

JERSEY CAMPING & CARAVANNING CLUB. NEWSLETTER.

July 2011.

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President: Dave Ellis. 861848
Vice President: Glenda Killip. 864200.
Hon Secretary: Cynthia Warren. 736896.
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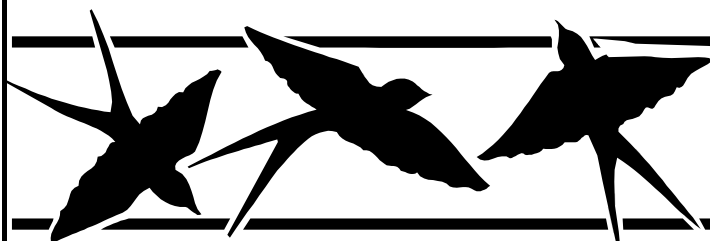
David le Marquand. Dennis Ferbrache

Committee Members.

Ruth Perree . 861117
Dave Jacobs. 853855.
Paul Warren. 736896.
David Killip. 864200
Anne Perchard. 856629

Rally Liaison Officer.

Collette Willmet. 854875



DIARY DATES.

Friday 23rd September. 09.30. Visit to the Jersey Dairy followed by lunch at Beuvelande.
Wednesday 26th October. Photo Competition. Cheese and Wine. St John's Parish Hall.
Wednesday 16th November. Theme Evening. "Tramps". St John's Parish Hall.
Sunday 4th December. Christmas Lunch. Red Rose Restaurant.

**The 2011 Rally.
Camping Belle Etoile, Melun.
Our group pictured at Vaux le Vicompte.**



The 2011 Rally (A personal view)

This years Rally was held at Camping La Belle Etoile, Melun, nr Paris from Thursday June 2nd until Monday June 6th, and was the first one to be organised by our new Rally Committee consisting of Rob Hamon, Collette Willmet, and Robin Perchard, It was always going to be different from previous ones, and I have to admit that I was not looking forward to it very much, having an inbuilt aversion to heavily populated areas of France, normally avoiding them like the plague! My reservations seemed to have some foundation, when almost at our journeys end, in the middle of four lanes of rushing traffic our Sat-Nav, "Emily", suddenly lost satellite signal! It has to be said that the situation was saved by my previously obsolete Navigator with the aid of a map!

Camping Belle Etoile proved to be a very pleasant, friendly, site, and it soon became clear that we were going to enjoy ourselves, aided by perfect hot sunny weather. Situated right beside the River Seine, with a footpath leading directly to the nearby town of Melun. It was fascinating to watch heavily laden barges heading down river only a few metres away.

On the Thursday we walked into town, but as it was a holiday, most of the shops were closed.

After lunch we swam in the pool, which although not very big, was pleasantly warm. The sun by this time was very hot and we wallowed for some time just to keep cool.

The first organised Rally event was a tasting of locally brewed beers, most of which were very good, I don't know whether, many orders were taken by the Camp owners Yvonne and Luc, as the JCCC Members are more noted for their love of wine! Following the Beer Tasting, we set up our tables and chairs in a central area for a Barbecue, where we were able to unwind and enjoy each others company in the lovely warm, still, evening.



Janet Ferbrache - "In the swim".



Alvaro receiving a long overdue "clip round the ear" from Carole!



John "One Eye" Williams at it again!

Friday 3rd June.

The Rally Breakfast, (previously known as "The Presidents Breakfast") was an undoubted success, with a team of helpers supplying us with piles of delicious crispy bacon baguettes and croissants, washed down with glasses of "Bucks Fizz" made with some very lively sparkling wine supplied by our President, Dave Ellis.

The Breakfast was followed by the first rounds of the Boules Competition, organised this year, in the absence of Anita and John English, by Ruth & David Perree. They did an excellent job. The results were entered on a chart by Robin Perchard, making good use of his methodical mind.

Games were played on a mixture of grass and gravel pitches which tested the skills of even our most accomplished players, introducing more than a little element of luck to the results!



David Perree, Rob Hamon and Collette Willmet hard at work.

After a light lunch, at 2pm, we boarded a, fortunately air-conditioned, coach for the two hour drive into the centre of Paris, accompanied by our Campsite Hostess, Yvonne, who provided us with an interesting commentary on all the fascinating sights. We eventually arrived at one of the embarkation points for the Bateaux Mouche. I have to confess, that my heart sank at the sight of the literally thousands of people waiting to board, I wished that I had stayed at the campsite on a sun bed, in the shade of a tree! But once we were settled on board, I thoroughly enjoyed the trip up and down the river, taking just over an hour to do so, passing



under 22 bridges, including one, under which, it is said, that if lovers kiss they are sure to return to Paris.

