



KNAUS KONTAKT

MARCH 2009

I can't believe it is March already – 2009 is flying past at an alarming rate and we don't seem to have time to get away in 'Knausy' apart from a lovely weekend in Robin Hood's Bay. She spent a good deal of February covered in a white coating of snow with icicles hanging from her bumper and surrounded by a sea of ice. Roll on Spring...

AGM at The National Motorhome Show Peterborough East of England Showground Friday 24, Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 April 2009.

We are very much looking forward to seeing members at this meeting, so please make a note in your diary to attend the AGM. The AGM will be at 2pm on Saturday 25th. Day visitors as well as campers are most welcome. Tony Poole is once again kindly marshalling for us. He has a number of booking forms which he will forward to any member who wants one. Contact him at a.poole22@btinternet.com or 24 Middlecave Drive Malton, N Yorkshire, YO117 7BB. Tony reminds us to put 'Knaus Club' on your form, so you get your discount and ensure we all camp together. If you need a membership number, use the one against your details on the owner's database section of our website. There is no need to tell Tony you have booked. You can also use the link from www.knausowners.com website to book online, use booking forms in the motorhome magazines (such as MMM, Which Motorhome etc.) or visit www.nationalmotorhomeshow.co.uk. Pre-booking closes at 9am on 3rd April 2009.

Election of 'Officers'

Please will members think about the election of officers to run your club? I agreed to be secretary for two years and these are now up, so I would welcome nominations for the post of secretary. Steve Brock has asked if anyone would like to be webmaster, although he could be persuaded to carry on if no-one else wants to do it. Bill, Steve and I recommend that the club has a chairperson to assist in decision making. Please will members consider nominations and/or will anyone who thinks they could take on this position please come forward. These posts are IMPORTANT if you want your club to continue. If anyone would like to discuss them with me, Bill or Steve please don't hesitate to get in touch. We are only a small club and the tasks don't take up a lot of time, just some commitment. If they are spread among a few people it helps to share the load.

AGM Agenda

Apologies	Election of officers (secretary, treasurer, webmaster and marshal)	
Election of chairperson	Secretary's report	Treasurer's report
Webmaster's report	Marshal's report	Knaus takeover by HTP
Life membership	Salterforth rally	Insurance 'partners'
Membership numbers	Any other business	Date of next AGM

Insurance 'Partners'

Two people have contacted me with a view to becoming 'partners' with our club. I have told the companies that we will discuss this issue at the AGM. Both offer similar benefits, such as a percentage reduction for club members. In return, they want to advertise in our newsletter and have a link on our website. We already have an arrangement with Safeguard to have a discount.

Frank Pickles insurance brokers

at 33/35 Cross Green Otley LS21 1HD Tel: 01943 850999 Fax: 01943 850388 <http://www.frankpickles.co.uk/motorhome-insurance.asp> specialise in Motorhome and Campervan Insurance and are looking to partner with a small number of owners clubs such as ours. They say "We can offer very competitive premiums and a further very generous 15% discount to your members. Our policy benefits include: Club Members Discount 15%, Generous Limited Mileage Discount, 90 days European Use, Camping Equipment and Personal Effects over £2,000, Excess £100 (for vehicles under £20,000), Legal Protection Included, UK & European Breakdown Cover Also as part of our long term mutually beneficial relationship, we would be interested in advertising with you and sponsorship of your events (e.g. providing a prize of a free 12 months insurance)".

Kathryn Wiseman

from Sureterm Direct Ltd -01480 423014 Sureterm House, Bridge Place Godmanchester, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 2AD www.sureterm.com have a club incentive scheme. They say "Sureterm works alongside motor enthusiast clubs to offer a range of discounts to all club members through companies affiliated with Sureterm, as well as a fantastic 15% off Sureterm motor insurance to all club members! Sureterm will also send your club £10 for every policy taken out by one of your members for the recommendation. Here at Sureterm Direct we use over 40 underwriters to ensure that we can continue to provide competitive rates and an extensive range of policies. Joining our club incentive scheme will allow you to benefit from being associated with the best known name in specialist insurance and offer you a range of support and networking opportunities and discounts for all your club members. We include web links and provide you with an exclusive mini dealer page on our website, offering a great PR opportunity for your company. This scheme is no obligation, completely free and we will provide you with all the literature that you need to allow your customers to decide on the insurance company".

