



WELTON OWNERS CLUB

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2014

Did you remember to pay your membership this year? If you forgot please send a cheque made payable to Welton Owners Club in the sum of £10.00, to Mrs Y Gibbs, 27 Prinknash Road, Bedford MK41 8DJ. We do not want to lose members.

Forthcoming Kings Lynn Rally Saturday 9 August – Tuesday 26 August 2014

Please note that Jeanette Tarbuck is no longer able to run the Kings Lynn Rally and Ann & Ian Nicol have kindly agreed to take over as Rally Officers. Please patronise this rally as numbers are rather short at the moment and we do not want to let the site owner down. As you will see in the rally book information on the site there is plenty to do and it should be a very enjoyable rally. Please let Ann & Ian Nicol have your rally slips as soon as possible or telephone or e-mail them, details as follows:

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Rally Report: Ross on Wye
August 2013
Rally Officer: Val & Bob Clark

Report by: Judith & David Wigner
No of Vans: 7
Weather: Sunny & dry

Owing to grandchildren commitments we did not arrive until half way through the rally. Turning up midday Sunday we were greeted by the marshals and told we could go where we liked, so finding a nice level spot within the circle we pitched up. About three cups of tea later and a good gossip we decided we had better finish settling in so time to plug in the services and put up the awning. As we were having a quick sandwich mine host Geoff came over and introduced himself and time for another chat. By this time Roxy was beginning to complain so it was off to investigate the dog walk round the orchard and a wander round the local lanes.

Monday saw us hit the tourist trail with a visit to Goodrich Castle, where we ended up joining English Heritage; this was followed by a drive around the local area and a walk by the river. Continuing on the tourist trail, we went to see the peregrine falcons at Symonds Yat and took Roxy for a walk in the Forest of Dean and finished the day off with a visit to the forest holiday sites. Then it was over the border and a visit to Tintern Abbey where we had lunch with a local scout group. Visits were also made to Abergavenny, Hereford and Gloucester by various ralliers.

Thursday and not much movement on site until lunch time when we hit a local hostelry to partake of a pleasant two course lunch after which it was back to the site for coffee with the marshals. Friday was our duty day so it was no further than the orchard and the immediate area. Saturday and it was a walk around Ross on Wye finishing up down by the river. Again on Sunday very little early movement as it was lunch at another local hostelry, we followed this by going into Ross again so Judith could watch the dragon racing whilst I took Roxy down the riverside walk. Monday being bank holiday no one went very far so it became a let's take the awning down day.

Our hosts Linda and Geoff could not have been more helpful, Geoff especially would wander round for a chat that was in between mowing, and it seemed that some part of the field was being cut every day.

Ours thanks must go to our marshals Val, Bob, Lynne and Dave for all their hard work keeping us supplied with tea and coffee and for the wonderful ploughman's supper you produced, once again thank you very much.

As I was lying in bed pondering the problems of the world, I rapidly realised that I don't really give a rat's ass.

Rally Report Alderwasley
1 – 13 March 2014

Rally Officer: Yvonne & Clive Gibbs

Report by: Yvonne & Clive Gibbs

No of Vans: 5

Weather: Mixed

Unfortunately numbers at this rally were rather short as there were cancellations due to ill health, also before the rally the weather was extremely wet. When we arrived at the site we were surprised to find that it was a very well drained site and it didn't cause us any problems.

We had a get together on the first day in the rally officers caravan and had tea with hot sausage rolls and mince pies. Everyone managed to get out and about and visit all the beautiful places in Derbyshire.

We tried to arrange further get togethers but it was too cold and the room on-site was too cold and uninviting. On the two Sundays we were there we had an excellent carvery lunch at The Bull which was only 2 miles down the road and everyone enjoyed it.

Perhaps we could go back to Alderwasley sometime in the future when the weather is good, it is really worth a further visit.

Rally Report: Freshwater, Isle of Wight
13 – 27 April 2014

Rally Officer: Lynda & Keith Fletcher

Report by: Paul Burden

No of Vans: 15

Weather: 1st week sunny
2nd week monsoons

Sunday 13 - The main party arrived at Southampton Docks on schedule for the crossing to the IoW. This was after many timed trips on different routes with road works and toll bridges while on the Netley Abbey Rally. Terry & Wendy had to travel the furthest to save a possible £25.00 toll charge

The weather was sunny with a blue sky and not a ripple on the water. The crossing lasted for an hour which gave enough time to enjoy a Red Funnel full English cooked breakfast (at a B.O.G.O.F. price for motor homers, even better).

After a speedy disembarkation it was a very bumpy journey to Heathfield Camp site at Freshwater. We found later all roads are bumpy on the IoW. We all arrived safely on site with only one minor mishap to a caravan rear quarter light. Keith was at the entrance to meet us with an arrival pack (events plan and maps etc) and to confirm pitch numbers. We all got busy and set up home. At 16.00 we all had tea and cake with Keith and Lynda. Keith gave a welcome brief with a little help from Lynda.

The Heathfield Camp is nicely kept site which is strictly supervised by the site wardens, who are meticulous in their site charges. The shower block was compact causing many members to use their own facilities.

