



# Newsletter

**October 2019**

## **Newsletter Natter.**



**Hello campers, Hi De Hi !**

What a summer it has been, the hottest day ever recorded in the UK, and the hottest August bank holiday since records began. Of course the icing on the cake is that, Lunar Caravans have emerged from administration with a new owner.

So with that all now behind us It is time to start thinking about membership renewals again. The committee have therefore taken the decision to change the way that we ask for membership renewals. Previously we had said that renewals were due by 1<sup>st</sup> January, which meant that your membership expired on the 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Unfortunately, this was being misinterpreted as meaning that membership renewals were due on, or any time after, the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. To clarify, you can renew your membership at any time from the 1<sup>st</sup> November, but any membership not renewed by 31<sup>st</sup> December will expire and may be subject to a rejoining fee. For your convenience a renewal form is attached with this newsletter.

***Oh by the way;*** With all the gloom and doom at the moment surrounding Brexit, I thought that this news items from my local paper might raise a smile: ***A local dessert manufacturer, whose best selling items are Treacle puddings, have issued a warning to customers, as several of them have been sent to hospital with badly scalded feet. It appears that people have misunderstood the instructions which read: 'Before opening the tin, stand in boiling water for 20 minutes.'***

## **News from Lunar.**

Trading under the new name of Lunar Automotive, the company has become part of MEWA, a South African specialist engineering group. MEWA was founded by Cecil Marks and has a strong pioneering heritage in the stainless-steel industry.

***Lunar Automotive director Nicholas Marks said, "The MEWA group has been involved in specialist engineering and component manufacture for 100 years. This experience and capability, coupled with the manufacturing expertise acquired with the existing team at Lunar, bodes well for the brand, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary, but to look forward to the next 50 years."***

***With production of caravans scheduled for September, the 2020 demonstrator models are ready to be introduced to the dealer network. The sales team, headed up by Lee Roberts, who has been an integral part of Lunar team for over 6 years, is strongly focused on maximising the success of the new season launch.***

***Nicholas confirmed that dealers remain very supportive and that he will be confirming the network in the near future. He also stated that motor homes will continue to be an integral part of Lunar's expanded product range, "We are discussing some interesting ideas that will continue to show the ingenuity of our design and production teams going forward."***

***The new season will see a strong focus on exceptional build quality with longer term plans to include some very exciting products utilising highly innovative engineering, design and manufacturing processes.***

The new company launched its 2020 range on 27<sup>th</sup> September, and if you would like a sneak preview of what is going to be available then please click on this link. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGiVnIXUDYc>.

## Rally Secretary Ramblings.



**Your  
Club  
Needs  
you!**

The 2020 rally programme is now more or less complete, so here is a list of the programme. As yet there have been no offers to find venues and run either the overseas rally in June, or the new year rally.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter we have already had some generous offers to run many of the rallies. But, we can only make the programme work if we have members willing to act as marshals and co-marshals, so as usual we are looking for volunteers for the rallies as marked.

Please contact any committee member as soon as possible if you would like to run any of the following rallies.

### 2020 Confirmed Rally Details

Dates.	Location / Event.	Site	Marshal Req'd
Mar 12 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> .	Midlands	Dodwell Park, Stratford upon Avon	No
Apr 9 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> Easter B/H.	Derbyshire	Ashbourne Heights Holiday Park, Ashbourne.	No
Apr 16 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> .	Lincolnshire	East Kirkby Hideaway Caravan Site	No
Apr 30 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> May Day B/H.	Dorset	South Lytchett Manor 10 day Holiday Rally	Yes
June 6 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> .	European Rally	Continental 14 day Holiday Rally. Venue Required.	Yes
June 18 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> .	Lake District	Ullswater holiday park, Watermillock, Ullswater	Yes
July 7 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> .	Shropshire	Newnes Touring Caravan Park, Ellesmere	Yes
July 30 <sup>th</sup> – Aug 6 <sup>th</sup> .	Gloucestershire.	Mayfield Park, Cirencester	No
Aug 27 <sup>th</sup> – Sep 1 <sup>st</sup> B/H.	Hertfordshire	Shuttleworth Collection, Old Warden Aerodrome, Nr Biggleswade. <b>No EHU</b>	Yes
Sep 10 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> .	Oxfordshire	Greenhill Farm – Bletchingdon - Oxford	No
Sep 24 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> AGM.	A.G.M	The Lawns – Wisbech - Lincolnshire	No
Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> .	Halloween	Dale Hey Park - Ribchester	No
Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> .	Xmas Dinner	Bath Marina - Bath	No
Dec 30 <sup>th</sup> – Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2021.	New Year.	Venue Required	Yes

## Anything to Report.



Margaret and Manny Hamer of Halifax, were presented with a plaque and flowers by Mike Gyles, at the St Ives rally this September, their 300th Lunar Rally. They have also received a plaque and certificate from the Caravan and Motorhome club for being active

members for 50 years.

