



Newsletter – Spring 2021



GREETINGS TO ALL OUR LUNAR OWNERS CLUB MEMBERS

This is our first newsletter of 2021 hoping that this year will see us returning to a more or less normal way of life starting with our first rally.

Diana & I will be hosting the first rally at Midway Touring Park near Leominster starting on April 29th which fortunately is fully booked, which is not unexpected given that we all must be eagerly waiting to get out in our vans for fresh air (hopefully dry & sunny) and meeting up with friends old & new, all socially distanced of course!

It is also a coincidence that we also ran the first and last rally in 2020 at Dodwell Park which of course was the only rally that went ahead last year. As some members will recall for our final farewell as the weather was not at its best (cold and windy) we managed to squeeze about 17 members in to our van for very cosy time for teas and coffees. This will definitely NOT be happening this year!!!

The other rallies planned for the rest of the year are also receiving bookings so I would urge you to get in your booking forms as soon as possible to secure your place. Please don't forget to check on the lunarownersclub.net website for up to date information on all our rallies

We have a few rallies which still do not have marshals/hosts The AGM at Stourport on Severn which will probably be run by the committee but offers of help would be appreciated and Fortway Farm at Stoney Stanton Leicestershire. If any of you would like to have a go and you have not marshalled or hosted a rally before, other members will I am sure give you help and guidelines in what is involved. Normally the marshals/ host arrive the day before the start of the rally to familiarise themselves with the layout and facilities of the site before the rally itself begins. This extra night cost is paid for by the club, so you do get the bonus of a free night for your efforts.

Interested? Call our ClubLine on 0161 820 2466 or email Caroline Applegate rallysec@lunarownersclub.net

Enough of my ramblings for now! So, here is poem to give you some light relief and possibly some recognition that it may or might happen or has already happened to any of us who are of that certain age or getting there *(with apologies to Mr Wordsworth)*

*I wandered lonely as a cloud
Two metres from the madding crowd
When all at once my name was called
To enter Waitrose (other supermarkets are available)
hallowed hall
This was the pensioners' special hour
I'd gone to get a bag of flour
But I forget when I went through the door
What I'd gone to Waitrose for
I told them it had slipped my mind
They asked what else I had forgot*

*The Waitrose staff were extra kind
They clearly thought I had lost the plot
I phoned my wife again to ask
She reminded me of this key task:
I need some flour to bake a cake
With all those eggs you made me take
"Yes, I recall" I had to lie
I dared not ask what flour to buy
But then I saw them next to the tills
A BUNCH OF GOLDEN DAFFODILS*

David Cowan ~ Newsletter editor ~ 0161 820 2466

Email: newsletter@lunarownersclub.net



CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

I trust that everyone is safe and well. It has been a long and sometimes wearisome three months or so since our lockdown at Christmas time. It has also been very depressing for those of us that have lost family or friends to CV19. However, I have now decided that the time is right for me to say something about how we perceive the onward direction (or as Boris says Roadmap) for our Club.

In the past we enjoyed a long standing and good relationship with Lunar Caravans. It was therefore a sad day when we learned that they had gone into administration. However, hope springs eternal and there was light at the end of the tunnel when a new owner came along and took over Lunar Caravans, renaming it Lunar Automotive. I had a long phone chat with the new owner followed by a face to face meeting with his main contact person. I honestly thought that it was a good omen for our Club, and we would all move on in a positive way. However, as the weeks turned into months it became quite apparent that things were not as they should be. Obviously, the situation was not helped by the sudden and long appearance of CV19. Like everyone else, we could only glean news from snippets on Facebook and the local press in the North West.

In spite of the lockdown, I am glad to say that a few new members have joined, which is very gratifying. We are a Club managed by an excellent Committee and our aims and objectives are to manage the Club solely for its members. We are not commercial, and neither are we beholden to any manufacturer. For technical support we are ably assisted by the Lunar Caravan Owners Technical Support Group on Facebook. If and, I say if, the manufacture of Lunar caravans comes to an end, our Club will continue. However, we do need to look to the future and be proactive, with a need to rethink our policy on how we operate. The whole Committee agreed, and we hope you agree, that we need to do something to maintain the viability of our Club not just for the present but for the future as well.

Some of our members that have left, have purchased non-Lunar caravans. A few of these members have indicated that they were sorry to leave but would certainly rejoin to be with their Lunar friends again if our Club allowed it. Your Committee has looked at the current Constitution in general and the section concerning Associate Membership, which is no longer current. Your Committee has discussed this matter at length, and it was suggested that ex-members could be invited back to our Club and if they accepted, they would become Associate members with voting rights. The reasoning behind giving them voting rights is that we would like them to become fully integrated back into our Club with the possibility of them perhaps helping to organise and host rallies. The invitation for Associate Membership could also include friends recommended by existing members. In view of this proposal, we are going to poll all our current members to see what their views are on this matter. The Membership Secretary will ensure all members receive a letter/email in May, which will prescribe how the Poll will be administered with members returning their views by the end of June. If the evidence of the Poll appears to be in favour of the Committee proposal, your Committee would then tender a firm proposal at the next AGM to allow ex members to rejoin our Club as Associate members. The final outcome would of course rest on the result of a vote at the AGM itself. It is important to note that, if we do go ahead and accept non-Lunar caravan owners, the name of our Club - Lunar Owners Club - will not change.

