



Autumn 2019



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INTRO - MORE THOUGHTS FROM THE LAPTOP!

Well, November has arrived as I sit and write this intro for the Newsletter.

The club's AGM, held at Whatoff Lodge Farm near Quorn in Leicestershire, has come and gone - the rally running in brilliant weather on an "indifferent" field - thanks to the Hart family for the usual well run rally.

The AGM saw a couple of significant events.



The first was the creation of the position of "lifetime" members of the club. The first recipients of the position was awarded to Ben and Anne Barrow for their long term support and involvement with the club dating back to the club's start back in 1984. A very well deserved award,

The second, and probably equally significant event, was that our General Secretary announced that she will not be re-standing for the role at the AGM in 2020. Gaynor has given a number of years of service to the club in the role and will be a difficult act to follow. Gaynor will ensure that the club's affairs are up to date before she leaves. Clearly it would be advisable for a successor to be identified now so that Gaynor can pass on her wealth of knowledge and a seamless transition can take place. No volunteer has come forward to date.

The Committee is currently running with two vacancies covered by Committee members "doubling up". Please take this opportunity to help your club - anyone interested in considering the General Secretary post or the other two posts should contact the Committee as soon as possible.

The summary of the AGM and the Committee Meeting that followed should be available in the Member's Area of the website very shortly.

Charity 2020:

The club's charity for 2020 will be the Macmillan Nurses.



Rally Programme 2020:

The program for 2020 is published on the website. On-line bookings for rallies in 2020 should be available early in January,

There are a number of rallies which still require a Rally Marshal - please take the opportunity to step forward. There is no need to "go overboard" with regard to providing food or organising activities when running a rally - many members just appreciate the fact that someone has made the time and effort to set the field up and collect the monies.

The club offers an incentive to any of its members who step forward- you'll get £5 off next year's membership fees!! (Note that the previous incentive of a "free" rally was withdrawn following the AGM meeting effective from January 1st 2020).

New Year Rally 2019 / 2020:

As I write this there are only six units booked onto this year's rally at the Robin Hood Activity Centre. At the AGM it was agreed that the minimum number of units attending for the rally to run would be ten, A decision will be taken by the Committee very shortly but the current situation does not look promising.



RALLY REPORTS

AGM - Whatoff Lodge Farm - 23rd - 26th August:

(Editor's Note - a rally report supplied by a young lady from Southampton!!)

Sadly, Leslie and I could not take the Caravan due to Leslie's ongoing Health problems, so we stayed in an Air B n B in Quorn.



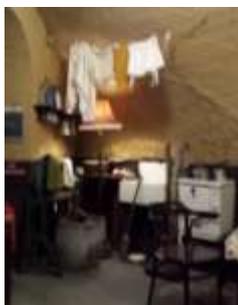
As we started out, we did wonder if we were going to make it as the traffic was shocking. It took us an hour to get out of Southampton. Anyway make it we did and it was super to get into a field with so many friendly faces.



On Friday evening Gaynor and Matt organised a Quiz for the evening. There was no cheating (of course!). What no one was prepared for was that the prize for the winner was The Templeton Trophy. Three members went "into the hat" as a result of tied scores with Roy and Carol Abson being selected as the trophy winner. The trophy was presented to Roy & Carol Abson by Mr & Mrs Whitehouse (the current holders) on the Saturday night.

The AGM went well on the Saturday, although there were not a lot of members present. Never the less the few that were there were very positive about the future of the club.

In the evening we had a cheese & wine, followed by Gaynor's version of Play your Cards Right, which was won by Calvin. Then we played a version of "Mr. & Mrs" which was won by Peter & Lesley Cook. This game caused much laughter.



Sunday we went with the Cooks to the nearby Great Central Heritage Railway, which was very interesting, especially when we visited the part that depicted the Home in the 1940's. We suddenly realised how old we were as we could remember so many of the items on display. We were able to tell our friends what so many of the items were used for. Even down to the pantaloons on the clothesline.



After lunch we said our good- byes and had a really good run home but must admit we were two tired but happy people.

Please note that the bloomers on the clothesline were not mine. Mine had a lace trim!

Delphine Kinley.



Ripon Racecourse - 27th - 29th September:

Rally report awaited.

ACCEO AGM - 2nd - 7th October:

Rally report awaited.



FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS – AUG, SEPT & OCT:

Lenchford Arms- 28th - 30th November:



The club's regular annual Christmas meal continues at this beautiful site in Worcestershire.