Their 3rd achievement this month, is that they celebrate their Diamond Wedding. Congratulations.

**Anne Bycroft**

Kath & Ken Pybus achieved an amazing milestone whilst attending the 2019 AGM, their 350<sup>th</sup> Lunar rally. During the AGM evening social two presentations were made.



The first by Mike Pratt of a photo comemorating their first rally working together as marshals. The second presentation was by Caroline Applegate of a bunch of flowers and a beautifully hand drawn certificate marking their wonderful achievement.

Subsequent to the AGM we have received the following letter from Kath & Ken.

Hi Terry,

Just a short note to say thank you for a lovely weekend provided by you and your committee.

Having our accommodation for Saturday evening paid for by the club was a lovely gesture and very much appreciated.

Our 350<sup>th</sup> rally was unforgettable – we were surprised to receive our plaque and then to receive a certificate and a bouquet of flowers was ‘icing on the cake’. Everyone on the rally made us very welcome at the social evening and wished us well for the future.

Once again thank you very much. It was a weekend we will never forget.

Best wishes,

Kath and Ken.

### **October 2019 Motorhome & Caravan Show – NEC Birmingham.**

As we all now know Lunar have new owners and production of the 2020 model range has started. Lunar will not have a stand at the October 2019 NEC show, but they are planning to be back at the NEC for the February show.

## **Forthcoming Attractions: October – December.**

### **10th – 15th October - Barford Top Campsite – Saddington, Leicestershire.**

This rally is on a small adult only site, within walking distance of the local pub! We have arranged a tour of the modest Foxton Locks museum, followed by lunch in the nearby pub. Apparently they have live music on the day we go. On site we have the use of the marquee for the social on Saturday night when the marshals will lay on a "harvest home" type supper. Costings and details of the social will be confirmed nearer the time.



Additional local attractions include: [Bruntingthorpe Aviation Museum](#), [National Space Centre](#), [Kelmarsh Hall](#), [Rockingham Castle](#), and [Althorp Hall](#).

**Dave & Morag Park** will be your hosts, with assistance from Roger & Caroline Applegate, so please send your bookings in via the web site, contact Dave & Morag on 01942 671440 or email [davidpark712@btinternet.com](mailto:davidpark712@btinternet.com)

### **7th – 14th Nov - Bucklegrove Holiday Park – Cheddar.**



A rally not just for carnival enthusiasts as we have several outings etc. arranged. There is a trip to the local Cider makers, a tour of Wells cathedral and also of the Bishops Palace. We are looking into a group visit to nearby [Tyntesfield House](#), especially good for NT members as it would be free! There are a host of local attractions such as the [Cheddar caves](#) and [Wookey Hole](#), not forgetting the Sunday boot sale and market at Cheddar with its excellent full English breakfast.

On site we have the use of the bar for social gatherings and there is a small indoor swimming pool, heated of course. **Roger & Caroline Applegate** will be your hosts, so please send your bookings in via the web site, contact Roger & Caroline on 01275 540830 / 07793 025675 or email [countylettings@hotmail.com](mailto:countylettings@hotmail.com).

### **5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Dec - Xmas Dinner - Barnstones Caravan Park – Banbury.**

The Christmas Dinner Rally 2019 is at Barnstones Caravan Park, Great Boughton, near Banbury OX17 1QU. We will open the Rally on Thursday 5th December 2019 there are still plenty of pitches and we look forward to welcoming you. This is a wonderful site and plans are in place for the Christmas Dinner on Saturday 7th December 2019. The area surrounding is truly lovely, there is Banbury, Oxford and Milton Keynes a bit further on for your Christmas retail shopping.

Your *Marshals* will be **Frances and Michael Pratt**, and they will be pleased to take your booking as early as you like. Please send your bookings in either via the web site, a rally slip or contact Frances and Michael on: 01933 624621 / Mobile: 07458390800 or email [Michael366pratt@btinternet.com](mailto:Michael366pratt@btinternet.com).



