

MUSTANG CARAVAN OWNERS CLUB



THE ROUNDUP

The Latest News and reviews around the Rallies



Steve, Debbie and Rene enjoying the Xmas Dinner

EDITION 139 SPRING 2012

THE FREE MEMBERSHIP DRAW 2012/2013

The lucky winners of the Free membership draw for paid up members took place at the AGM 2011 and the lucky winners are:

Roger & Jenny Hemmings and Eddie & Joan Darwin.

Congratulations to the lucky winners.

Qualification for the Free Draw—You need to have had your wheels on the rally field at least once during the current rally season.

Seaside Rally Humberston Marshalls: Dave & Val Smith Write Up: Colin Treacher

The seaside rally at the Tertia Trust Humberston is one of my favourite sites, it is very peaceful and rural and it is difficult to believe that you are only a couple of hundred yards from one of the largest holiday parks on the east coast. Coffee was served on Friday evening in Dave's marquee. Well, I call it a marquee, others may say it's a large frame tent with the bedrooms taken out, either way it certainly served its purpose.

Saturday and most people were out visiting Cleethorpes or simply having a walk along the sea front, no doubt trying to build up an appetite for the Fish and Chip supper that was to follow in the evening.

Saturday evening and it was into the marquee where we waited patiently for Dave to arrive back from the chip shop with our supper. The fish and chips were delicious and after we had washed them down with a little alcohol it was time for the annual bowls match, hopefully we would complete this before darkness fell, otherwise we would have had to don the head torches to finish the games. The draw was made and although we tried to find the flattest piece of ground the pitch proved to be a great leveller for those of us who are once a year players. After a very enjoyable contest the ladies title went to Wendy Trushell and the gents to Graham Kirkman and that was without the aid of any byes this time.

Sunday morning and we all sat out in the sunshine for flag. The winner of the weekend competition was Tom and Stephanie and the lucky van went to Beth and Garth, or was it the other way round? Anyway it's that long ago no one will remember. I blame Pat for throwing my notes away.

Finally many thanks to Dave and Val for a very enjoyable weekend. PS Grammar correctors note!
Notes were not thrown away, simply buried among the debris on the author's desk

A Message From Adrian our Rally Secretary

Due to the possibility of Damage to the Marquees during the period end of September to the beginning of April of each year it has been decided that the Marquees will not be available for use on rallies. Should they get damage the repairs could be financially unviable. For those members who were at the Flamborough rally can testify when the summer gales were just too strong to even consider putting them up for that rally.

Christmas Dinner—Caistor 25th—27th Nov 2011 Marshals: Graham, Carol, Adrian & Vanessa Report: Colin Treacher

This rally was due to be held at the normal venue at Hemswell, however, due to lack of numbers the marshals had to cancel so the search was on for a new site and venue for the dinner. The decision was made to hold the rally in Adrian's field and use the Salutation Inn for the dinner. Of course the food needed to be checked out so our marshals decided to go and have Sunday lunch before deciding, I think it was just an excuse to go out for a meal.

Anyway we arrived on the Friday to find no sign of the grotto but not to worry as night fell the lights came on and it was a case of following the trail of fairy lights leading to the warehouse. When you got there and opened the door there was the grotto in all its splendour. The Marquees' had been erected inside the warehouse, this was a cunning plan as it kept them dry and safe from any winds and also kept us very warm and cosy. The Marquees' were suitably decked out with all the Christmas decorations and coloured lights you can imagine. At the far end was a lovely buffet supplied by our marshals which we eagerly devoured, washed down of course with our favourite tippie. Saturday was a lazy day for some of us while others ventured out for a little retail therapy.