Monday 14 April - A sunny day with a cool breeze. This was a free day with many of the members having a rest day after yesterday's journey and setting up.

Tuesday 15 April - A sunny day with a cool breeze. Keith and Lynda had arranged a morning visit to the Ferguson Tractor Museum. The museum was situated on the Ferguson Estate which was on the

banks of the River Yar. Many of us went and were entertained by the Curator, Peter Warr, who had many a tale to tell of his employment at Ferguson and his former employer Harry Ferguson. When the visit was complete we had a nice cup of tea at the nearby Cafe. The ice cream and butter was also delicious.



Wednesday 16 April - A sunny day with a cool breeze. This was a free day with many of the members visiting local sites and tea shops. Wednesday was also an easy day for many of the wives with a Chinese takeaway being ordered in!

Thursday 17 April - A sunny morning overcast afternoon. This was a free day with many of the members visiting local sites.

Friday 18 April - Another sunny day. Keith and Lynda organised a visit to the Adgestone Winery and Vineyard. Many of the members took advantage of the trip. Marion, Tony and Jerry left the site in Tony's car to go on a walk but returned at speed as Jerry had a free parking ticket. Tony is not one to pass on a freebie. I'm not sure but I think they couldn't use it where they parked.

Saturday 19 April - A cool day with cloud. Keith and Lynda organised a shopping trip to Lymington. The trip started with a bus ride to Yarmouth to catch the ferry to Lymington. Lymington has a fabulous Saturday Market and Charity shops, so many bags were brought back. Everyone had a good day out. Keith had a problem with a filling so a made a visit to the local dental expert for treatment.



Sunday 20 April -- Very cloudy and wet but cleared late afternoon. A lazy start by everyone today due to the weather. Keith and Lynda had arranged a Sunday carvery at The New Holmwood Hotel in Cowes. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the meal, shame about the sea view.



Monday 21 April - A sunny day. Today was a free day with members continuing to explore the island. At 16.00 we had tea and cake with Lynda and Keith.

Tuesday 22 April - A wet start with showers and sunshine later. A quiet day with members doing their own thing. Denis and Chris Parker with Alfie left for home today.

Wednesday 23 April - A cloudy wet day. Free morning. In the afternoon Keith and Lynda arranged an interesting visit to the Bembridge RLNI lifeboat. There was a nice cafe next-door with more delicious cakes. Keith and Lynda arranged a super meal at the Fatima Indian Restaurant. Decor was a bit rough but the food was excellent and was very good value. We could even take our own drinks with no corkage.



Thursday 24 April - A lovely sunny day. A free day with all the members making the most of the good weather. It was Jeans birthday today. Tony and Marion serenaded Jean with 21 again.

Friday 25 April - Heavy rain until late afternoon. It was a quiet day. Clive and Yvonne had problems with the caravan internal charger . A full investigation was carried out with the fault found being as an open circuit switch. It wasn't switched ON. Keith and Lynda organised a last supper buffet at the Vine Pub. Everyone enjoyed the buffet especially the cream.



Saturday 26 April - Dry and sunny as forecast. It's a wrap. Everyone made the most of the good weather to put away awnings etc ready for the return trip home on Sunday. Man United were playing Norwich City so I looked for a local pub which had Sky Sports for the game. I found one at Yarmouth. This turned out to be Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. I did redeem myself when I was made aware of the mistake by finding the West Wight Social Club. An excellent drinking establishment with a wall TV and reasonably priced ale.

Sunday 27 April - Heavy rain over night which thankfully cleared and then glorious sunshine. Just in time for the mass exodus. Some members had to be towed off their pitch as after the last week of rain the ground had become quite boggy. Clive and Yvonne had a problem with their car not starting, they did switch it on first. Volvo assistance got them going but they had to catch a later ferry. Once off pitches we lined up on the site road for an old style GP racing start. Caravanners lead the early part of the course but when they took a pit stop close to the ferry terminal they were overtaken by the motorhomers who gained a jump finish by catching the early boat with another B.O.G.O.F. breakfast.

AGM Stratford upon Avon

The AGM dinner has just been arranged and it will take place on Saturday 20 September 2014 at 6.00 pm at The New Inn, Clifford Chambers. The dinner will be a carvery and a sweet course and the price will be £12.00 per head. If you wish to attend the dinner please could you send a cheque to Wendy Woods (Chairman) 64 Jersey Close, Basingstoke, RG24 9PR (please make cheques payable to Welton Owners Club). Wendy is also taking rally slips for the rally.

Following the AGM meeting we will be holding a book sale and also a raffle and would be grateful if you could bring a raffle prize and any books you wish to sell this will help club funds.

It's the tortoise life for me!

1. If walking/cycling is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.
2. A whale swims all day, only eats fish, drinks water, and is fat.
3. A rabbit runs and hops and only lives 15 years.
4. A tortoise doesn't run and does nothing, yet it lives for 450 years.

And you tell me to exercise?? I don't think so.

I'm retired. Go around me!

Yvonne Gibbs – Secretary
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