## **28th Dec – 2nd Jan 2020 – Briarfields Touring Park – Cheltenham.**

Briarfields Motel and Touring Caravan Park is open all year round and has well-equipped heated washrooms centrally located in the middle of the touring park. The facilities include: Free WiFi, Private Washbasins, Hand Dryers, 5 showers for the ladies, plus Hairdryers, 5 showers for the gents, plus Shaver points, Toilets and a Disabled washroom. The rally programme and venue for socials etc. will be given out in the newsletter, and on the web site nearer the time.

**Roger & Caroline Applegate** will be your hosts, so please send your bookings in via the web site, contact Roger & Caroline on 01275 540830 / 07793 025675 or email [countylettings@hotmail.com](mailto:countylettings@hotmail.com).

## **Rally Reports.**

If members take photos at rallies, Teresa Hares would love to have copies of them for the club promotional material. If you would be prepared to share your photos please send them to: [teresa.hares@sky.com](mailto:teresa.hares@sky.com).

### **11<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> July – Arosa Farm Caravan Park – Scarborough.**

This is the first time the club has visited this site, a little crowded on the commercial side but a nice large rally field, with 15 vans including the marshals in attendance. Due to a clash of dates John & Cathrine could not make the first 3 nights of the rally however Manny & Margaret stood in admirably to help out. The weather was warm and mainly dry & sunny. On arrival we were met & pointed to our pitch followed by a well needed coffee/tea & refreshments made for us by our marshals

Anne had put together a local area quiz for us to do over the week, which was very clever and interesting and had us pouring over our maps and finding places that we did not know about before. This was won by Peter & Margaret Kerins (WELL DONE)



Arnie & Anne had put together a route to various areas by bus (they only live 4/5 miles from the site) this was well taken up by a number of ralliers over the week. The site had a small club house serving drinks & food and a number of club members took up the offer of Sunday lunch (after Church), and I was told the food was good and very good value.



On Monday morning Anne had organized a bus trip to Scarborough for a brisk walk on the promenade and a number of members took up the challenge. In the evening

the site had organized a BBQ at £5 per head, also very good value and the food was excellent. This was followed by Flag.

The next day was free & easy but we had agreed at flag to meet again in the evening around the marshals vans when we were treated by Anne and Cathrine to homemade scones with jam and cream topped with strawberries -LOVELY.

It was at this time we found out that Lunar has gone into administration, sad news. The last day was also free & easy, but again the marshals came up trumps and put on a cheese & wine evening. The lady marshals worked very hard on the rally, helped by Arnie, John and Margaret & Manny. Well done to you all.

If this is the last but one rally that they are running I would like to say a big thank you.

**Sheila & Peter Baker.**

### **22<sup>nd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August – Burliegh Hill Farm Camp Site – St Ives, Cambridgeshire.**

We had a record breaking rally at Burliegh Hill Farm, St Ives. Yes the temperatures were the hottest ever recorded for the August bank holiday weekend. This makes this year's rally the hottest ever recorded at any of the club UK August bank holiday rallies. How great was that?

Those who weren't able to get to this rally at St Ives, near Huntingdon missed a real treat. The weather was gloriously hot, some said too hot, the site was roomy, the Rally Marshalls, Arnie & Anne Bycroft and John & Catherine Sawdon were amazing. They provided copious teas, coffees and cakes, on site gatherings and even got friendly with the Ice Cream van which called every afternoon and did an excellent trade in whipped ice cream cornets and other ices.



There were lots of places nearby to visit including Cambridge on the guided bus, Wimpole Hall, Houghton Mill, St Ives and many more which kept everyone as busy as they wanted in the hot days we were there.



Saturday evening we gathered to play Catherine's version on playing card Bingo which had us all sweating on the last number. On Monday evening they provided us with a huge buffet spread of sandwiches, salad, pork pies, etc., followed by strawberries and cream plus cakes. We then had flag and welcomed First Time ralliers Pauline and John Lawton, who were presented with their First Rally Plaque, which was then followed by the presentation of a 300th Rally Plaque to Margaret and Manny Hamer, a great achievement.