Make sure that you've got your Christmas pullover with you!

Royal Oak, Car Colston- 13th - 15th December:

A change to the original rally programme we revisit the site as an alternative Christmas rally with a Christmas meal booked for the Saturday lunchtime and the opportunity to visit the shops and Christmas market in nearby Nottingham.

Speaking from personal experience the food served in the inn is fantastic.



Robin Hood Activity Centre - 29th December - 2nd January 2020:



As you would have read in the Summer Newsletter there are serious questions as to whether this rally will run this year due to previous year's low attendance figures and the ongoing increase in fees by the site owners.

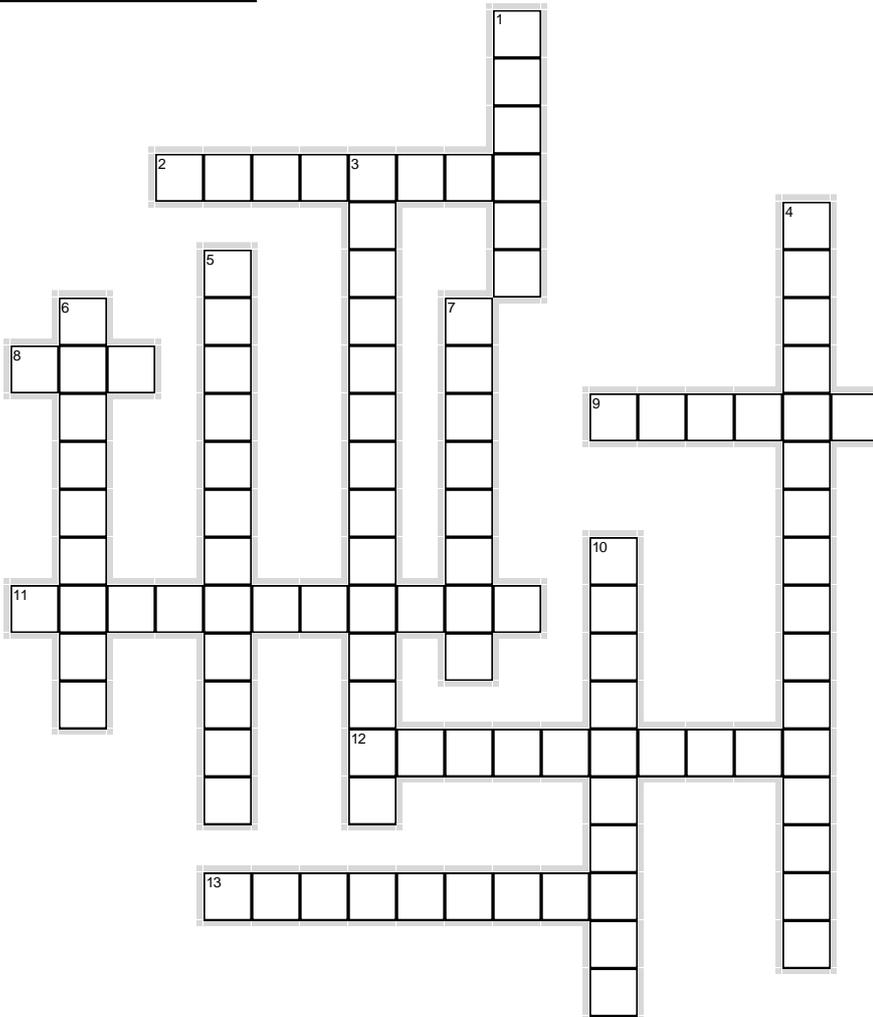


A decision will be taken in early November regarding the rally - please watch for announcements via e-mail / Facebook.



JUST FOR FUN!!

2019 EVENTS:



Across

-
2. GENERAL ELECTION MONTH? (8)
 8. 2019 CHINESE YEAR? (3)
 9. GENERAL SECRETARY (FIRST NAME) (6)
 11. RUGBY WORLD CUP FINALIST (11)
 12. THE CLUB'S "AGE" THIS YEAR (5-5)
 13. 2019 ASHES WINNERS (9)

Down

-
1. CLUB FOUNDER MEMBER AND FIRST "LIFE MEMBER" (6)
 3. FOOTBALL PREMIERSHIP WINNERS (10-4)
 4. SITE OF 2019 AGM (7-5-4)
 5. CURRENT PRIME MINISTER (5-7)
 6. EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS (9)
 7. PRINCESS ENGAGED IN 2019 (8)
 10. NEW "I'M A CELEBRITY EXTRA CAMP" PRESENTER (5-5)



TECHIE STUFF:

This section is written as a guide only - I'm no expert and I am willing to be corrected if any of the statements are wrong or misleading but all endeavours have been made to confirm the accuracy of the information. While I accept that most members will already know this information it sometimes pays to be reminded as it is all too simple to overlook some of these issues.

