

# Knaus Kontakt

June 2012

## Chairman's Chatter

Hi there everyone, as you will recall I did say in the last newsletter it would be my last, well that did not happen, at the Peterborough Show I overwhelmed by your response re my position (you are all such great people) plus the fact that we had 8 different brands of units out of 23 (several members had changed there vans over the winter) my argument for standing down did not hold water anymore and therefore agreed to carry on as your Chairman.

Well Peterborough was a complete disaster, rained from when Olive and I arrived on the Wednesday till we all gave up a day early on the Sunday, the wettest camping we had ever seen, most of the traders packed up on the Saturday, the ground was flooded most of the time, you got wet through every time you moved, everyone was worried about getting off the site, very very poor time was had by all. Warners did their best providing many Tractors to get campers off the show ground and have to be congratulated for providing a room for our AGM at the last moment due to Kevin and Andrea's flash of inspiration, so lets look forward to better weather for the rest of the season.

Let me remind you all once more about our rally at BETTON FARM East Ayton North Yorkshire at the end of June, you can still come it's not too late, places available, we have a relaxing programme for you all and there are loads of things to see and do in the area. Contact me on 07772 761045 or my home number for any details or if you want to come for whole or part or any weekend, hope to see you there, safe camping and take care.

Tony P.

Latest News – we have our own self contained field/paddock at Betton Farm so there is room for you to join us if you have not already booked. Just let know Tony know on the number above even as late as the day before. We will have the event shelter up as a place to meet and have fun doing quizzes, treasure hunt and sheltering from the rain (no it's going to be sunny all week!1)

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## AGM

The minutes of the Knaus Owners Club AGM held at the Peterborough Show can be found on the Knaus web-site. Bill and I will send copies out by post to members without internet access.

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## Update on Trevor Nicholls

Trevor was making steady progress after his bone marrow transplant but sadly had a rejection issue recently and had to return to hospital where he stayed for ten days. He has been home for a fortnight and is starting to pick up again slowly. Trevor is limited in the walking he is able to do even with a frame and is not able to mix socially because of the risk of infection. On a more positive note Trevor is beginning to eat and drink and not being sick all the time. Throughout all this illness Trevor maintains his wonderful sense of humour! Life is very difficult for both Keren and Trevor at present. Keren herself has been poorly too. We send our best wishes to them both and look forward to welcoming them back to motorhoming asap. God Bless.

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A selection of Burton's jokes are included in this newsletter the first being.....

The fattest knight at King Arthur's Round Table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

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*The alternative AGM report.....*

Relief at Chairman's U-Turn

(from a special correspondent)

The mood of club members at a very soggy Peterborough show was buoyed significantly when chairman Tony Poole executed a graceful U-turn at the AGM and agreed to stay in post for another year.

Following the shock announcement of his intention to step down (on the basis of the rather lame and irrelevant premise that he no longer owns a Knaus van), behind-the-scenes dealings involving unknown parties had clearly paid dividends. Rumours suggesting the involvement of special advisors, back channels and illicit payments cannot be confirmed.

Having offered to continue in the role (in the absence of other volunteers), Tony put on a virtuoso performance suggestive of previous thespian or 'stand-up' experience. His offer was greeted with great relief and accepted by unanimous applause – the vote was a foregone conclusion!

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If you jumped off the bridge in Paris, you'd be in Seine.

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#### CS Recommendation....

Caravan & Camping Club CS called New Grange near Llandudno Junction and convenient for Llandudno in North Wales. 30 miles from Holyhead ferries. Just off the A55 so some traffic noise. Narrow approach road. 5HS, 1 toilet for men and 1 for women. Electric hook up. Nice garden setting. £10 night when we stayed. Warm welcome. Jacquie Lowes.

