

NATIONAL AGM RALLY PHOTO COMPETITION RESULTS

(A) Wildlife.
WINNER: David Allen.
 And **OVERALL WINNER.**



(C) Water.
WINNER: Keith Neat



(B) Flowers.



WINNER: David Allen.

(D) What I did during lockdown.



WINNER: David Allen.

- WINNERS:**
- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (A) | 2nd. Liz Dyment. | 3rd. Brenda Horne. |
| (B) | 2nd Brenda Horne / Ann Beard. | 3rd Janet Ceely. |
| (C) | 2nd Tamara Goulding / Kath Gifford. | 3rd. Ann Beard. / David Allen. |
| (D) | 2nd Dorothy Leddy. / Helen Davison. | 3rd. Ginny Duly. |



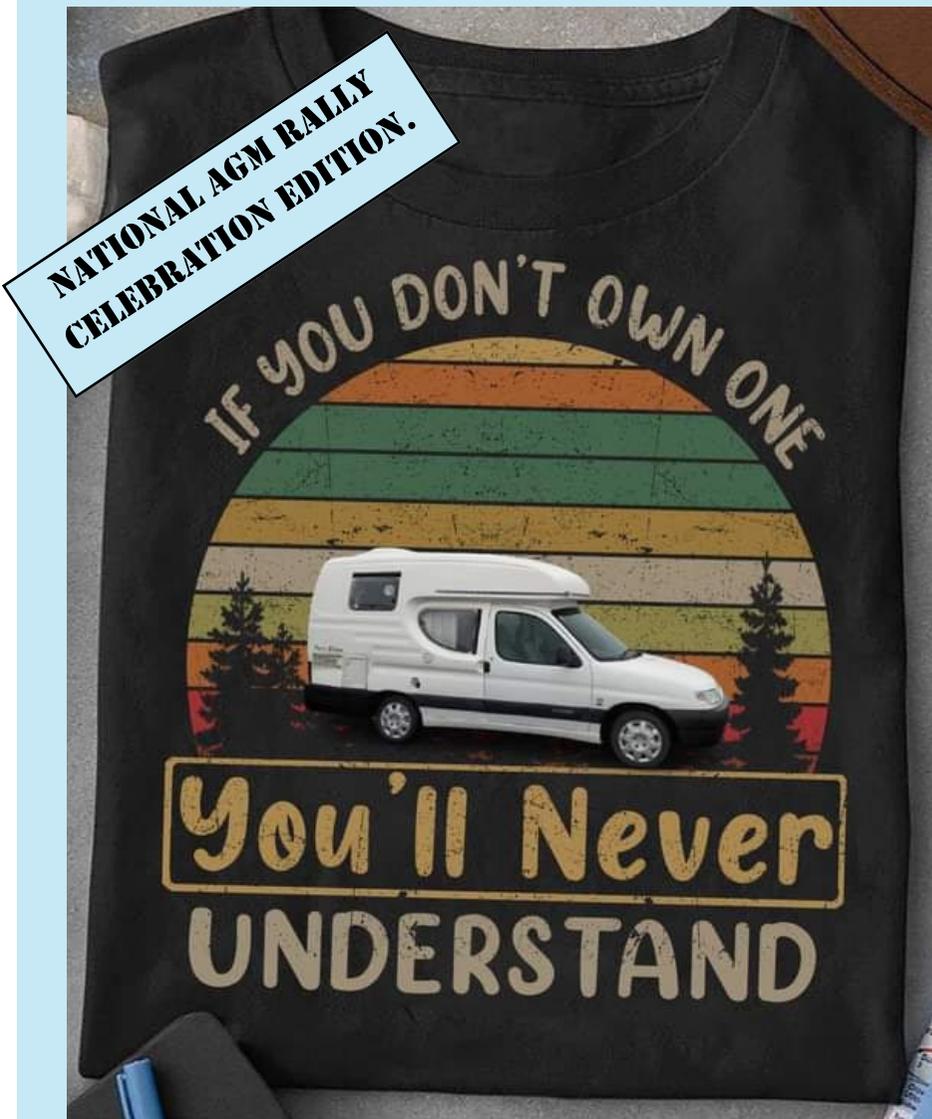
ROMA

THE JOURNAL OF THE ROMA CLUB ©

Issue 138 Sept 2021
 Autumn Edition.

