

JERSEY CAMPING & CARAVANNING CLUB.

NEWSLETTER.

March / April 2012.

Officers of the Club.

President: Dave Ellis. 861848
Vice President: Glenda Killip. 864200.
Hon Secretary: Cynthia Warren. 736896.
Hon Treasurer: Sheila Ecobichon. 851660
Newsletter Editor: Andrew Averty. 863938

Hon Auditors:

David le Marquand. Dennis Ferbrache

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

Rally Liaison Officer.

Collette Willmet. 854875

DIARY DATES.

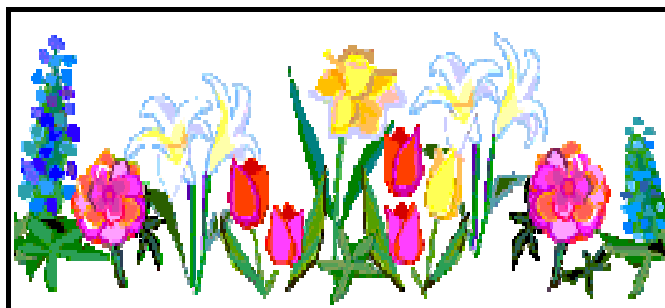
April 18th Annual General Meeting. Trinity Parish Hall 8pm.

April 26th Shakedown Rally. Camping Haliotis. Pontorson.

Saturday 19th May.

3pm. Visit to Samares Manor. Beuvelande BBQ 6pm.
Reply Slip to return.

Main Rally Wednesday June 6th - 12th. Puy du Fou.



The Bowling Evening on February 15th, was by all accounts an outstanding success due largely to the excellent organising skills of Collette Willmet. She is to be congratulated!

59 members attended the evening with 53 actually taking part in the bowling. These were grouped into teams with some fairly strange names made up by Collette's husband Chris, and Paul & Cynthia Warren.

Lunartics, Old Bailey, Auto Pilots, Early Birds, Nomads, Non-Towers, The Steadies and the Sat Navs.
To anyone not versed in the names of Caravans, then I suppose the name Lunartics would mean very little, it took me a little while to get my head round it. Either that or someone can't spell!

The Ladies winner on the evening was Rosemary Dodkins of the Lunartic Team, while the winning man was Brian Preddy of Team Nomads.

Our members were fortunate in having the use of a private room for the meal, which I am told was excellent, especially the Fish and Chips, although I hear that the Soup-in-a -Basket left some feeling a little hungry. Maybe the Jersey Bowl management had prior warning of just how noisy Jersey Camping & Caravanning Club meetings can get - hence the private room.

If you have yet to send in your payment for the Puy du Fou Rally to Robin Perchard, please do so NOW. This is important as our Rally Organisers have to "pay up front". Anyone who has not paid by April 1st may be excluded from attending the Shows.

The Annual Dinner & Dance on Saturday 10th March was an enjoyable occasion, with an excellent meal provided by Hotel Ambassadeur. So good in fact that the venue has been booked again for next year! (March 16th)

I am always amazed to see how well we "polish up"! The ladies in particular looked especially lovely this year, and as for Rex Ferneyhough's shirt - well, what can one say! (without jeopardising the Jersey / Guernsey "Entente Cordial", that is!)

We were joined for the evening by four members of the Guernsey Camping & Caravanning Club, led by their President Rita Polly with Anne & Dave Ozanne and Rex Ferneyhough, sadly without his wife Viv who was left at home with a heavy cold, to look after the parrot, dogs, cats and other assorted livestock!

In his short speech, President Dave Ellis welcomed our Guernsey friends and mentioned in particular how sorry we were to hear recently, of the passing of Rita Polly's husband Frank. We are glad to learn that Rita fully intends to "Carry on Camping". May she find happy times again.

Dave Ellis, in his speech, mercifully spared us his usual awful jokes and left it to Rita to tell us two quite passable ones. This years Raffle raised the excellent sum of £335, allowing us, after paying all expenses, and with the profit from the meal, to donate the sum of £305 to this years chosen charity, "Autism Jersey". A great result for the considerable amount of work and organisation put in by Committee Members. Thanks are due to Condor Ferries. Hotel Ambassadeur, the Red Rose Restaurant and all those Members who generously donated Raffle prizes.

