



Spring  
2019



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**INTRO - MORE THOUGHTS FROM THE  
LAPTOP!**

As I write this intro for the Newsletter we are getting ready to enjoy (hopefully) another warm and dry Summer.

So, welcome to the Spring edition of the AAOCC's Newsletter.

The nights are drawing out and the weather warming so those nights on the rally field are looking more appealing, but for rallies we need marshals and the club continues to struggle to encourage members to come forward and marshal in spite of the incentive of a "free" rally and £5 off next year's membership fees!!

Seriously, if anyone has any suggestions on how we can improve please don't hesitate - tell a Committee member!

The year so far has brought the same challenges as we've seen previously of low attendance on rallies - two rallies have been cancelled already due to insufficient bookings, This problem isn't "new" - times have



changed with increased fuel costs, congestion on the roads, competition from other clubs / organisations who offer "local" rallies, etc., etc. None of us enjoy being stuck in traffic on a Friday evening, do we?

Cancelling rallies at short notice does not foster a positive image of the AAOCC with landowners, leading them to raise prices, request deposits or refuse future bookings.



## **RALLY REPORTS**

### **Barnstones - January 2019**

No rally report received.

### **Victoria Farm, Lutterworth - March 22nd - 24th, 2019**

Arrived safely on Friday after a couple of hours of easy driving on the motorways. The site was very easy to find and so convenient, being just off the A5.



We were met by Kev Coles (our rally marshal) as we pulled onto the field and were directed to our spot from which had a marvellous view out over the Leicestershire countryside. By this time 5 of the 8 caravans attending had arrived.

The rally was well supported in comparison to some recent rallies - almost 25% of the club's membership attended!

Lesley and I set up our caravan and then went over to Kev and Eileen's caravan for a welcome cuppa and biscuits.



Dave and Sue Ashington were the next to arrive - we hadn't seen them since the AGM of 2018 and nice to see that they had a new Coachman caravan!!

A little while later Mick & Chris Whitehouse pulled onto the field and so we were all present and correct!

A small group of us assisted in setting up the club's awning. Once the awning was complete we all dispersed to our own vans to sort out our food for the evening.

We all gathered in the awning on the Friday night to catch up with our fellow ralliers and to share the gossip about who did what, and when!! **Nothing changes!**

I know that I'm in danger of repeating myself but it's times like these that make the AAOCC so special to me - the chat, banter and memories of past encounters just go to reinforce the friendliness of the group.



Saturday morning opened bright and cheery, though it wasn't very bright and cheery when I took Pippa for her first outing of the day at 3.40 am!!

Anyone who knows us knows that we are not early risers, but that's another one of our joys of rallying!!

Before leaving home for the rally we'd decided that we would spend a couple of hours in Fosse Meadows Country Park, a lovely park within a couple of miles of the rally site. Needless to say Pippa loved it!!



We returned to the caravan to drop Pippa off before setting off for a local supermarket - we'd omitted to pack any food in the caravan so needed to top up on provisions. (We'd tried to beg breakfast, dinner and tea from our "friendly" fellow ralliers without success!!)

The evening came and we all gathered again in the awning to be served an evening meal of lasagne, roast potatoes and salad served up by our marshals. If this wasn't good enough (**which it most certainly was!**) it was followed by apple pie or bread and butter pudding and custard - **fantastic!!!**

Eileen treated us to a couple of quizzes - the first one was particularly challenging as it was a test of memory - we had 5 minutes to study a picture, after which Eileen asked a series of questions about the picture's contents. We all had a good laugh and did our best to recall as many items as possible. We were "pipped at the post" by Roy and Carole Abson, who won the quiz - we came "joint second" with Sue and Dave Ashington. I, of course bore no grudge for this - *apologies for knocking over the beer, Roy!!!*

The second quiz favoured the "older members" as Eileen assessed our knowledge of the 1930's, 40's, 50's and 60's - this was particularly difficult for "youngsters" such as Lesley and me!! The quiz produced "joint winners" - Cliff & Sheila Taylor and Mick & Chris Whitehouse sharing the honours.



Sunday again started bright and sunny after a chilly night - not that we suffered as caravan heating systems have come on in leaps and bounds from our first Avondale!! The morning was spent chatting with our fellow ralliers and progressively getting ready for the journey home. As is common at this time the subject of "his" and "her" caravan duties raised its head again - despite valiant attempts Janet was unconvinced by myself and John that toilet emptying was a "her" duty!!!

We eventually sorted ourselves out, said our goodbyes and set off on the journey home.

Our thanks to our Rally Marshals, Kev and Eileen for a great rally which we really enjoyed!!

*Peter & Lesley Cook*



## **FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS – MAY, JUNE & JULY:**

### **Friday 3rd May to Tuesday 7th May - Inholme Farm, Beeford**



*The site is in the village of Beeford in the East Riding of Yorkshire, England. It is situated at the junction of the A165 and the B1249, and approximately 10 miles north-east from Beverley and 8 miles south from Bridlington. Ideally placed for access to the east coast.*

### **Friday 24th May to Monday 27th May - Chatsworth House - *National Rally.***

*Chatsworth House is a stately home situated in the beautiful Derbyshire Dales 3.5 miles northeast of Bakewell and 9 miles west of Chesterfield. The seat of the Duke of Devonshire, it has been home to the Cavendish family since 1549.*



*Standing on the east bank of the River Derwent, Chatsworth looks across to the low hills that divide the Derwent and Wye valleys. The house, set in expansive parkland and backed by wooded, rocky hills rising to heather moorland, contains an important collection of*



*paintings, furniture, Old Master drawings, neoclassical sculptures, books and other artefacts. Chatsworth has been selected as the United Kingdom's favourite country house several time*

### **Nearby Attractions**

*Bakewell - home of the famous pudding  
Gullivers Kingdom Theme Park  
Matlock & Matlock Bath  
Carsington Water  
Tissington Trail*



***Thursday 11th July to Monday 15th July - The Wold Cottage, Wold Newton, near Filey.***

*Wold Newton is a small Yorkshire Wolds village and parish in the East Riding of Yorkshire, England. It is situated approximately 9 miles south of Scarborough and 9 miles north-west of Bridlington ideally placed for a visit to the seaside.*



***Friday 26th July to Sunday 28th July - The Royal Oak, Car Colston, Nottinghamshire***



*The picturesque village of Car Colston has 29 acres of village greens and is believed to be the largest rural common in England.*

*The building of the Royal Oak is over two hundred years old and is thought by some to have a hosiery factory hence the rather unusual vaulted brick ceiling*

*in the bar which certainly would have carried the weight of the appropriate textiles machinery above.*

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





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## **AND FINALLY:**

Here's wishing you all a happy and safe summer - 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.

A 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.