REVIEW

MOTORCARAVANNING AT ITS BEST IN ROMAHOME UNITS.



Picture provided by Kath Gifford.

Dear Members..



Appledore next year ?

Hi Fellow Romahomers
Remember the wonderful times we shared in Appledore, Kent where 'Darling Buds of May' was filmed?
I've been back here this Bank Holiday for the annual Flower Festival. Wow! What a wonderful celebration in



the Church and in the pub next door, of course, where we've spent many an enjoyable hour or two together. Sunday roast was fab!

Anyone fancy joining me this time next year? As Pop Larkin would say, "Just perfect."

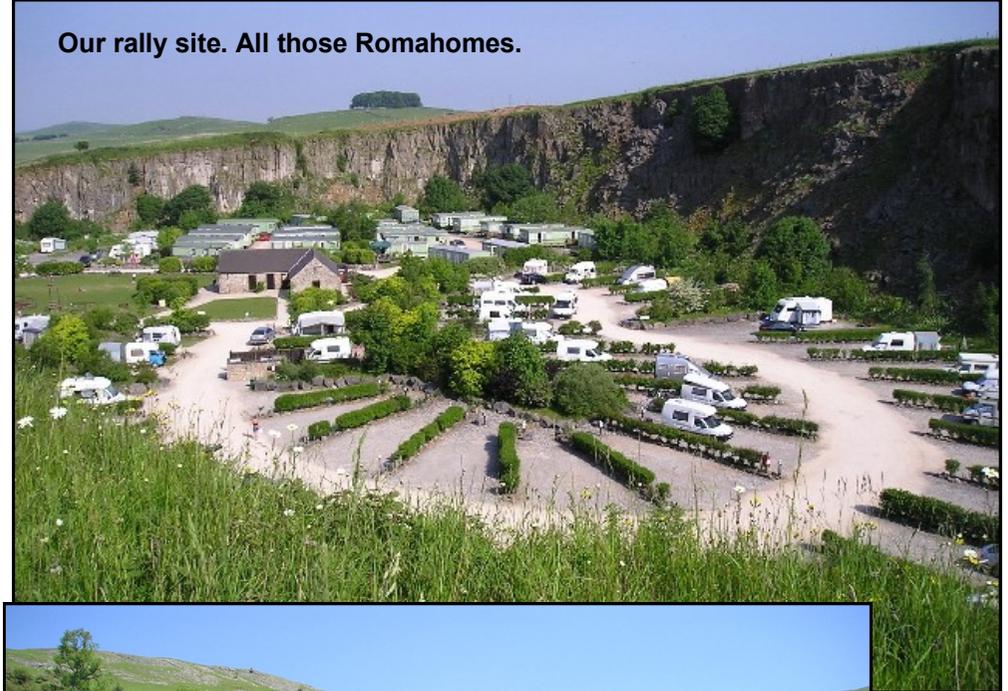
Helen Davison

Interested ? Contact Helen on Davisonhelen@aol.com

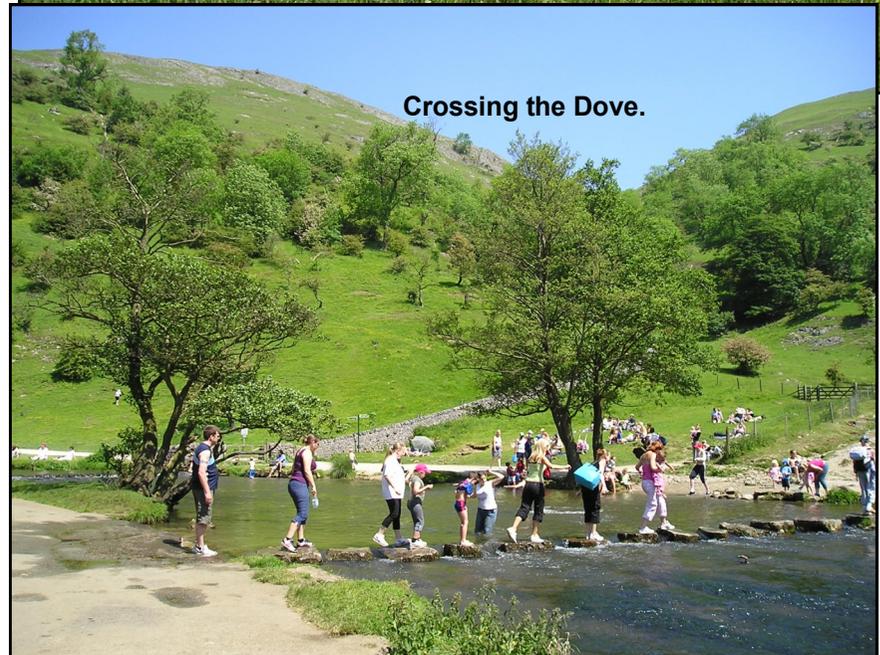
We also have to thank Helen for her work at the National AGM rally, cutting up all that greenery for the BBQ salad. AH.

