criteria for finding suitable sites changed. In some ways the job became easier, as at that time we were running more than twenty rallies a year, each of five days, often with two or three rallies following on, one from another, which was not an easy job to coordinate.

It was exciting at the time to think that we would no longer have to wind up our legs and move every five days, and we tried various lengths of rallies to see what suited us best, settling on fourteen days as the norm. So now we were looking for less rallies, but they had to be in areas interesting enough to keep us all with our varied interests occupied for two weeks at a time. Not an easy task, for the membership spread far and wide. Now we often run two fourteen-day rallies together, what a treat, and how things have changed. How lucky are we who caravan?

Jean Yates

Chairman.

### **£20 Rally Deposit.**

The £20 rally deposit has been stopped, which means you can now email your rally slips again to save on postage. It was agreed at the AGM to include in the Constitution that if any cost was incurred by the Club from members failing to attend a rally that they had booked on the member would be liable for that same cost.

### **GERRY SMITH.**

*Poor Gerry is still feeling under the weather and is missing us all as much as we are missing him. Let's hope that we will see him on the rally field next year. We would like to Thank Gerry for all his hard work as Treasurer during 2018.*

## **LYNDON TOP RUTLAND WATER**

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August.**

We arrived to a field of 9 vans with Jean and Drummer arriving later in the week. It was very hot and sunny, and Nan and Grandad managed to park our caravan near the hedge, so we could get some shade. It was a big field that looked out over the water. There were lots to do around and we went out nearly every day. We did lots of dog walking with Bailey and Gail, also with Jean and Drummer when she arrived.

We went on a boat trip on the water and we saw lots of wildlife.



We also went for a walk around the shore and saw the Ospreys that were still nesting there. The female chick had flown but the male chick was still there waiting to be fed by his dad.



We went to Leicester twice once to the Space Centre and once to see Richard III under the carpark exhibition and where he was buried in the church. We went to the pub for Sunday Lunch which was very nice, and we also went back another night for steak and wine night. Ethan and I had steak but not wine.

Gail made cake and tea a few times and once she did scones and cream which were delicious. Everyone had a good time, but the weather changed and was not so nice the second week. We really enjoyed going to Oakham castle, which did not look like a castle but a big barn. In the castle were lots and lots of horseshoes. It was very interesting, and Ethan and I had fun dressing up.



By Kyran Lewin

# BLUE ANCHOR BAY – MINEHEAD SOMERSET

6<sup>TH</sup> TO 16<sup>TH</sup> September 2018

There were 6 units that attended this rally and we all agreed that the missing members did “miss out” on an excellent rally.

We arrived about lunchtime and were greeted by Chris and Maggie. The rally was without electricity but on arrival Chris had already negotiated hook ups for everyone at an extra cost of £1 per night. A first class start. We'd even got sheep in the next field again. The Smugglers Inn is at the entrance to the site, a two-minute walk from the rally field, so a get together the first night continued the good start.



The site was level with plenty of space and is situated right next to the Bristol Channel. Splendid views across the water complimented the almost never-ending promenade where several evenings Dave and I met other Welton ralliers enjoying a walk.

The good start to the rally continued the next day with the traditional welcome of tea, coffee and calories in the form of Maggie's home-made

cakes, which were yummy. There were numerous places of interest to visit including Dunster Castle.



A special mention to the quaint town of Watchett which was just a couple of miles away. The West Somerset Steam railway has a stop near the site and several members made use of this facility

Also, in walking distance of the site was the Blue Anchor Pub where on two occasions we all went for a meal. The food and service were first class. Unfortunately, due to cliff erosion the pub closed at the end of September and will no doubt be missed by the locals and holiday makers alike.

There was always something going on such as the car boot sale next to the site on Wednesdays and Saturdays and finally back to Watchett on the last day of the rally for the 40's weekend where old cars and military vehicles were displayed. People dressed in the style of the time and enjoyed the music in the town square.