The evening continued with music for dancing provided by a DJ. I am not sure what nationality he was, but I found him to be totally unintelligible. I wish we could get back to a small live group, with music played at a level which allows conversation, but then, that is my age showing!

I expect that most of you will have already heard that the French Traffic Police, in an effort to improve Road Safety are now actively targeting drivers whose Sat-Navs give warnings of Speed Traps ahead. It has been known for some time that such devices are illegal, but now a campaign has been launched, which makes anyone found to be in possession of a Speed Trap warning gismo in his Sat-Nav, liable to a fine of €1500 or 6 points on their driving Licence.

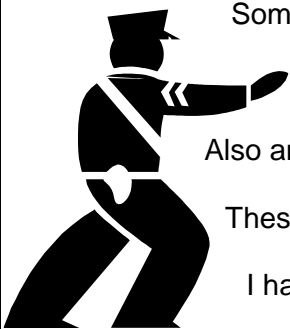
Some Sat-Nav Manufacturers have stopped the inclusion of Speed Trap data in their latest models.

It is possible to download software to remove the offending data from your unit.

Also announced is that from July 1st, every motorist will be required to have in his vehicle two Breathalyser Kits.

These apparently will be available to purchase from Garages and from Ferries. for a couple of Euros. Failure to have one leaves you open to an on the spot fine of €17

I have included fuller details later in this Newsletter, from an ex Policeman now resident in France.



Thanks to the efforts, skill, and great generosity of John Williams, the Club has recently been presented with copies of 19 DVD's, going back to 1997, of the Club Rallies and Theme Evenings.

A priceless archive to be treasured by the Club and its Members. However, they are there to be viewed and enjoyed by all of us, and to this end, it is proposed that they be held, initially by Dave Ellis, who will act as Temporary Librarian. He would however welcome a volunteer to act as Librarian on a more permanent basis.

The DVD's will be available to be borrowed at any time, in the manner of books from a Library.

The borrower being responsible for their "safe keeping" and for returning them after a specified time.

Another GREAT BIG THANK YOU to John Williams!

In a recent conversation with John, he told me that this year might be his last one making a film record of our events. This will be a shame, but no one can be expected to go on for ever, and John has given so much to this Club of ours, that he deserves to be able to enjoy his Rallies without having to worry about filming them, and probably even more time consuming - editing them.

If there is anyone who wishes to take on the mantle of "Film Maker to the JCCC", please make yourself known!



There has been a great deal of interest in this years Shakedown Rally to Camping Haliotis at Pontorson on April 26th, which, given half decent weather, should be great fun. It certainly has been on our previous visits, with some excellent reasonably priced meals in the nearby town, where there is also a big supermarket full of all the goodies that we so enjoy in France. The cyclists, and the walkers among us, will I am sure make use of the designated, tarmac cycle track, going, straight and level, right out to Mont St Michel. Where, if you ignore the tourist tat, just look up, and marvel at what is unquestionably one of the greatest man made wonders of our world.
How did they do it, all those centuries ago?