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Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

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#### A visit to Northern Ireland

Whenever Bill and I visit our family in Southern Ireland in our motorhome we promise ourselves that we will spend some time as well on the road. For the first time in six years we did just that. From our son's home in Dunany there is a wonderful vista across Dundalk Bay towards the Mountains of Mourne of Northern Ireland. Despite the poor weather, we decided to take a closer look. We motored along slowly stopping in at various places including a small festival at Carlingford where we were very amused to find the programme included chicken racing. We immediately thought of our grandchildren's 2 fat ladies (chickens). They would have stood a good chance of running and winning as they are truly free range and get chased quite a lot!

Our first stop was at a municipal site called Kilbrony Park in Rostrevor. £17 night. There is a low bridge to negotiate first at the entrance to the park that proved quite nerve-wracking for us with our high van but we edged our way in successfully. The site is sloping with both grass pitches and hard standings. (The grass pitches were really soggy!) The setting is lovely parkland with a forest backdrop. There are way marked walks ideal if you enjoy dog walking. Facilities are good. There is a café too on site. One day we walked into Warren Point. It felt rather strange being in places we had heard so much about during the "troubles". We did get the impression that the people were a little reluctant and cautious about socialising... perhaps because of their recent past.

Instead of taking the direct route to our next destination, we enjoyed a slow drive all around the coast stopping frequently to walk and investigate places and even managing a picnic in the rain! (Well – rain is to be expected in Ireland!!)

Bill and I drove on to Delamont Country Park, a Caravan & Camping Club site. What a great place! The site is all that you would expect. Pitches are grass but have plastic strengthening. £17 night. Killyleagh is a nice village about a mile away from the site and is a very easy bike ride cycling the pretty coast road. It has good small shops etc. The park has a miniature railway, adventure playground, mature woodlands and a heronry. Strangford Lough is simply lovely. It is a bird watcher's haven and is one of Europe's most important marine sites. An example of the kindness of strangers.... When we arrived we did not have any bread or milk. We had wrongly assumed that we could purchase these at the club shop. A retired teacher in the caravan parked next to us suddenly appeared with bread

and milk to save us cycling to Killyleagh that evening in the rain! We really enjoyed our stay and would love to return to Delamont.

We moved on then to Clare Glen Country Park at Tandragee. This is a small site – all hard standings with good facilities and ideal for a short stop-over. £16. There is no resident warden. We walked up and down the pleasant Glen. Next day we met our family in Armagh. Our grandsons were playing rugby there. About 1000 youngsters took part in a well-organised junior tournament but boy was it cold! Thank goodness for the motorhome. All of our fleece blankets found a new use... wrapping up muddy mini rugby players between matches! Our family could picnic inside too and the steaming hot chocolate was a hit! We spent a few hours in Armagh before returning to Dunany and entered one of the two cathedrals. Armagh is a busy town with Union flags flying everywhere. It is good to be patriotic but this seemed a bit OTT to us!



Despite all the very beautiful countryside that we enjoyed our lasting memory of our Northern Ireland trip, sadly, will be of seeing all the immense protective barriers and CCTV around police stations everywhere. We hope and pray that one day soon these will be able to be removed and the people will be able to get on with their lives in mutual trust and peace.

Jacquie Lowes.

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Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly, it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

#### Good Idea.

One of our members, Ron Kench, has suggested placing photographs of the Knaus committee members somewhere so that newcomers to the club have an idea who is who. We think this is an excellent idea so we hope to take these photographs at the Betton Park Rally. We will ask for the photographs to be placed on the web site asap. We can include them in a future newsletter also for members who do not have the internet. If you are a committee member who is unable to make the Rally please email a photograph of yourself to me at [Jacquie.lowes@btinternet.co.uk](mailto:Jacquie.lowes@btinternet.co.uk) (Members please keep your ideas and articles coming!)

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Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: 'You stay here; I'll go on a head.'

#### Subscriptions

Thank you to all members who have already paid their subs. for 2012/13. The annual subscription remains the same at £5 per unit and can be sent to Bill Lowes, 4, Birch Tree Close, Barnby Dun, Doncaster DN3 1QW or alternatively by bank transfer to the following account:-

Knaus Owners Club    60-06-39    Acct No. 35668504

Please ensure you reference your name clearly. Thanks. Bill.