



CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER



Knaus Holiday Meet 2012

The holiday meet is being organized by Tony & Olive Poole and will run from **Friday 22nd June to Sunday 1st**

July 2012. It will be held on the Rally field at Betton Farm, Race-course Road (A 170), East Ayton, North Yorkshire, YO13 9HT.

The Rally field is slightly sloping with views over the Wolds, has a wide easy entrance, there is a new Shower/ Wet Room, Toilet and Kitchen building.

Betton Farm has its own Tea Rooms, Restaurant, Farm Shop and Bakery also Children's Play Park, Animal Farm, Honey Bee Exhibition and shop.

The cost has still to be agreed but is likely to be approx. £7 per night per unit. Situated 3 miles from Scarborough, under 40 mins to the following seaside towns Whitby, Filey, Bridlington & Market Towns of:- Pickering, Klrkby Moorside, & Helmsley. Attractions within the area include :-

Stately Homes and Museums.

Castle Howard, where Brideshead Revisited was filmed. Beningbrough Hall and Gardens, Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal. Burton Agnes Hall & Gardens. Duncombe Park. Sewerby Hall & Gardens. Sledmere House & Gardens. Helmsley Walled Gardens. Walled Garden of Scampston. Captain Cook Memorial Museum. Fairfax House in York. National Railway Museum in York. Yorkshire Air Museum.

Tony

Note from the Newsletter Co-ordinator - Jacquie

Hello Everyone

Over the last few weeks, as a result of cable theft, Bill and I have been without our telephone landline and the internet has been down. In fact you may have seen an item on the National news about the difficulties in our area. The repercussions for the community have been serious! Bill and I have decided to send out a newsletter quickly as who knows how long it will be before the next theft! Apologies if you expected a newsletter sooner!

Thank you to those who have contributed to this newsletter. We always welcome articles. Please send items for inclusion to jacquie.lowes@btinternet.com or bill.lowes@btinternet.com

Minutes of the AGM held at Peterborough Show on Saturday 16th April 2011.

Thanks to our secretaries, Andrea and Cathy very detailed minutes of this meeting are available. Kevin has placed the minutes on the Knaus web site under "Newsletters" for members to read. If members do not have access to the internet and would like a copy please telephone me on 01302 842809 and I will print a copy and post it to you. Jim Whitehouse has sent several photographs of the vans at the Peterborough Show. I hope you like the one we have selected.



Knaus Polo shirts



If you would like to purchase a Knaus Owners Club polo shirt please contact Keren Nicholls. The shirts are Fruit of the Loom cotton/polyester mix. They come in sizes small to XXL. Colours are : white, heather grey, sunflower, red, burgundy, emerald, bottle green, sky blue, royal navy, navy and black. Unfortunately there is an increase in price and VAT so the 2011 prices will be about £10.75 (+ p&p if you want it sent to your home address). However, I can also order a 100% cotton Gildan shirt which will be about £9. I have ordered one to test for washing/wearing quality and will let you know. Feedback from the Fruit of the Loom shirts is that they wash and keep their shape well. Keren's e-mail is: liaison@knausowners.com.

Here is a photograph of Cathy and Mike at the Peterborough Show modelling our new Knaus polo shirts.

Keren asks that members who ordered a shirt at Peterborough to e-mail her as although she has some orders, she is not sure she has them all. Shirts that were ordered at Peterborough should be ready for delivery at the Northern Motorhome Show. Please let Keren know if you will be there.

Reminder

A group of Knaus motorhomers will be camping together at the Northern Motorhome show on the Cheshire Showground from 15th to 18th July. Should you decide to go along to the show please look them up.

The end of season show at the Lincoln showground will be from 22nd to 26th September. Please book in advance and save £2 per unit! There will be a social gathering on the Saturday. Each unit is asked to contribute a little something towards the buffet. Thank you.

Hall's on tour—Whitby Holiday Park Easter 2011

This Easter weekend we booked up to go to one of our favourite places in North Yorkshire – Whitby. This year we decided to camp in Whitby Holiday Park, Saltwick Bay, Whitby. This campsite is on the southern side of town located not far beyond the Abbey.