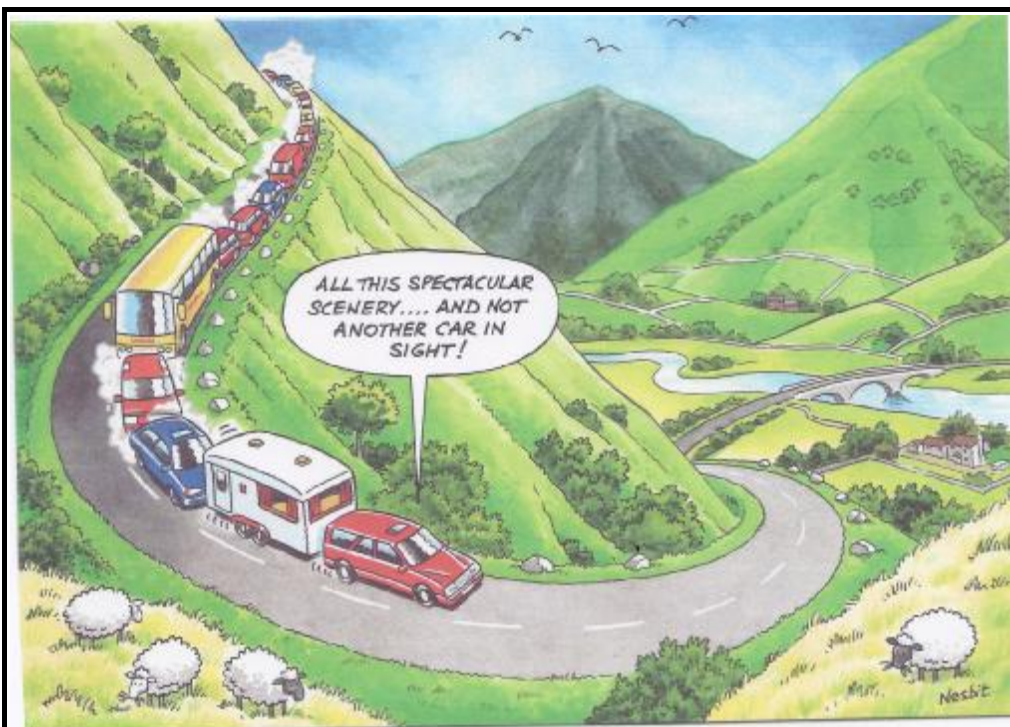


A Golden Month for Club Members!
Congratulations to
Lilian & Richard Lennard,
Glenys & Brian Preddy and
Betty & David le Marquand,
all celebrating 50 years of Marriage
this month!



It seems that more and more of our members have reached, or are about to reach, this important milestone in their lives, which probably says something about Camping being good for long marriages.
I am sure that we would all like to congratulate them on their achievement, and wish them all the very best for the future, with many Happy Camping years to come.

Thanks to David & Glenda Killip for this cartoon.
Many a true word spoken in jest!



For Sale
 (In Guernsey.)

2005
MARQUIS AUTOCRUISE
STARSPIRIT

2.2 HDi engine. Garaged since new.
 28,725 Miles.VGC. Many extras.

£20,000 o.t.o.

Tel. 07781 434411



An offering from Ronald Cabot.

A man was walking down the street when he was accosted by a particularly dirty, and shabby looking, homeless man who asked him for a couple of pounds to buy food. The man took out his wallet, extracted a £10 note and asked: "if I give you this money, will you buy beer with it instead of food?" "No, I had to stop drinking many years ago", the homeless man replied. "Will you use it to go fishing instead of buying food?", The man asked. "No, I don't waste time going fishing", the homeless man said. "I need to spend all my time trying to stay alive". "Will you spend this on green fees at a golf course instead of food?" The man asked. "Are you NUTS?" replied the homeless man, "I haven't played golf in 20 years!" "Will you spend the money on a woman in the Red Light District instead of food?" The man asked. "What disease would I get for my ten lousy pounds! Exclaimed the homeless man. "Well", said the man. "I'm not going to give you the money, I'm going to take you home for a terrific dinner cooked by my wife". The homeless man was astounded. "Won't your wife be furious with you for doing that? I know that I'm dirty, and I probably smell pretty disgusting". The man replied: "That's OK. It's important for her to see what a man looks like after he's given up beer, fishing, golf AND sex".



Our very welcome recent visitors from Guernsey. Rita Polly, President of the GCCC with Past President Rex Ferneyhough and Anne & David Ozanne, enjoying the sunshine and stupendous views at Dave & Glenda Killips new home at Portelet.

Last year Glenda & David took on the Herculean task of restoring not one, but two houses on the headland at Portelet that had been left empty for some years.

Not only was it an enormous financial commitment but a very daunting amount of hard work, they spent many

weeks on site, sleeping in their Campervan after their house at St John had been sold.

The job is almost finished and Glenda & Dave can look forward to enjoying their beautiful home with its outstanding views, arguably the finest in Jersey.

May they enjoy many happy years together there. They have earned them!

Glenda Killip has found out that a card is available from Randalls which offers between 5% and 10% discount off food and drink at Randalls Pubs and Restaurants. To receive one, Randalls require names and email addresses. Some people may object to this information being given out by the Club, so to avoid any possible problem it has been decided that if you wish to receive a Randalls Card you should contact Glenda on 864200

These notes, written by an ex Hampshire & Dorset Policeman, Bob Blake who now lives permanently in France, may be of interest to members. I have received his permission to reprint them here. Co-incidentally, he is now in Jersey training our erstwhile Motorcycle Police, and equally coincidentally I met him having lunch with his trainees at Colleens Cafe, Greve de L'ecq!. His email address in France for anyone interested is: bob.blake@free.fr

Travelling in France.