All our yesterdays. Fond memories of this rally at Rivendale, Ashbourne

Our rally site. All those Romahomes.



Crossing the Dove.



All our yesterdays.

Fond memories of this rally at Rivendale, Ashbourne, in the Peak District

June 2006.

Twenty three units found their way to Rivendale. The rally had been organised so that we could attend a concert at the Unique Home of the Ex-Regal / ABC Derby Compton Cinema Organ, at Dovedale Garage Car Showroom, in the Beautiful Peak District. We travelled together to the concert by mini bus so that we could leave our vans on site. We returned about 11pm after the main gate was closed!!



When the organ arose from below the stage & started playing the whole venue was lit with incredible coloured lights and we were able to see all the mobiles & instruments around the garage – birds and ducks sitting on nests were singing to the appropriate music and the drums, cymbals, Xylophone, pianola, fiddles were mounted around the walls. Midway through the performance 500 people were served a barbeque.

We enjoyed the weekend chatting with old and new members and exploring the local countryside. Dovedale itself was wonderful – so many families enjoying picnics and the stepping stone across the water.

Rivendale is now a Holiday Park but there are many camp sites in the area

Sadly the Pipes in the Peaks concerts are on hold for 2021 but do visit their website for updates at www.pipesonthepeaks.co.uk and have a most enjoyable time !!

Kath & Keith



From Your Editor.....

Well, that was some event.

We have received quite a few plaudits for the organisation of the National AGM Rally, and whilst a lot of the decisions on the organisation of the event are down to your all new committee, it was the sub-committee, chaired by Sheldon Mahn, that made it so successful.

That, and the effort put in by members, old and new, (that's old and young too), chatting, making friends and assisting, that led to that success.

One expression we heard more than any other was "**Just like old times**". Perhaps, not quite. (we were the only Honda dismantable on the site.)

But, the committee's plan is not to look back, but to look forward. The Roma Facebook page is full of owners seeking advice, and wishing to share their views on the Romahome, and it is up to us to sign them up to a real club, rather than an internet one.

In the next Roma Review, we hope to provide you with a few 'flyers' to give to owners that you meet.

Our website needed to be closed, and we are very lucky to have our old webmaster, Steve Nunn, volunteering to work on a new one. Unfortunately, it takes time, and has not been helped by Steve breaking his ankle.

I was asked to renew my editorship of the Review, and I hope you enjoy this edition. Thanks to Alan Bew for his editorship of the magazine over the past year.

We were also asked to produce some sort of advice booklet with helpful hints and advice.

This was done in 2015, so we thought most of the items would still be valid. I hope you find it useful.

Please send in your items of interest, your 'Sales and Wants', recipes, adventures and trips (not ankle breakers !) so that we can keep the Review interesting.

Thanks to the members who sent photographs of the event. Sorry I didn't have the space for them all.

Allan.



Inside your Review

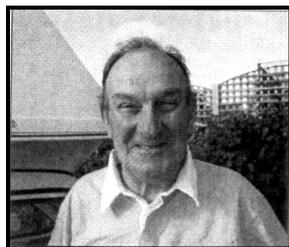
- P.2. Dear Members. Appledore.
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COPY DEADLINE

We very much welcome your contributions. Very final collation date is the 10th DECEMBER for the WINTER REVIEW.

**Editor, Roma Review,
23, Fairmile,
AYLESBURY,
Bucks.HP21 7JS.
Tel. 01296 428580
editor@romaclub.org.uk**

'El Presidente'



Hi Romahomers it's me El Presidente.

I've just come back from the AGM and what an AGM it was. More than 50 vans new and old just like the old times .

We had Boules. A dog show, craft stall, photography competition and a marvellous two tables covered with raffle prizes.

Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

On Saturday we had a volunteer gave a talk about the local Air ambulance and their volunteers. Very interesting.

We then had a fish and chip supper . Then afterwards we had entertainment by a local group called 'Two Shades of Grey.' They were very good (not too modern) Just right .

On Sunday after 'Songs of Praise' we had the AGM .

In the afternoon we had a lovely BBQ then home grown entertainment ,which was very enjoyable.

It was good to see so many faces old and new.

I have spoken to Sarah Bailey since coming back . Brian is still in a nursing home but is quite well. She sends her regards to everybody.

Anyway keep safe. Happy Romahoming

Bill Steers

Your Romaclub committee.

Club contact Tel. No. 07863 414017.

PRESIDENT.	Bill Steers.
CHAIRMAN –	Sheldon Mahn.
VICE CHAIRMAN and EDITOR-	Allan Horne -
SECRETARY -	Jacqui Norton
TREASURER -	Anne Graystone
M/SHIP SECRETARY-	Tamara Goulding
DESPATCH OFFICERS.	Kath Gifford and Keith Neat.
RALLY OFFICER -	Susan Johnson -
GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBER -	Jackie Morton

Membership Matters.

A warm welcome to

Josephine Tate- Norton	Sussex.
Charlotte and John Kay	Shoreham -By - Sea
Sally Hodgson	Stoke -on- Trent
Hilary Pateman	Keighley
Valarie Walker	North Ayrshire
Richard and Gilly Lee	Somerset.
Alistair and Helen MacDonald	Kent
Jane Nightingale	Cornwall
Carole Walton	
Paul Rutter	Cornwall
Angela Hodgson	
Susan and William Braithwaite	
Miranda and Peter Archer	Norfolk
Anthony and Carol Mead	Wiltshire

Romacooking.

What are you eating in your Romahome ? Something you have devised ?
Something you have bought ?Whatever—let's get this page of your Roma Review up and running again.

Techtopics. Romatips.

We await your help on all matters Romahome. Had some work done ?
Made a modification ? Learnt a thing or two ?
Please get in touch so we can share it.

Your FREE Sales and wants....

As the heading suggests, this area is just waiting for your items. Clearing the Romahome, selling the Romahome ?

Whatever, email or write to the editor.

Dear Members..



Yet another National AGM Rally item.

Just a brief note to say thank you through your excellent journal to everyone who made the AGM Meet such a successful event.

As well as the behind the scenes work, which I'm sure must have been challenging and immense hard work, the folk on the day were first class, welcoming, friendly and efficient. And our fellow Roamers were delightful company, good companionship, support and also fine chums and chumettes to dine and drink with.

Thank you one and all for bringing some collective sunshine into eighteen months of what for many of us has been quite a gloomy time.

Here's to 2022 and what joys it will bring us and our Romahomes.

Stay safe and well and be kind to yourself and others.

Mike White 3721 & Jethro C15 HyLo High Wycombe



LIVES & LOVES.....

On our way to Dan's Meadow we stopped overnight at **D'Arcy Equestrian Camping**

Kelvedon road

Tolleshunt D'Arcy

Maldon. Essex CM9 8EL. Tel 01621 815165

Highly recommended. Such a lovely site tucked away in the country but within distance of many places of interest. Huge pitches with massive grassy areas. We hope to go back for a longer stay.

You can find them on Facebook, too.

Kath and Keith

**What's New ?
What News ?**

E 10 petrol. Ethanol problems for older vehicles.

If you are the lucky owner of an 'older' Romahome, with a petrol engine, you might be aware of the introduction of this new petrol which contains a high percentage of Ethanol. This might well save the world, but will not help the older petrol engine, reducing the performance, but also damaging rubber pipes and seals.

The answer is to use 'Super Unleaded' fuel which remains at A5 rating.

It will cost more at the pump, but be less expensive in the long run. *Allan.*

Chair Chat

View From The Chair

So there we have it !

A whole new committee duly elected!

Some would say, 'a new committee, a new start' and it certainly does feel like that. We are all new to the job and bring a different perspective on how to run the club.

Many thanks for putting your trust in us and I hope that our endeavours meet your approval. There may be times that things don't happen as you are used to, but be assured **we are putting the club's interests first and foremost.**

It has been a difficult time for all of us and a rocky period for the Romaclub. However, I am sure that with the vitality of this new committee, and the good will of the membership, the club is not only secure, but will prosper and thrive.