Saturday evening and it was time to get dressed up and join the convoy for the trip to the Salutation Inn for our Xmas dinner. We arrived to be greeted by the very friendly and pleasant staff and a lovely open roaring fire. I have to say that the meal and the service was first class. As soon as we had been fed and watered it was time to head back to the Grotto for the most important visitor of the weekend, none other than Santa of course. At this point I must apologise on behalf of Santa as I believe that one of his little helpers was heard to utter a little expletive when one of the Reindeers tripped and fell over. Santa handed presents out to just about everyone some even getting more than one. Then it was time to wave Santa off leaving us to play with our presents and have a tippie or two.

Flag was held on Sunday morning, the raffle as always on the rally was a bran tub so a bit of a lucky dip if your number came up. The weekend competition winners were Beth and Garth and the lucky van prize went to Paul and Clare. Then it was time to wind the legs up and head for home bringing to an end what had been a very enjoyable and successful rally.

Many thanks to the following people for making this weekend possible. Graham, Carol, Adrian and Vanessa oh and Santa of course.

**New Year—Wellingore
Marshals—The Catering Crew & Helpers
Report: Mike Chapman**

This fantastic 30th Mustang New Year Rally - was held at Wellingore Village Memorial Hall - a great venue for this type of event. The rally stewards were Colin & Pat and Adrian & Vanessa ably assisted by a catering crew of helpers too numerous to mention.

The programme (rally stewards please note the correct spelling??) ran from Wednesday to Monday and was shown as:

Wednesday - settle in with Mince Pies

Thursday - Wild West night

Friday - Wacky Races night

Saturday - End of Year Party

Sunday - Flag Day

Monday - End of Rally (sad to go home day).

On arrival Mike & Josie found they had no gas - it had been working earlier that day - but fortunately Adrian and Richard managed to solve the problem by rigging up a by-pass system that fed gas through the bar-b-q point instead of the faulty bulkhead regulator in the Swift locker box. Colin kindly arranged to provide a replacement Truma unit the following day - (thanks very much Colin). This was not the only Gas problem that weekend - as Adrian & Vanessa's fire was proving to be tricky - lighting and then going out many times (thank goodness the weather was not too cold). After a day or two they thought the problem had been solved - as the fire seemed to stay alight ok - how wrong they were!! The following afternoon there was an almighty BANG and the fire 'died' = no-one was

really sure why and this will be under investigation when they return home. On the Wednesday evening we had a great social get together - Mike had obtained some Leek and Potato soup from a Christmas rally which went down very well - Matthew ate four bowls full - it must have been really good!! We welcomed the return of Steve and Di Rustill to the Mustang Club - and warmly welcomed new ralliers Keith & Chris Martin and Richard & Val Harvey. These two couples were introduced to the club by Des whilst on a coach trip to Scotland.

Thursday

The weather was fine and most people set out to visit Grantham or Lincoln - and in the evening the Darts and Table Tennis competitions heats began. In the evening the 'Wild West' Fancy Dress competitions were won by Brian White, Wendy Trushell and Brian & Mavis's granddaughter Katie. Following this we were engaged in a murder mystery titled Death by Chocolate (is this new year rally like 'Midsommer' - where every time we meet together - somebody has died in strange circumstances?). We were very pleasantly surprised to find out during that evening that the Memorial hall did not have a smoke detector or water sprinkler system - when Adrian was trying to make melted chocolate sauce for the custard and managed to almost set fire to the microwave cooker - and did actually manage to burn the chocolate whilst melting the base of the jug it was in as well. Nice one Adrian! (Apparently it was 'all Vanessa's fault' as it was her idea to use the microwave to melt the chocolate - and sadly she did not give him full instructions?). It did not matter as we all ate extremely well with bangers, beans, peas and baked potatoes with butter - followed by scrumptious sweets (but NO chocolate custard). Throughout the evening the balloons in the overhead net kept exploding - we wondered if there would be enough left for Saturday night.