The French Authorities are constantly changing motoring laws and also bringing in new legislation in an effort to raise revenue

Many of these new laws have very little to do with road safety but are there to catch you out if you are visiting the country, or live there. Below I have listed the most common regulations that you are likely to be affected by.

All cars must carry a warning triangle and reflective jackets which must be worn by the occupants when out of the vehicle at a breakdown or accident on the Autoroute. It is safest to carry enough jackets for all passengers. If you are towing a Caravan or driving a large vehicle (I'm pretty sure that means one over 7500 kgs) you must have two triangles, so that one can be placed either side of a vehicle on a 2 way road.

Incidentally, 2 triangles are required for ALL cars in Spain.

Spare bulbs must be carried, and also a First Aid kit. There is a law in France which stipulates that if you see anyone in "distress" (i.e. injured at the scene of an accident, or taken ill) you MUST stop and render assistance if needed.

For Motorcyclists, reflective vests must be carried, but no triangle is required. Spare bulbs should be carried and a First Aid kit if you have a machine with suitable storage room.

From July 1st this year all vehicles must carry a Breathalyser kit in order that the driver can self administer a test before driving after having consumed alcohol, or so that the Gendarmes / Police can use your kit to give you a test if they stop you, thereby saving them money by not using their own equipment.

I am told that these kits are available now at some Le Clerc Supermarkets at between 2 and 3 Euros a kit, which gives you two tests so you always have a spare one available.

BEWARE IF THERE ARE EXPIRY DATES ON THE KITS.

THE FRENCH ALCOHOL LIMIT IS 50 mg PER 100 mg OF BLOOD.

(UK LIMIT IS 80 mg PER 100 mg)

Speed limits are being enforced more severely, and all Speed Camera warning signs are gradually being removed, with more cameras being installed.

ANY FORM OF SPEED CAMERA DETECTION DEVICE IS NOW ILLEGAL.

This includes any GPS system which shows where a Speed Camera is situated.

It is permissible to have a warning which tells you that you are approaching a Speed Danger Zone where speed checks are likely to be carried out, but anything more precise is illegal.

Quite how this is being enforced is unclear. It would seem that you have a right to object to your system being checked unless there is evidence to suggest your GPS is showing exact camera sites.

Obviously no mobile phone usage is allowed whilst driving. Most French drivers seem unaware of this law, even the Gendarmes / Police can be seen contravening this one.

If you are unfortunate enough to break down on an Autoroute (Peage or free section) you must summon assistance from either an emergency phone or by calling the Gendarmerie (Tel: 17) since these roads are private and your own Breakdown Service cannot come to your assistance on them. However, you will be able to recover the cost of the approved garage's recovery fee from your breakdown service.

Readers of this Newsletter may be interested to know that before printing off each edition, I get it checked over by the "Eagle eyes" of Anne Perchard. She has been a great help to me over the last couple of years, and I am very grateful to her.

Sometimes it happens that I have to alter things after the Newsletter has been perused by Anne, and this is usually where errors occur.

I can, and do, read over what I have written, literally dozens of times, and still stupid mistakes get through, often in the dozen or so copies that I print off for the Members unable, or unwilling, to receive their Newsletters by email.

Anyway, if there are any mistakes in this little piece it is my fault not Anne's as she has not seen it, but it has given me an opportunity to publicly express my gratitude to her, and - fill up a hole on this page!

Anual General Meeting time again! My least favourite of all our meetings will be held on Wednesday April 18th in Trinity Parish hall, starting at 8pm.