Tuesday we enjoyed Bacon Butties at 9.30 am expertly cooked by Anne and Catherine, delicious. In the evening we had a cheese and wine get together and the raffle. Unfortunately the sky had clouded up and there were a few thunder rumbles in

the distance. However, we are Lunar Owners and made of strong stuff so we all set our chairs round with large umbrellas at the ready. There were a few spots of rain but not enough to deter us. It was Rally Marshall John's birthday so we all sang to him. Catherine produced a cake with candles on (not the correct number for Fire & Safety reasons!) which was shared round to everyone.



Wednesday evening we went to a local hostelry for a superb meal. Arnie had it all under control, directing the waiters to the correct diners, and judging by the decibels, I think everyone enjoyed themselves.



The final competition for the first off the field on departure day was easily won by Manny & Margaret Hamer. They must get up in the small hours to ensure he wins. A clear winner, he is going to be difficult to beat. Well done! How many times has he been the winner at the 300 rallies he has attended?

One thing is certain, you do not go home hungry from Arnie, Anne, Catherine and John's rallies. They make an excellent team and we thank them sincerely for all their hard work. Arnie announced that this was the last rally that he and Anne would

be running. We wish him and Anne well in their 'Marshal Retirement' and are pleased we were lucky enough to attend some of their excellent rallies.



**Anne and John Stephens.**

**8th- 13th August – Lyndon Top Caravan Park, Rutland Water.**

After arriving and setting up in the lovely sunshine and after the other ralliers had arrived we all gathered at the marshal's awning for tea and lovely cakes. We were given a big envelope which contained information of places to visit in the surrounding area.

Friday we visited the Lyndon Visitor Centre which was a short walk down the hill from the rally field (but a long walk back up) for an interesting talk on the Rutland Ospreys which Roy had organised.



Saturday we went into Oakham and visited the castle with its 200 horseshoes displayed on its walls, some of which were from Royalty. In the evening we had hotdogs and donuts at the marshal's caravan.

Sunday the wind had dropped to what it had been in the night and the sun came out again, we visited a nearby garden centre passing through some pretty villages on the way. When we got back to the site we were invited to tea and scones provided by the marshals followed by flag and a raffle.



Monday we took a trip on the Rutland Belle pleasure cruiser around the reservoir, and as we arrived back at the jetty we caught a glimpse of a wedding party at the Normanton church, which is situated right on the edge of the reservoir. From there we went for a walk around the nearby town of Stamford, and in the evening we had a farewell gathering which included cheese and wine.

Our thanks to Judy and Roy, Peter and Katina for a great rally in a great part of the country.

**Barbara & Nigel Hitchen.**

## 5th– 13th September – Chestnut Meadow Caravan Park, Bexhill on Sea.

We arrived at Chestnut Meadows Camping site near Bexhill on Sea at about 3.30 ish expecting to be one of the last to arrive, but to our surprise and to the delight of the marshals (they were beginning to think that nobody was coming) we were the first to arrive!! There is a first time for everything. John Hammond greeted us with the phrase “As you are first to arrive you have been selected to write the rally report” we both said “oh no we won’t” as it turned out John was joking so you might be wondering why we ARE writing the report - see later on.



After we had recovered we were invited for a refreshing cuppa as we were looking rather worn out from our 5 Hour Journey and the Marshals John & Janet, Nigel & Barbara took pity on us. Later that afternoon several more ralliers arrived and had their welcome drinks and settled in for the week.

### **Bexhill on Sea from the De La Warr Pavilion**

The marshals had arranged a few get-togethers during the rally and as the site was very quiet the owners said we could use the games room as the weather was getting quite chilly by the evening. The first get together was a communal eat in, bring you own supper that you had cooked or barbecued and we all had a great time until John said “its quiz time everyone” Joking aside we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Most of the later arrivals were now all here so there were 8 vans in total, the weather was mostly behaving itself so there was opportunities forvisiting the many National Trust properties in the area and also coastal towns which were interesting to say the least, Bexhill in particular we thought was charming with free parking along the seafront!!



**Roundabout at Battle commemorating the Battle of Hastings**



**“ Batemans” Rudyard Kiplings House**

There was a café on site which offered snacks, tea, and coffee etc. they also sold a full English breakfast for £5 per head so it was arranged that the whole Lunar Rally would get together on Sunday at 9.30am (a very civilised hour) for the aforementioned breakfast, needless to say a delicious time was had by all.