The only lovers that I saw kissing were Collette and Chris Willmetts, hence the picture!

Each seat was furnished with handheld commentary equipment. We also had the benefit of additional commentary from a young lady member of the crew, who spoke faultlessly in at least five languages. Very impressive

A Bateau Mouche similar to ours.



We re-boarded the coach, and were driven around more of the city sights, again with an expert commentary by Yvonne. In the late afternoon we were dropped off at the lovely "Parc Andre Citroen" where many of us sat on the grass to eat the excellent picnic supper prepared by Yvonne's husband, Luc.

Afterwards to considerable amusement (and in some cases, desperation), we searched for, and queued to use, the only 'loo in the Park.



David & Betty Le Marquand and Rosemary & Robin Dodkins enjoying their picnic.

The light was fading as we drove to a parking space below La Madeleine, where most of us climbed the many steps up to the top of the hill, to be treated to the breathtaking view across a city bathed in the pink of a perfect sunset. There was a Funicular Rail lift for those unable to face the steps, but whichever way one arrived at the top, it was worth the effort, if only to sit and

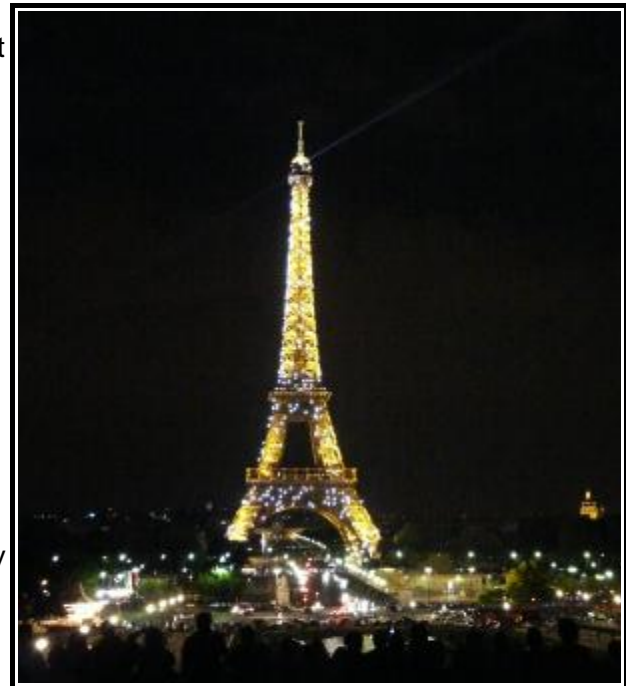
contemplate for awhile, and listen to the singing, in one of the worlds most beautiful Churches, the Sacre Coeur. We left the peace and tranquillity of the church for the buzzing vibrancy of Montmartre with its many street artists drawing portraits, Bistros, and tourist orientated shops. A fascinating experience. A few sought liquid refreshment in one of the cafe's, and I think probably regretted having done so when they saw the bill!

Once more back on the coach we toured around, the by now floodlit, beautiful and historic monuments and buildings of Paris and past the famous Fashion Houses.

Our driver, Faustino, impressed us by driving through an archway with literally only inches to spare.

I think he must have done it before!

At about 10.50 we were dropped off at the Trocadero in time for the 11pm display of lights and lasers on the Eiffel Tower. This was well worth waiting for and there were many loud, "OOHS and AHS" from the waiting throng as the Tower burst into pulsating light from top to bottom.



It was one of the most dazzling and spectacular light shows that most of us have ever seen.

Our poor driver had been "hassled" by the local Gendarmerie, and it was only with difficulty that he was able to get back close enough to pick us up.

It was a tired, but very happy band of Campers who finally arrived back at La Belle Etoile just after midnight.

Saturday 4th June. The promise of yet another very hot day to come. Many of us walked into Melun for their Market Day, when we were able to stock up with “goodies” for future consumption.