There are, so far as I am aware, no contentious subjects to be raised. Only one Committee Member has indicated a wish to retire, that is Dave Jacobs. Dave will be greatly missed, having been on and off the Committee for something like 27 years. (If my sources are correct) A remarkable achievement. He will perhaps best be remembered, by me anyway, for his dead-pan humour, and perfect timing, when telling jokes, and for his "Oscars", when he has picked on someone who has done something silly or amusing in the previous year, and presented them with a skilfully crafted model of some sort. Ruth & I were recipients of a beautifully made model Gypsy Caravan, when in 2005, our new Campervan failed to arrive on time and we were forced to come to the Rally with a very small tent. In another year, the late, and much loved, Horace & Marguerite Machon were recipients of a full set of Tree Surgeons equipment, including an accurately modelled wooden chain saw, after Horace had demolished a tree when backing onto a Campsite pitch. On another memorable occasion, John Williams received an "Oscar" of a model Cine Camera, with lenses able to take pictures, forwards, backwards and downwards! Works of great imagination and talent, which on every occasion, brought the house down. Let us hope that Dave will be inspired again before too long. His humour has been greatly missed for the last couple of years when he and Rozanne have been unable to join us on our Rallies.

Cheese and Wine will be served, as an inducement for you to attend. Perhaps even more enjoyable, and interesting, will be the talk afterwards by member Tony Beaumont, a veritable mine of information about Owls and Hawks in Jersey. He should be well worth listening to.

Exciting News from our Webmaster Robin Dodkins. The Jersey Camping & Caravan Club Website is now up and running. If you are one of the very few Members still to take the relatively easy step into computing, here is one more inducement. (Perhaps the last!) You don't know what you are missing! Here is what Robin has to say:

In an effort to assist our Members to stay in touch with Club matters, the JCCC has now launched a web site which you can find at www.jerseycamping.org.je On it you will find copies of Newsletters, Picture Galleries, showing images from recent Rallies and other events, and the latest news and announcements.

It is not designed to replace the Newsletter, but to supplement it.

For site visitors who are not Club members, the site gives an insight into the activities of the Club, and contact details should they wish to join.

The site has been built by our own webmaster, Robin Dodkins, with able assistance from Andrew Averty, Roy le Plongeon, and our President Dave Ellis who have all provided photographs and comments as the web progressed, together with Matthew Richardson (A local IT Guru) who provides us with free web site hosting and name registration.

As with any web site, it is only as useful as its contents, and in order to continually improve and extend the usefulness of the site, constructive criticism is always welcome.

Please contact a Committee member, or the webmaster on webmaster@jerseycamping.org.je at any time with your thoughts. We cannot guarantee to include your ideas, but will certainly consider them.

Now that we have "Gone Global" with our new website it is perhaps time for me to be more circumspect with my jokes. I am told that some folks are easily upset by "Politically Incorrect" jokes, which is a pity as they are some of the most amusing, but there we are. "Times they are a changing"!

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.averty@jerseymail.co.uk

Normally one of the best meetings of the year, the annual Barbecue at Beuvelande Campsite, St Martin, will take place on Saturday 19th of May, commencing sharp at 6pm. The cost this year will be £10 per person, with desserts and drinks extra.

Those who have been before will know that this is very good value.

For those members who wish to camp overnight Beuvelande are offering a discounted price of £15 per unit. Please contact the Campsite directly if you wish to take advantage of this offer.

Please return the enclosed Reply Slip, with your cheque, by May 10th at the latest.

At 3pm that same afternoon we have the opportunity to visit Samares Manor Gardens at the specially reduced price of £5 per person. (as opposed to the normal £6-25.)

In my view Samares Manor is a beautiful and interesting place to visit, and especially fascinating if you have any interest in plants and trees in general, and herbs in particular.

There are excellent facilities for afternoon teas, snacks or even meals, walled gardens, an Agricultural Museum and some craft workers. Gravel paths allow disabled access.

Please reply by May 10th with your cheque if you wish to be included in this visit.

Beuvelande Barbecue.

Saturday 19th May. 6pm (Sharp) £10 per person. Drinks & desserts extra.

I / We will be attending the BBQ. Name/s _____

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

It is possible to Camp overnight at Beuvelande for the discounted rate of £15 per unit. Please apply directly to Beuvelande.

Those who wish to visit the Gardens at Samares Manor. Meet at 3pm in the Manor car park.

I / We will be visiting Samares Manor Gardens. Special group price of £5 per person, payable with this Reply Slip.

Name /s _____

Enclosed a cheque made out to JCCC for £_____

Please return by May 10th to:

The Hon Treasurer. Mrs Sheila Ecobichon. 13, Le Pre du Roi, La Rue de Jambart, St Clement.
JE2 6LB