Many thanks to all who attended the AGM rally in Suffolk.

I hope a good time was had by all. I was impressed by the friendliness of the event.

Old members welcomed new members, and new members threw themselves into the proceedings with joy. This good nature from all made it a memorable weekend.

I would like to thank those wonderful people who helped the rally run smoothly. Jac and Gudge for their beaming smiling welcome. Kath for running the raffle. Maureen for her dog show. Christine for the Boules competition. Ginny for the craft competition. Eric and Anne for running the photo competition.

All the people who delighted us with 'home grown entertainment', and my personal thanks to the brilliant team who helped with the catering, Frank the Spatula and the Salad Sisters (you know who you are), Brenda and Val for the teas.

I am forever in your debt.

Over the weekend we raised £562.20 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance charity.

So where do we go from here? Over to you! Please don't let this enthusiasm wane. Put on your thinking caps and start organising rallies and meets. It is what the club is here for. If you need any help with the logistics of hosting a rally, then the team are happy to help and offer suggestions. Let's make the coming year one full of travels and adventures!

You are very welcome to contact me at

chairman.romaclub@gmail.com and I will answer all your mails, but please be patient, I may be roaming myself!

Sheldon Mahn, Chairman.

The 34th Annual General Meeting of the Romaclub.
Held at Dan's Meadow, Suffolk, 15th August 2021 at 11.00 am.

Item 10. With this Review you will have received a voting slip to decide on this matter. Please vote.

POETRY CORNER

Exercising in the Bath

Here's an idea to make you laugh

Try exercising in the bath.

Make sure the water's not too hot

Then you can give it all you've got.

First lie down and gently wriggle

This may make you have a giggle.

Slowly stretch those lock down knees

Then press them flat to give you ease.

Like propellers, spin your ankles round

You'll be glad you're on the ground!

Can you manage knee to nose?
Best be careful, I suppose!

Then gently turn each stiff arm,
Round and round -you will not harm

Relax until you hear furore -
A frantic knocking at the door!

Shirley Baker

Musings, or things to think about.

The Campervan is a synonym for FREEDOM.

There is nothing more practical or economic for travelling and discovering the world at one's own pace.

The campervan driver is a bit of a motorised snail who makes giant flea-like leaps and stops whenever it takes their fancy and leaves again when their heart tells them to.

IS THERE ANY BETTER DREAM?



I am a woodsman who enjoys simple pursuits.

On finding a horse chestnut tree;
I climb,,

I sawed,

I conkered.

Allan Horne. Feb 2016 with apologies to Julius Caesar.

We discovered that not one van is the same; even other R20's have different interior, and each van seems to have its own cheeky quirks! We were told over the weekend we have a special edition which was lovely to hear. I am still yet to find out if you need to dry clean the privacy curtains or if they can go in a washing machine.....no one seemed to be able to answer that one!

I really liked the format of the weekend and I'm sure we can all think of some ideas to support future rallies / AGMs with activities. There was time and space to explore the local area, and Gudge and I were luckier than some, by returning from Woodbridge before the tide came in ! Those of you who attended are aware that we now have two important votes to make. Please all do vote. As a member your vote is important. Do we hold future Nationals / AGMs in the Midlands area or do we move them around the country? Do we accept membership from past Romahome owners who may no longer have a van that fits in with the rules? Your Club needs your Vote!

As I write this we are about to prepare Millie for another three nights away. We are starting to get the hang of this roaming.

Don't forget to reach out to me at this email address: secretary.romaclub@gmail.com

I work full-time so it may take a week to reply, but I will respond to everyone.

In the meantime, take care

Jac x

What's New ? What News ?	We hear from our Treasurer, Anne Greystone : The full amount donated to the East Anglian Air Ambulance is £562.20 which is £422.20 from the raffle and Songs of Praise plus £140 from donations from those who didn't get EHU.
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Smile

The boss rang me this morning.

Boss: "Where are you?"

Me: "I'm on a train heading towards the south coast."

Boss: "Why are you on a train heading to the south coast?"

Me: "When I finished work yesterday, you told me to
" Be in Brighton early "tomorrow"

Your National AGM Rally.

Seven, yes, seven pages filled with items regarding, perhaps, one of the most successful events in the club's history (we think).