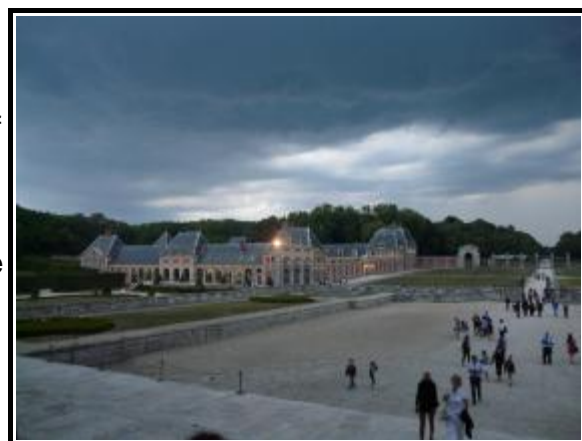
After more swims in the afternoon, we met up at 6pm in the Camp Restaurant area for a presentation, and tasting of the local Melun Brie, which has attained A.O.C status. Luc and a “brother” member of the “Confrerie de Brie de Melun”, were dressed in all the finery of their red robes as they dished out samples of their delicious cheese, with small tastings of the wine found most suitable to accompany Melun Brie - Gaillac Rouge. Quite a few orders for Brie de Melun were taken, and our appreciation of this excellent cheese was heightened by the interesting presentation.

(Not to mention the wine!)

After a hasty supper, we boarded a coach at 8.30 for the short drive to “Vaux le Vicompte”, an enormous, and beautiful Chateau dating back to the 17th century, it is said to have been the inspiration for Versailles. The famous gardens, extending to 3km, were designed by Andre le Notre. On the evening of our visit, the buildings and the gardens were outlined with candles, and as it became fully dark, presented a beautiful picture. The Chateau itself seemed to have been largely stripped of its furnishings, and It was so stiflingly hot inside



on an exceptionally sultry evening, with the throng of tourists, that many of us came outside onto the terraces for some fresh air, just in time to witness one of the most awe inspiring electrical storms that I have ever



seen, with almost continuous sheet and forked lightning in the most vivid orange and blue colours. Truly spectacular. In fact it rather eclipsed the excellent display of fireworks at 11pm which we had come to see! It would have been nice to have had time to return to Vaux le Vicompte during the day, there was so much more to be seen.

Sunday 5th June.

Some very welcome heavy rain during the night, catching out two of our Members who had neglected to slope their awnings, and consequently found them damaged in the morning!

It was amazing to see how the grass, which, the day before had been burnt brown, had already noticeably greened up.



A group of us made the short drive to Fontainebleau (The Free Entry” on Sundays, appealing to us Jerseymen!) This was my first visit to this beautiful Palace and to say that I was I was amazed by its beauty, is an understatement. The sheer opulence of the place has to be seen to be believed. I have never seen anything like it. No photos can possibly do it justice. Afterwards we sat for coffee, and then strolled around part of the gardens, which seemingly stretched on for ever and included a huge lake which had been dug out over the course of a few days by thousands of labourers to win a bet. I think one would be hard pressed to equal this achievement in a few days even with today's heavy earthmoving machinery.

One of the bed chambers
Fontainebleau..

After lunch we snoozed in the hot sun before going for a refreshing dip in the pool, followed by a few games of Kubb.

At 6pm we were summoned to "The Presidential Palace" (Dave Ellis's Trailer Tent!) for drinks and nibbles, followed by a Barbecue on the central grassy area. I am not sure whether one of our Members was smoking his food or cooking it, the smoke from his disposable barbecue was so intense, with an accompanying strong smell of Firelighter. I dread to think what his sausages eventually tasted like!

As the sky again got darker and darker, we were once more treated to a display of lightning leaving Julia Hamon just time to organise a short, and fortunately not too brain taxing, quiz, which was won, I think, by Carole Bernardini and Sheila Ecobichon's table.

Luckily for us, the storm stayed some way away, but somebody must have been bearing the brunt of those terrific lightning strikes, and what was probably torrential rain, judging by the colour of the sky.

Monday 6th June.

Distinctly cooler and fresher, but quite a relief. After breakfast, many members took advantage of the dry weather to take down their awnings in preparation for leaving the next day.

We walked into Melun for more provisions from the Carrefour Supermarket..

At 3pm the semi Finals and Finals of the Boules Competition took place. The Finalists were Julia Hamon and Brian Corbel versus Lillian Lennard and Royston Moulson.

Despite a late flourish by Lillian and Royston, Julia and Brian were the eventual winners 13 points to 4.

At 6pm, we were again invited to drinks outside Dave and Betty Ellis Trailer Tent, (not enough room inside!) before making our way to the camp restaurant, where we feasted on a Cold Buffet starter, followed by Spit Roasted Lamb and then dessert.