The location of this site was fantastic for us, although the very sunny weather did help. Let me explain, the site is on the cliff top approx 15-20 minute walk along the cliff-top path from Whitby town centre. As the weather was so kind over the weekend doing this short walk everyday was a delight although I don't know if I would say the same had it been wet and windy. If you don't feel like walking to Whitby there are plenty of local buses that stop at the campsite entrance approx a 5 minute walk along a tarmac, level lane or the camp is only a five minute taxi ride from the town centre. We were camped about 6ft away from the cliff top fence and had great views across the bay. This was the view from our bedroom window showing the campsite's own private beach which you get down to via some steep steps cut out from the cliff-face.



The site was very busy but managed well. I would describe it as a medium size site that takes around 130 touring vans and has around the same number of statics. Although it has a bar/family room with evening entertainment(and real ales), a cafe (serving everything from full English breakfasts to cream teas) , a well stocked shop and a reception area it still has that small welcoming family run feel to it.

The pitches could have been a little larger but they were mainly flat, all grass only and all had electric hook-up. This is the campsite Easter Monday.



And this is the Bar/Cafe/Reception area with me in the foreground as the shadow.



The campsite has two play areas for children, one for the younger children and one for the older ones. Although the site was full and plenty of children were around we were not disturbed at all.

The toilet facilities were modern, very clean, well stocked and warm every time we used them no matter what the time of day. The showers were hot and free. These facilities were a credit to the site considering the number of people camping this weekend.

This is the gents' washroom –



Enough of the site for now, what about Whitby? Well, for anyone who has not visited the town and the area you are really missing a treat. Whitby is famous for fishing, fish and chips, Jet jewellery, Dracula, Captain Cook, Goths and ice-cream. It is also where some scenes of 'Heartbeat' were filmed. The town is easy to walk around and you can enjoy the many independent gift and jewellery shops as well as stop off for lots of places to eat, drink and relax.

Where to eat? You can't visit Whitby without having fish and chips at least once. There are tens of fish and chips places to go but a few worth mentioning are below-

The Magpie – www.magpiecafe.co.uk This is an award winning fish restaurant that is well worth a visit for a special fish supper. A little overpriced in my opinion for basic fish and chips but does a fantastic fish dish menu that is a treat. Be prepared to queue to get in though, it is very famous.

Trenchers – www.trenchersrestaurant.co.uk Situated just opposite the railway station this is the best place for fish and chips in our opinion. The food is very good and the restaurant is fitted out with quality fixtures and fittings. This coupled with well spaced out tables and excellent service makes it well worth that little extra. After all, it's the experience that counts!

Hadley's Fish Restaurant – Situated on Bridge Street. Again, excellent food and service, just a little more cramped when eating. Best value of the three though.

Mister Chips – www.misterchipswhitby.co.uk This is a great chippy for takeaway fish and chips although they do have a sit-in area as well. Get your chips and take them over the road to watch the fishing boats come into the harbour and off load their catch.

Other places to eat include a pie and mash shop called 'Humble Pie' on Church Street. They serve lots of traditional British pies with mash in a 1945 themed cafe.

There is a Thai restaurant and an Italian restaurant on Church Street. The Royal Oak at the bottom of the Abbey steps serves traditional pub grub along with real ales with breathtaking views across the harbour.

There are too many tea rooms and other places to eat and relax to mention apart from the 'dog friendly' tea rooms on Grape Lane just off Church Street. They welcome dogs inside for a well earned rest with their owners.

Where to park? There are lots of places to park your van in the centre of Whitby, just get there early. This small town gets very busy all times of the year but especially on weekends in the summer and bank holidays. Park along the cliff top on the north side of the town, the large car park just past the train station right in the centre of town or in the Abbey car park on the south side of town. If you choose the Abbey car park or you choose to walk from the campsite you will have to walk the 199 Abbey steps down to town – and back up again!!