I would like to thank everyone at the Romahome AGM this weekend for a fabulous time and the warm welcome. I look forward to meeting you all again, but not for a few weeks as poor old Chuggy's clutch went about 10 miles from home so we had to hobble the rest of the way home and the garage can't fit him in till mid September.



Susan Sheriff

Thanks, thanks and more thanks.

Thanks to Sheldon, ably assisted by Allan & Jac, for arranging and running the AGM rally. It was superb.

Thanks, too, to the 'old' crew members who stayed on board in support. Brenda and Val (serving refreshments/coffee), Christine & Frank (Boules), Maureen (dog show), Ginny (craft comp), Anne and Eric (photo comp), Kath & Helen (raffle), Kath & Graham (Songs of Praise), Keith (moving furniture/ rubbish disposal/sweeping up) not forgetting some of the above who prepared the salad to accompany the barbeque cooked by Sheldon assisted by Frank.

So now - over to the next generation of helpers !

Anonymous contributor

It was Sheldon, as chairman of the rally sub committee that did such a great job. Making the event something to remember. AH.

A very convivial weekend in beautiful surroundings with perfect weather. My first rally and a memory to cherish. Just a wee hop over the border.

Thank you.

Allan Raymond (Mr. Fife).

450 miles from Fife to Suffolk. The longest commute to the Romaclub AGM??

Dear Members..



Pontyclun, Wales.

Just wanted to say a massive thanks for the AGM weekend, I was blown away at the generosity and how amazing everyone was. I thoroughly enjoyed making a general nuisance of myself and chatting to anyone. See you at the next one!

Also whilst talking on the weekend to I can't remember who now, someone suggested that my previous email may not have been received and I figured you might be low on stories in general and I'm not sure if the next review will be all about the AGM or other stuff too, so here's a copy below of my previous tale ;)

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting you all And hope to be able to get these address labels sorted. I've moved house so currently unpacking looking for the printer ha! I'll get them done though don't worry

Best wishes

Emma Griffin (member 4174)

Emma volunteered to run the labels for the Roma Review. Let's hope she finds her printer before the end of September. AH.



Aylesbury, Bucks.

As some of you will know, I make and sell crafts for Epilepsy Research UK through the year.

The last eighteen months have been very difficult, so I am pleased to say that I have just sent them a cheque for £60.00.

Many thanks to all of you who supported me and this special charity.

Brenda Horne. (member 347)

P.S.

At the rally, I appear to have been bitten by insects, leading to painful swellings on my ankles. These are being treated with antibiotics.

Has anyone else suffered in this way after the event ?

Greetings from your new Secretary!

Although I have been involved in Roma Club meetings for a few months now, I am very proud to say that since the National / AGM Rally I am now your official Secretary. I am here if you need me, but I'm sure although I have years of experience being on committees. I have much to learn still for this organisation. I like to think I'm approachable so do get in touch even if it's just to say hello !

Those of you who attended the AGM would have met myself and Gudge as you arrived. I will not apologise for being over happy and joyful ! It was wonderful to have the



Jac with Millie at Beeches Farm Campsite, overlooking the Wye Valley.

opportunity to welcome you all (and of course in doing this, we made sure we had spoken to everyone). I think I was a bit like the Duracell bunny – couldn't stop ! There are many of you I would like to thank, and you know who you are. A special mention should go to Sheldon, our new Chair for all his hard work in putting an amazing weekend together. Gudge and I have organised festivals and events before, and know how much time and effort is needed months in advance and during the event. Everything went so smoothly at Martlesham and the weather held for the BBQ. Everyone was very generous with raffle prizes, donations and biscuits and cakes. Before I left the site, I took the 6 packets of unopened biscuits which have now been donated to the local food bank in Wellingborough; The Daylight Centre. Gudge and I have supported them and helped with Christmas dinner in the past, and also raised funds for them to have a new dishwasher – so the tasty treats have gone to a good home.

Gudge and myself only became Romahome owners in July 2020; slept in our van Millie 3 times prior to the event, so it was exciting and special to see approximately another 50 vans in the field.

Ripon Rally. (cont.)

On the Sunday evening we enjoyed a BBQ with a great selection of salads to accompany the sausages and burgers that Maureen sourced from the local supermarket. All very delicious and tasty. The four-legged members woofed down a sausage or two. Thanks to everyone for making our stay so pleasant.
18 UNITS. 31 MEMBERS.