Setting up TV in your caravan or motorhome

You'll need a digital signal in order to watch TV in your caravan or motorhome. To get one, you'll need to choose a provider such as Sky, Freesat or Freeview. For instance, you can watch TV as normal when travelling in Europe if you have a Sky or Freesat receiver. Freeview boxes may pick up local channels in the country you are in, but won't pick up UK channels.

Satellite:

When using a satellite based system you'll need to set up your satellite, by aiming it at approximately 145 degrees (you can use your compass to measure this exactly), with the dish facing up about 25 degrees. Once it's set up, you can connect it to your receiver box, i.e. from Sky or Freesat, and then connect the box to your television.

To actually watch TV however, you'll first need to find the signal itself. You can do this by using a satellite finder compass, which will help you find the signal for all main European satellites. When you find it, you'll hear a high-pitched sound.

Terrestrial:

Omni-directional antenna:

The antenna is not directional, so it cannot focus its reception in one direction. So in a weak TV reception area, it could be a struggle to get a solid signal. In these cases, an amplifier is required to make this antenna work well.

Directional:

This type of antenna works in the same way as the TV aerials you see on the roofs of houses. The antenna is at the sharp end and can receive signals within the 'view' of the antenna. The antenna can focus reception on one direction - pulling in a weak signal is what it is designed to do. Targeting in one direction makes reception stronger and more reliable, perfect for digital. Most modern units have a signal detection indicator built into the signal amplifier unit which gives a "red - amber - green" indicator light depending on the signal strength as the aerial is rotated.

Do I need a separate TV license while touring?

If you have a TV licence for your main domestic dwelling it will also cover you while touring in a motorhome, caravan or other touring outfit. During the period of a tour it is acceptable for a TV set to be used at the home address too.

However where a caravan or other outfit is sited, whether permanently or on a season pitch it is no longer considered to be touring by the authorities. In this instance simultaneous use of a TV set in the sited tourer and the domestic address is not permitted. Also you must complete a form confirming there will be no simultaneous use, you can download from here... www.tvlicensing.co.uk



Insuring your TV and equipment

If you are installing expensive TV equipment into your caravan or motorhome, for example, a satellite dish, this is considered by some insurers to be a modification. This means they will need to know about any equipment you've installed, so that they can help you get the right cover. Once you have chosen your TV and the equipment you need, it's a good idea to add up the value of it all, and make sure that you have sufficient personal belongings cover to match their collective value, along with all the other belongings you have.

Advice on aerial mounting

Vertical aerial:

Each transmitter is set up to transmit its signal with either horizontal or vertical polarisation. It is normal for a main transmitter to have horizontal orientation and a relay transmitter to be vertically aligned to prevent interference.



Therefore for a horizontally polarised signal the aerial mounting needs to have the arms or elements in that orientation - in a modern touring unit aerial the flat part of the aerial body needs to be horizontal, there is an example shown to the left.

For vertical orientation the aerial needs to be rotated 90 degrees so the elements are in a vertical plane, again an example on the right.



Smart phone and tablet users

There are applications that can be downloaded for these devices that provide location based directional information for TV transmitters. Search for TV aerial on your device - A couple of examples of free apps are Freepoint UK and UK Aerial Alignment.



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AND FINALLY:

Here's wishing you all a happy and safe Winter, a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Enjoy your caravan, wherever you choose to use it but remember you'll always be welcome on an AAOCC rally and you'll be supporting your club at the same time.

One continuing plea from me - it's always good to receive news of what we've been doing on the rally field and being able to share this with club members and the wider world is a joy. But I do need your support - if you want to pick up a pen (or more likely switch on the computer / tablet / smart phone) and drop me a line please feel free to do so - you don't have to be "selected" by a Rally Marshal to write a report!



Don't be afraid to communicate - after all, it is your club!!!

Thank you for your continued support.

Peter Cook

Publicity Officer

POSTSCRIPT:

If anyone has any items that they are wanting to sell, or are looking for help on any club related issue please contact the Newsletter and we'll do our very best to help.