Congratulations to Maggie and Chris for running one of our best rallies ever.



Where are you Chris?



Here I am!!!!

By Pat Vigors.

## **Higher Well Farm Holiday Park, Stoke Gabriel, Devon - Rally Report Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

We arrived on site later than expected due to diversions off the motorway! The day was sunny with no wind so all awnings were erected. Tea and cake on a sunny Sunday afternoon provided by Tracy went down a treat.

The weather for the first few days was OK but then the winds came and unlucky for us, round about midnight, our awning blew down. A few days earlier, Jean had moved her van to try and escape the wind.

A walk to Stoke Gabriel was on the agenda, with guidance from David on which road to take! We passed a field of alpacas where a few pre school children were enjoying talking to the animals! Found the school, and the Village Hall. Walked down to the Mill Pond and back up past the Post Office. Explored the medieval Parish Church of St Mary and St Gabriel before having refreshments in The Church House Inn. Very busy road but we managed to walk home safely!

Several ralliers were able to visit Greenway – the holiday home of Agatha Christie. We visited Coleton Fishacre, Near Kingswear – a 1920's art deco country house of the D'Oyly Carte family. Surrounding the house are 30 acres of RHS accredited gardens, which we found to be quite spectacular with so much to see and we didn't see it all! Next time maybe!

Paignton on the bus worked out quite well. You arrive at Paignton just in time to get on another bus to Brixham, Torquay or Dartmouth with other options available. The site was very convenient for shopping at all of the well-known supermarkets.

When the weather started to brighten up it was time for a trip to Brixham for a crab sandwich! A long walk around the Harbour in the sunshine is what holidaying is all about. A quick look around the Heritage Museum – decided that we must go back!

Our AGM was held in the Village Hall on Saturday afternoon. When all the formal matters were dealt with, Jean was presented with a card, which had been signed by all members attending the Rally, thanking her for her many years of hard work on our behalf in finding suitable venues. Later that evening we had our rally meal at The Castle Inn, Stoke Gabriel.

Very busy in Torquay on a sunny Sunday afternoon – the weather had greatly improved and we were enjoying the warmth of the sun. Stopped at The Lighthouse Café Bar for refreshments after walking round the Harbour.

The church of St George and St Mary at Cockington is well worth a visit (where a wedding service costs £980!). The arboretum with many different species of trees and their leaves about to change colour was an added attraction. Cockington Court is an historic manor house with craft studios, tea-rooms, walled art garden, Tudor rose garden, contemporary art gallery and a children's play area.

14 ralliers enjoyed a lovely 'cooked to order' meal at the Tally Ho, Totnes (£10 each for 2 courses on a Tuesday lunchtime!). In Totnes there was a Rolls Royce & Bentley car meet, which made the car park more interesting!

After our shopping trip to Trago Mills, Newton Abbot it was back home for a cream tea provided by Tracy and David – again a warm and sunny afternoon.

Another crab sandwich in Brixham was followed by a second visit to the Brixham Heritage Museum. There is so much to see and read and Dennis being a slow reader, I left him to it! However, I have to say that the Museum is quite impressive and a considerable effort has gone into making it a worthwhile place to visit.

Thank you Tracy for taking over the running of this Rally, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed – especially when the sun shone the second week and we were able to sit out by our vans drinking tea and other beverages until the sun went down!

Janet Harris



Moving Jeans caravan.



Greenway Agatha Christie home.



Cruising the river Dart



Berry Pomeroy Castle

Jean will be using "WHAT3WORDS" in the new rally books to help us locate our rally sites. It's a great app so get downloading ready for next year.

## **Message from your new Rally Secretary**

*I have a hard act to follow. Jean has done an amazing job for the last twenty plus years. I have had some members approach me with places they would like to rally at, which I will take into consideration for 2020. If anyone else has a site or a particular area they would like to go to, do not hesitate to let me know. I will endeavour to do my best to give us a varied rally programme.  
David Totman.*

TRACY TOTMAN

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