Other places to visit. Within the town there is the Abbey to visit as well as museums, sea trips on boats to enjoy, the beaches to walk and the independent retailers to spend. There are lots of things to do, see and visit. If you visit Whitby and want to explore further afield there are again, lots of places to visit around the local area. This region is fantastic for walkers, but you can do the 'TV thing' and visit Heartbeat country, you can visit and ride on steam trains (Whitby to Goathland) or go the little bays like Runswick Bay and simply chill. If you prefer towns then Scarborough is only a few miles further south down the coast. Travel north and you will reach the market town of Guisborough or the lovely seaside town of Saltburn, famous for its Victorian celebrations in the summer.

Back to our campsite. The cost for the four of us (three adults and a puppy) was £31.50 per night over the bank holiday including electric hook-up.

The only constructive criticisms I would have with the site is the pitches were a little close together but it was full and we didn't have any trouble and the motorhome waste water disposal point was little more than a manhole cover at the edge of a thin road that was difficult to get to. Other than that it was a great site that is good value.

Whitby Holiday Park can be found on www.whitbypark.co.uk or telephone them on 01947 602664. If this campsite is full there are lots of other sites to suit all tastes and budgets in the area.

If you do visit this Whitby we hope you enjoy it as much as we did.

Phil, Dawn, Sophie and Rosie (the puppy) Hall.

An alternative Peterborough AGM

Trevor and I would like to thank all the Knaus club members for their kindness and help during our Peterborough trials.

What had started as an event to look forward to turned into a nightmare when Trevor was taken ill with suspected appendicitis on the Saturday of the show. He hadn't felt well all day and developed a temperature in the night – I think he could have provided everyone with at least 16amp hook-up with the amount of heat he emitted. Anyway, Sunday morning we enlisted the help of the St John's Ambulance crew who recommended he go straight to the health drop-in centre in Peterborough. I rang to make an appointment and then phoned a taxi – this took some time to arrive as firstly the rally marshalls would not let the taxi onto the showground and then the taxi couldn't find the main arena. Eventually we arrived at the centre and I was impressed by the speed they whisked Trevor through to see the Doctor. We have nothing like this facility in our little town. Needless to say, the other waiting patients were not impressed that we queue jumped. The doctor took one look at Trevor and ordered an NHS transport car to take us to the new City Hospital where again he sped through to 'majors'. By the time he had various blood and other tests it was 4:30pm and I was wilting badly. A nurse saw me slumped across Trev's bed and hurried off to fetch water and a sandwich! Trevor was admitted and I got a taxi back to the showground. Thankfully, Charley dog had been looked after wonderfully well in my absence and she had had a lovely time playing with Cathy and Mike's Sam and Andrea and Kevin's Rui. I also discovered why we had not seen much of Rod and Rita who were camped in front of us. Rita was in hospital in the next ward to Trevor! This was bad news for them, but good for me as Rod knew his way round the hospital.

I had to move Knausy off the showground on the Monday morning, but Bill and everyone helped me take down the awning and pack up. Cathy took Charley for a walk and Kevin and Andrea made a quick sortie to the supermarket to buy us supplies (as we had planned to be home for Tues, we hadn't brought enough pyjamas, food, T shirts etc to last for much longer). The plan was to book into Ferry Meadows site for a day or so. Luckily they had room and Rod decided that as Rita was still in hospital he would also go, so we convoyed to the site. It was extremely busy, but the wardens were really helpful and we found convenient pitches near to facilities and in the shade for Charley. We got settled and taxi'd to the hospital. Rod was wonderful and commandeered a somewhat wonky wheelchair to get me to the ward. Poor Trevor was on intravenous antibiotics and looked awful, but after a shower, brush up and change of pjs was a bit better. Luckily Rita was better and able to come back with us.

Back at the site Charley and me had tea and in between phone calls and texts settled down for the night. I couldn't get the new satellite dome to work, but the aerial did, so at least I could watch the news. The phone worked if I hung out of the window.