On the Tuesday evening we had our farewell get together (as some ralliers had to leave early) with a cheese and wine event, general chatting session and a raffle. Diana was one of the early prize winners and after she had picked her ticket to see which prize she had one, it turned out to be a box of Quality Street. John said to Diana that there was a surprise on the bottom of the box if she turned it over, and yes you have got it, there was a note to say “Rally Report Please” so that is why we ARE writing these ramblings.

A great time was had by all, the weather was kind, but more importantly the organisation by all the marshals made the rally.

Thank you John & Janet and Nigel & Barbara.

**David & Diana Cowan.**

## **Obituary.**

I have been asked by Mike and Liz Clear to include the following:

It is with great sadness that I belatedly report the passing of our old friends, Ken and Rosemary Cresswell. Ken died in December, 2018, after a lengthy patch of cancer treatment, Rosemary went downhill from around the time of Ken's death and passed away on July 10<sup>th</sup>. I think that 'Liz, and I had known them for over twenty-five years, through this club. Ken and I shared a lot of interests and aspects of our lives, in addition to caravanning. We had both done Military Service, he in the Royal Engineers and I in the Royal Artillery. He was a civil engineer and had been responsible for the construction of a section of the M6 near Stoke-on-Trent, not far from our home. And we both took to the use of computers at about the same time, with weekly chats of news of our families and events in our locality. We met at many rallies, although Ken attended or organised more than us, and had the plaques to prove it!

They are survived by two sons, David and Phillip, the former now in Australia and the latter in Oxford.

Rosemary was an intrepid reader and could often be seen, in her caravan reading, and smoking a cigarette! Ken, on the other hand could usually be seen around the site, chatting to fellow ralliers, or me!

He had a tremendous gift for getting lost! Many a time we have started out together for a rally and it has been half an hour before he has rolled into the rally site, explaining that he took a wrong turn!

Ken and Rosemary gave up caravanning at the end of 2017, but we still kept in touch. We miss them both.

**Mike & 'Liz. Clear.**

That's all folks so until next time, get out there and enjoy Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness!

*Kevin.*



# Lunar Owners Club

## 2020 Membership Renewal Notice

### Renewal due 1st November 2019

It's that time of year again..... Except for those of you who joined us after 1st September this year in which case your subscription already covers the 2020 year. I hope you will continue your membership of the Club.

The subscription rate compares favourably with the £20 per annum which many other owners clubs are charging...and it's not a lot to pay for first rate companionship and enjoyment....Renewal rates remain unchanged and are:

- a) For those taking newsletters and other communications by email the basic Annual Subscription is £12. This is the clubs preferred option.
- b) For those who wish to use standard postal services rather than email the subscription is £15.
- c) The subscription for "Friends of the LOC" is £3.50.

Please Note: We are no longer offering payment of ACCEO personal subscriptions. You will need to settle these directly. You can make payment:

1. By Bank transfer directly to the Clubs subscription account at Lloyds Bank. Please quote your Member Number & Surname against the Transfer details. ***This is the preferred method if you are able to use it.***  
 For UK Members: Sort Code: 30-95-45 Acct No: 19620468  
 For European Members: BIC: LOYDGB21433 IBAN: GB15LOYD30954519620468
2. By PayPal, using the website Renewal form in the member's area.
3. By completing the form below and sending it with a cheque (made payable to "Lunar Owners Club") to the Club Treasurer at the address below.

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#### Lunar Owners Club – Renewal Request

*Here at the Lunar Owners Club we take your privacy seriously and will only use your personal information to administer your membership of the club and to provide the products and services that you have requested from us.*

*However, from time to time we would like to contact you with details of club events, activities, club merchandise offers and general news from the club and Lunar Caravans Ltd. We will not pass your details on to any other company or organisation for any purpose.*

Name:	<input type="text"/>	Membership No:	<input type="text"/>
Spouse/Partner Name:	<input type="text"/>		
Address:	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
Town:	<input type="text"/>		
County:	<input type="text"/>		
Post Code:	<input type="text"/>		
Email:	<input type="text"/>		
Telephone:	<input type="text"/>		
Mobile:	<input type="text"/>		
Caravan Model:	<input type="text"/>	Year:	<input type="text"/>

By applying to renew your membership of the Lunar Owners Club and signing this form you are agreeing to us collecting your personal information for the purpose of maintaining your membership of the Club.

Signed	Dated
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**Please complete this form and post along with your cheque to:  
 Mr Mike Gyles, 11 Silverbirch Way, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 2DH.**