Another area that your Committee has been looking at is documentation. Understandably the revenue for advertising from dealers, that we used in the past for printing handbooks, is currently non-existent. Because of this we have had to streamline our documentation in many areas especially in respect with forms for joining the Club and booking rallies online.

In the meantime, another light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter with the ending of lockdown restrictions. This means that hopefully we will be able to start our rally programme again so keep watching our website page for further news. In the meantime, stay safe and well and we all look forward to meeting up again in happier circumstances. Finally, at the last AGM I changed my mind and stood again to be your Chairman. However, I now give notice that at this year's AGM I WILL be definitely standing down.

Terry Hughes ~ Chairman ~ 0161 820 2466

Email: chairman@lunarownersclub.net

RALLY NEWS

As we now seem to have the all-clear for our outings (so far at least) here is an update on our programme. As you can see the limit on van numbers is quite low and if necessary, I will try and get the sites to increase these. The sites have been very relaxed so far but if general demand increases the current limits will hold, I think.

As restrictions ease, the hosts for each rally will give more details but usually, if allowed, there will be some sort of social event, often a group pub meal or BBQ on site etc sometimes a trip of some kind.

So, here is the current programme and we hope to see many of you at one of these this year:

Month	Date	Nights	Location	Site	Post Code	Features	Cost per night	Places left
May	27 – June 1	5	Haxey Quays	Haxey Quays C.P	DN10 4BA	Riverside site, pub opposite	£12	9
June	24 - 29	5	Bedford	Top End Farm	MK44 2BY	Use of shelter possible	£20	7
July	15 - 20	5	Bewdley	Yew Tree Farm	DY14 9TH	Full facilities open, Use of room for social	£10.75	4
	20 - 27	7	Cirencester	Mayfield Holiday Park	GL7 7BH	Full facilities open	£28	7
August	12 - 17	5	Woodbridge	Sutton Hoo Holidays	IP12 3DN	Full facilities open	£20	4
	26 - 31	5	Stoney Stanton	Fortway Farm	LE9 4JA	No EHU	£7.50	11
September	16 – 22 AGM RALLY	6	Stourport on Severn	Lickhill Manor	DY13 8RL	Full facilities	£16 (weekday) £19 (weekend)	14
October	28 - Nov 4	7	Salisbury	Coombe Nursery C.P	SP2 8PN	Full facilities, Social room available	£18	13
December	9 – 14	5	Winford	Elm Cottage	CW7 2QJ	TBC	£18	14

- Note that some sites have restricted facilities
- Fortway Farm does not currently have marshals – would you like to volunteer? Call us on the ClubLine 0161 820 2466 or email me on rallysec@lunarownersclub.net

There's much more information about each individual rally on the website – www.lunarownersclub.net – and you can book on line too.

Not rallied with us before?

Feel free to ring our ClubLine on 0161 820 2466 and leave us a message – a member of our team will call you back as soon as they can and give you all the information you need.

You can also pop in to a nearby rally and meet up with members if you want to see how our rallies are run and meet up with other members – just call us on 0161 820 2466 and let me know beforehand.

Caroline Applegate ~ Rally Secretary ~ 0161 820 2466

Email: rallysec@lunarownersclub.net

OTHER RALLY NEWS – FORTHCOMING RALLY

Our Spring Bank Holiday meeting

**HAXEY QUAYS CAMPING AND CARAVANNING
HAXEY ROAD, MISTERTON
DONCASTER**

THURSDAY 27TH MAY TO TUESDAY 1ST JUNE 2021

Your hosts will be Mike and Ann Gyles, 0161 820 2466

We have 12 reserved grass pitches with EHU (spaces still available!) so join us for what we hope will be a great weekend. There are only 9 pitches left, so hurry & book online at www.lunarownersclub.net now or call our ClubLine 0161 820 2466.

Covid restrictions may have been lifted by then, we might be able to use the nearby pub outside or possibly inside. This is a lovely area with access to Gainsborough and Doncaster and plenty of countryside. Fishing is available on site and golf is nearby, subject to them being available of course.

We recommend viewing the site website www.haxeyquays.com for full site information



OBITUARY – MICHAEL GRICE

Mike Grice passed away on 21st January 2021 after a long illness.

Mike and Sue had been members from February 2015. They attended 9 rallies over the years including 3 French rallies and the last rally Mike was able to attend was in Spring 2019.



Mike and Sue were always great participants at rallies, co-hosting the “Donut” Rally at “Briarfields” near Cheltenham in 2017; Mike with his dry sense of humour and Sue with her penchant for devising fiendish quizzes!

Sue has sold their caravan so will no longer be attending rallies. We will miss them both and would like to wish Sue all the best for the future.