Italian Club

Alberto Murgante has contacted me on behalf of a group of Knaus Tabbert - Weinsberg owners in Italy. They are interested in opening an Italian Knaus Owners Club and would like to have an 'international collaboration' with our club. I have discussed this with him and Alberto will be in touch when they have set up their club.

Thank-you to everyone who advised us about the boiler - we have some good tips to follow if the fuse blows again!

Membership Renewal

Can I please remind everyone that 2009 membership renewals are due from 1st May 2009. It would be helpful if members will send their subscriptions without the need for reminders. Please will you fill in a new membership application form. These are slightly different from the last ones as they have boxes to tick if you do not want to share your details. Please will you write **RENEWAL** on the top of the form somewhere and highlight if any of your details have changed since last year. Membership forms can be downloaded from the website www.knausowners.com and you can send me the form via e-mail if you wish. Cheques can be sent direct to Bill Lowes at School House, Braithwaite, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN7 5SS.

**A news sheet for the Knaus
Owners Club in the UK**

Hon. Secretary
Mrs Keren Nicholls
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Email:
secretary@knausowners.com

Club Website:

www.knausowners.com



The Club website

www.knausowners.com

is where Steve Brock would be happy if you could e-mail your experiences to him for others to share. There is also a Discussion Forum where you can post questions or put up subjects for discussion. Why not log on and see?

Latest news about HTP

Practical Motorhome (April 2009) reports that new owners HTP say its long term aim is to "turn Knaus - Tabbert into Europe's leading caravan and motorhome maker by pursuing a strategy of organic growth and acquisitions".

I have written to the new company offering our support and have received a short e-mail reply.

Keeping your computer safe

Jacqui sent this about a computer virus 'Life is beautiful.'

I believe this has done the rounds before, however, I have received emails from more than one person warning about this 'Life is beautiful' virus so please be warned! If you receive it, **DO NOT OPEN THE FILE** Under any circumstances and delete it immediately. If you open this file, a message will appear on your screen saying: 'It is too late now, your life is no longer beautiful.' Subsequently you will **LOSE EVERYTHING IN YOUR PC** and the person who sent it to you will gain access to your name, e-mail and password. AOL has already confirmed the severity, and normal antivirus software is not thought to be capable of destroying it. The virus has been created by a hacker who calls himself 'life owner.'

Items of interest

(as always, we are just passing on information and make no recommendations)

The Camping & Caravanning Club

welcome rallies for groups of 10 or more over the Winter Season at their Teveral site (on the Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire border). Are there any members who would like to organise a Knaus Owners Club rally?

Carafit

caravan Services are situated at Llanelli, 2 minutes from the end of the M4. They are offering customers a prize of a free weekend at a local site every weekend in 2009, and in October, a prize draw of 2 weeks in Brittany in 2010. The company has a 7 bay workshop and stocks a range of motor home accessories including EFOY fuel cells, Fiamma, Gaslow etc. Customers can use the overnight on-site facilities and a courtesy car can be provided. Carafit can be contacted by phoning 01269 831215, e-mail info@carafit.co.uk or look at the website www.carafit.co.uk

Countryside Motorhomes

Servicing, Repairs & Van conversions to order. Accessories supplied and fitted. Tel/Fax: 01673 858654. The Workshop, Holton-cum-Beckering, Lincs. LN8 5NG. www.countrysidemotorhomes.co.uk E-mail carol@countrysidemotorhomes.co.uk thought your members might be interested to hear about our new company. It is a small family business formed in November 2008 and is just 10 miles north east of Lincoln. We have modern facilities and offer an excellent service for you and your motorhome or caravan at competitive rates. **At present there is a Special Offer for Habitation Checks at just £99.** Please check our website for further details or ring the above number. We look forward to hearing from you. Carol Dawson – Proprietor.

Guardian Valves Ltd

are at Newark, Notts and sell gas detectors, solar panels, inverters, led bulbs, water purification etc. and exhibit at the major shows. They also arrange rallies for club meets at North Scarle, Lincolnshire. Contact GVL on (0844) 800 9794, e-mail info@guardianeu.com or look at www.guardianeu.com