



Welcome Everyone to this Special Newsletter.

First of all, I and your Committee hope you are all coping with the current and ever challenging changing Tier restrictions as well as managing to stay safe and well.

What a year it has been and I'm sure uppermost in our minds, we are thinking what will 2021 have in store for us all? Surely it can only get better. During this last year most of us have probably asked ourselves lots of searching questions.

What have we lost and don't want back and what have we lost but do want back? What are we doing and don't want to keep doing and what are we doing but do want to keep doing? Finally, what good has come out of COVID-19 that has provided new direction for our own lifestyles?

Sometimes we often have to take stock and really see what is important in life. Many of us have missed 'a hug' from family and friends, although we probably don't miss a full diary and trying to fit everything in.

When following the various new and I hope temporary rules, all of us have a personal responsibility to limit the spread of the virus and protect each other, especially vulnerable people. With this in mind, your Committee has certainly had some difficult decisions to make regarding the running of rallies. March saw the last official rally at Dodwell Park and in line with national guidance, we saw fit to cancel all remaining rallies. So what has been happening since then?

Our Rally Secretary, Caroline Applegate, has been preparing a rally programme for 2021, with the first rally being in March in Derbyshire, followed by various other rallies throughout the year. A French rally has also been allocated for June organised by Mike and Ann Gyles. Whilst we may have the 2021 rally programme set up, due to the current circumstances, it can only be provisional. We will just have to take every month as it comes.

In spite of enquiries by our various contacts, there has been absolutely no word from or even about Lunar Automotive. The knock on effect is that many dealers are apparently no longer stocking 'new' Lunar caravans, which in turn means that sponsorship has dropped 100%. In view of this our Webmaster, Phil Butterworth, ably assisted by our Secretary Cathy, has been busy revamping all our documentation endeavouring to making it simpler and more cost effective.

The Handbook as we used to know it, is currently, not being used. Instead it is now online in pdf format. Those without internet will receive a hard copy. The new online format of the rally programme itself, has embedded links, which means that each campsite website can be visited by clicking on the Site Name and one can now see the location on Google Maps by clicking on the PostCode. As I mentioned earlier, the rally programme is provisional and subject to change at any time because of COVID-19 and various restrictions, so always check on the Rally Programme section of our website before booking.

Our Membership Secretary, John Hammond has been kept busy with new members joining, a total of 44 this last year. The loss of membership is only 2, purely for personal reasons. This is really excellent news. Don't forget also that because we had to cancel nearly all rallies this year, your Committee decided to provide free 2021 membership to all existing members. In fact all your Committee have been very active in keeping our Club together in these trying times.

I'm sure that we will not be sorry to see the back of 2020, but on the other hand it is good to be able to look forward to Christmas (whatever form it takes) and to 2021 with a measure of optimism, in the wake of good news about vaccines, even if we are clearly some way from being out of the woods just yet. What COVID-19 has highlighted is that we don't necessarily have to go back to the old, familiar rhythms of life if we don't want to – at least, not if there is a realistic alternative.

In the meantime, on behalf of your Committee, may I wish you the best possible Christmas. For many, the current restrictions may mean that it is not possible to celebrate Christmas in the way you normally would. That being said, we wish you, your family and friends the very best Christmas you are able to have - restful, peaceful and above all healthy. Besides thanking the Committee for their support and dedication this year, I would like to thank you all for your support, patience and forbearance during an exceptionally challenging year, not least in the enforced absence of so many rallies that help bind us together as a friendly Club.

One last thought. Whilst many may be lucky enough not to spend Christmas alone, there will be those who will be on their own. Please remember them and let us as always be mindful of the needs of others.

Terry Hughes (Chairman)