Friday

The weather was less kind - showery on and off - but this did not spoil anyone's festive spirits. The 'Free and Easy' day left us all ready for the evening entertainments. There were two games of Wacky Races - the first an amazing race where the winner was 15 lengths ahead of the rest then rolled a perfect 5 to win in record time!! (Were the dice loaded for Red?). After the meal the second race was much more exciting - with five horses all at the last hurdle needing a 1 to finish - sterling stuff!! We were served a 'bully beef' hot pot supper - prepared to an age old recipe first served by Pat's mum followed by hot crumble puddings - and really good they were - thanks to Vanessa. There was a game many people had not seen before - The Boat Race. This was a fun activity which ended up with Richard and Eric soaked with water - and several others as well. Later on there was a game of Family Fortunes - with buzzers provided by Simon. The winners of the two games were the Military Monkeys and The Royal Family.

Saturday Once again the weather was 'iffy' but no-one cared as usual - all just grateful for no snow or ice. The evening started early with a sherry reception and the finals of the darts and table tennis competitions. Darts between Brian & Mavis versus Simon & Vickie winners were: S & V. The table tennis battle was Beth & Garth versus Roger and Jenny- won by R & J. After these the winners congratulations were followed by a sumptuous meal with all the trimmings - no idea how we got through it all - 4 courses plus coffee and mints!! As always volunteers washed up to help ease the burden on the marshals. There were loads of silly games during the evening - including Musical chairs and bumps for the children - and musical chairs for the grown ups - where unfortunately Mavis came a 'cropper' when bumped off a chair. Good news was that she was not badly hurt. Another game involved frozen spoons on very long strings = I'm sure you will all know what I mean. The best bit of this game was when the spoon was being retrieved and caught Adrian in the 'Castanets' - not sure if he was able to walk straight for a while afterwards!! The Balloon game just had to be seen - cannot be described - you just had to be there! We all wished Colin a happy birthday and when he performed to the 'Sailing' song on the stage we all sang along - until bursting into peals of laughter when someone tipped water all over him from behind - this did save him from a bucket full that Adrian was preparing though! Later in the evening there was the birthday party piece - where Simon joined Colin but then chickened out before things got too exciting for the girls!! During the evening dancing there were some memorable events such as 'Running Bear' and even more exciting - 'Star Trekin' - brilliant efforts by all concerned. The children joined in everything and were rewarded by glow-stick bracelets and necklaces by Carol. The celebrations went on into the early morning until everyone had retired to bed.



Sunday.

Amazingly, after such an energetic and late night the catering crew prepared and served a huge breakfast for everyone at 10.30 the next morning. Several of us only had just enough energy to eat it! Flag and the raffle were held after brunch and Mike proposed thanks to the marshals that had served us all so well. The new rallier Keith thanked everybody for making them so welcome. Richard remarked that the atmosphere reminded him of the way rallies used to be many years ago - thoroughly enjoyable and so friendly. Sadly two ralliers units had to leave today. That evening we were served a 'leftovers' curry and Bubble & Squeak supper together with a huge variety of other foods - which we consumed and spent the whole time chatting - a good time was had by all.

Monday

On the last day Steve complained that he had contracted a new virus - 'Dish Pan Bash Flu' - as has was developing 'Man Flu' after helping in the kitchen - Shame! Everyone was busy saying goodbye and thanks etc and looked forward to meeting up again soon.

Over the weekend Tim and Angela had trouble keeping track of Mr & Mrs Monkey - as they were up to a number of tricks assisted by persons unknown - getting into various situations that required 'parental intervention'. They were more of a problem than several of the children!!

Many thanks to our catering crew and their helpers what a great time was had by all. For those of you who did not go this year try and make it next New Year.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Dog Owners please keep your pets on their leads on the rally field and exercise them off the rally field.

Unless you are told differently by the marshals always take your dry rubbish home with you.

Please book on the rallies as soon as possible.

Round up 140—Summer 2012

Could you please send any articles and Rally Write Ups for inclusion in the next edition of the Roundup (140 summer 2012) by the 27th May 2012 e-mail: mustangcaravanoc@ntlworld.com
Thank you.