Following the meal Dave Ellis presented our three new "Rally Masters" with cards signed by everyone,

and gifts of Condor Vouchers from the Club, in appreciation of their efforts in organising this excellent Rally. Gifts were also given to Yvonne and Luc who had certainly pulled out all the stops to ensure that our stay with them had been enjoyable.

A nice couple.

After the presentations, Betty le Marquand brought out her faithful old song sheets "The Presidential Palace." and we enjoyed a rousing "sing song", greatly assisted by our own "song birds", Betty, Royston and Christine, with the addition of the beautiful voice of Kim Lennard.

Kim has certainly been "hiding her light under a bushel"!

We must certainly hear more from her in the future.



The Finalists in the Boules Competition. Julia Hamon, Brian Corbel, Lillian Lennard and Royston Moulson.



So ended an excellent Rally, with every one showing every sign of having enjoyed themselves. The time seemed to have flown by, and it was with a feeling of sadness that we saw the remaining awnings being packed away and "Good Byes" given. before we all "scattered to the wind", some returning home, while others continued their holidays elsewhere.



Dave Ellis presenting the Rally organisers, Rob, Collette and Robin, with their presents.

Here's to the next time !



Dave and Betty Ellis
outside the "Presidential Palace."



Luc keeping an eye on Michel
dancing with his wife Yvonne.



Brian & Jean Parker
picnicking in the park.



Barbara & Michel le Bihan
and
Val & John Williams



Alvaro, and what he would like to
do to camera-toting Newsletter
Editors!



Yvonne

A rare contribution from Janet Ferbrache, although I have the feeling she wishes that she hadn't given it to me!

I am not entirely sure whether it is really suitable for this august publication!

Are you insured for SEX ?

Make sure that you obtain the correct Insurance for the sex you are having.

Please find a list of Companies below catering for most tastes.

- !. Sex with your wife. - Legal and General.
2. Sex on the telephone. - Direct Line.
3. Sex with your partner. - Standard Life.
4. Sex with someone different - Go Compare.
5. Sex with a fat bird - Northern. *(No, I don't get it either)*
6. Sex on the back seat - Sheila's Wheels.
7. Sex with a posh bird. - Privileged.
8. Sex with a Transvestite. - Confused.Com

Contributions to this Newsletter are always welcome, although inclusion cannot be guaranteed.
Please send to: Andrew Averty. Beechvale Farm. La Grande Route de St Jean. St John. JE3 4FL.
Tel: 863938. Mobile: 077977 12934.

E-mail: andrew.avery@jerseymail.co.uk

There are still some members with computers, who have not sent me their email addresses. Please send them to me so that the Newsletter can be sent electronically, thus saving the Club money, and me - time.
If you know of anyone not in receipt of a Newsletter please let me know.

Advance Notice:

The visit to the Jersey Milk Marketing Board Dairy, Trinity on Friday 23rd September.

Each visit will take one hour.

We are limited to 20 people for each tour, so the first group will go in at 9.30, followed by a second group at 10.30. The first group may like to go for coffee at, perhaps, Bonne Nuit.

At 12 pm, those who wish to do so, will meet at Beuvelande Campsite, St Martin, for a two course lunch costing £12.50 per person. Puddings and drinks extra.

A reply slip is enclosed for those wishing to book now, but a further reminder will be sent out with the next Newsletter.

Please note that our October and November meetings will be held at St John's Parish Hall, NOT at Trinity.

Reply Slip for the Dairy visit on Friday 23rd September and lunch at Beuvelande Campsite.

I / We will / will not be attending the Dairy visit:

Name/s _____

I /we would prefer to visit at 09.30 / 10,30. (Please delete one)

I /We will / will not be attending the lunch at Beuvelande Campsite starting at 12pm. £12.50 per person.

I / We enclose a cheque made out to the JCCC for £ _____

Please send to The Hon Treasurer. Mrs Sheila Ecobichon.

19, Le Pre du Roi, La Rue de Jambart, St Clement. JE2 6LB. by September 15th please..

Lunch Menu.

Beuvelande Campsite. 12pm Friday 23rd September.

£12.50 per person.

Chicken and Liver Pate.

or

Homemade Vegetable Soup.

Roast Pork, crackling and all the trimmings.

or

Lasagne.

or

Shepard's Pie.

or

Vegetarian Option.

Puddings available as an add-on option for £3.95.

Chocolate Fudge Cake.

Sticky Toffee Pudding.

Ice Cream.