Tuesday dawned bright and sunny, so Charley and I had a spin round the adjacent country park. Rod and Rita decided to stay another night so Rita could rest and Rod suggested that as the bank holiday weekend was coming up and there was no sign that Trevor would be discharged, that it might be wise to book for the weekend as well. The wardens squeezed us in, so that was another problem sorted. Rod and Rita kept an eye on Charley and I took my trike to the hospital and that worked well. The parking at the hospital was non-existent but the taxi drivers were getting to know us now and were extremely helpful. The doctors from oncology came to see Trevor and explained they

were moving him to their ward. He didn't have appendicitis, but a serious blood infection. That afternoon he went into an isolation room as his white blood cell count was very low.

By Wednesday Charley and I had got into a pattern. We said goodbye to Rod and Rita and went on our jaunt around the lake and then down to the station to watch the steam train. Charley was not impressed by the train and hid behind my trike but she was very taken by the rabbits and nearly pulled me over trying to chase them. The previous day I had telephoned my sister and half way through the conversation told her that another camper was walking his tortoise past Knausy. She became concerned that I had completely lost the plot so Wednesday afternoon she and my brother in law made the journey from Staffordshire Moorlands and took me to see Trevor. At last he was starting to improve!

Back at Knausy we had a lovely tea from the fish and chip van – there really is everything at this site. (Incidentally there really was a tortoise – Rod confirmed it). Unfortunately by this time I had run out of Charley food and gave her some of Rui's (donated by Andrea) but that night Charley had an upset tummy and was sick on the bed! After I had changed the bedding she wanted to go outside and eat grass, so at 2am I was creeping round outside in my pjs with a pair of scissors cutting grass for her and hoping not to disturb other campers. Had my sister seen this she definitely would have thought I was deranged.



Here is a photo of Charley stalking butterflies by the lake in the Country Park

On Thursday morning Charley and I explored some of the vast cycle tracks before getting supplies and ice-cream from the site shop. The wardens were great and kept an eye open to make sure we were ok. Then, great news! Trevor phoned to say that if his bloods improved to a certain level he could come out, but only if he went straight home (in case of a problem he could go to his own hospital). I couldn't manage the 4+ hour drive home, but had kind offers from Bill and Jacque that Bill would drive us to Doncaster and I could get us home from there, or our neighbour would get the train down and drive us back. Eventually the hospital reluctantly let Trevor out at 6pm – far too late to do anything that day. We settled down that night with arrangements that our neighbour would arrive at midday on Friday and drive us home.

Friday morning Charley I had a last run round the country park – for those of you who haven't been to Ferry Meadows, I would highly recommend you stay here for a few days. There is so much to do. The park with its lakes and wildfowl, wild flowers and meadows, sculptures, boating and two cafes is great for walking. There are miles of off-road cycle tracks and a steam train into Peterborough.

We had a good journey and were both pleased to be home. Trevor continued to improve and at the moment is well. What we would have done without our friends in the Knaus Club I don't know – I for one would probably have had a nervous breakdown! So again, a huge thank you to everyone for your phone and text support, kind words and practical help.

Keren, Trevor and Charley



A news sheet for the Knaus Owners Club in the UK

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Knaus owners club members Keren and Trevor and Tony and Olive met up at the Caravan Club National Rally at Sledmere House in Driffield. Here is a photograph of Keren and Charley who came 4th in the dog show fancy dress. Charley is a 'biker chick'!



Items for the Newsletter are always required. Don't be shy – tell others about your experiences



The Club website

www.knausowners.com

Is where Kevin Hamblin 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?

Thank You.

Adverts

From time to time we are sent information.

As always we are just passing this on and make no recommendations.

Free to good home or donation to MacMillan Nurses.

Keren and Trevor have the following camping items surplus to requirements

- Two small folding green chairs
- Small calor gas 'party' barbeque and calor gas bottles (full)
- Small black waste water carry container
- New Fiamma style zipped awning pole bag with carry handles
- Selection of melamine crockery

If anyone wants any of the above please email Keren. The e-mail address is: liaison@knausowners.com or phone 01282 850586

Keren and Trevor hope to get to the Northern Motorhome Show in Cheshire and can bring any items to that show.