Robert and Yvonne Lajoie

10 DOGS.



Sheldon Sherlock Tony.



Dorothy and Elizabeth.

Round and about.....

ANNUAL RALLY AND AGM

An excellent Rally and AGM was held at Dan's Meadow, Martelsham, Suffolk. From 13th-16th August. Approximately 50 vans, 70 people and 16 dogs attended.



Sunset over Dan's Meadow.

The weather was beautiful which added to the enjoyment of the occasion. Arriving on Friday everyone settled into their pitches and registered, enjoying a welcome tea or coffee and biscuits after their journey. There were lots of new members made welcome by older members with their usual support and tips for new comers, As it was the 35th anniversary of the club all those attending were presented with a commemorative tray with the club logo.

A lovely friendly atmosphere was evident throughout the weekend. People generously bought biscuits and cakes to have with tea or coffee, and Raffle prizes.

The Raffle had 60 plus prizes to tempt ticket purchasers, and it did just that !!

There was the photo competition with four categories, with lots of entries for each, all of



Agility ? Well, for the dogs maybe.

very high standard which made voting decisions very difficult.

A fun Dog Show was held and fifteen dogs took part with rosettes for prizes. Each dog got a packet of treats at the end. Dogs and owners had great fun and lots of amusement.

A Boules tournament was run over the weekend and it became very competitive. A lot of interest was shown. Some members were introduced to the game never having played before. The Craft competition was well supported with a variety of crafts from old and new members..



Ripon Rally. (cont.)

made very welcome by Maureen and all the other club members. As this was the first time we camped with the club since joining in 2017, we found that even the dogs greeted us with great enthusiasm and wagging tails. The site had lovely views gently sloping down to the canal. There was a small hall and very clean toilets available for us to use if need be. Remarks were made about the silver bonnet on our R20. Apparently, they are normally



white, but with a great mixture of vans on site ,we were in good company.

Maureen supplied two canopies which were greatly appreciated to keep the sun off during our stay, and for our morning get together.

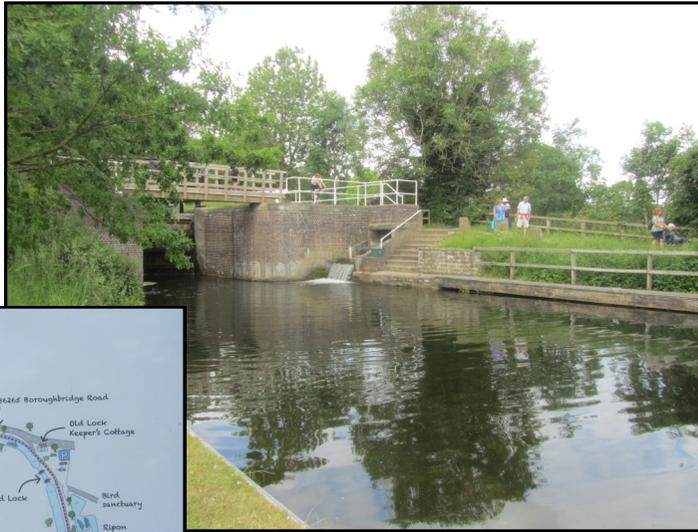
A fish and chip supper went down well (very crispy batter) and was very kindly collected for us by one of our members.



Round and about.....

LOCKSIDE CARAVAN PARK RIPON -18th 23rd JUNE 2021

This is a beautiful site with a short walk along the canal to the very busy town of Ripon which has a very impressive cathedral and a great selection of shops and eateries. After arriving at the site, we were made very welcome



by



It was nice to see new members taking some of the prizes. Friday evening began with the Forum with lots of questions and suggestions .

Winners' Certificates.



Saturday evening began with an interesting talk from the East Anglia Air Ambulance (the weekend charity) they benefited from the money raised by the raffle and the songs of praise collection.

This was followed by a Fish and Chip Supper. Everyone then full sat down to entertainment by 'Two Shades of Grey' with their musical talent, a great evening



On Sunday the day started with some hearty singing at 'The Songs of Praise' service.

'Songs of Praise' about to get into full flow.



Following this at 10.45 was the business part of the weekend. The co-opted committee that had taken the reins during lockdown were all voted into their posts. We now have a full complement again. Hooray !!

Other topics were discussed and voted on, the meeting then closed. This was followed by the Forum feedback.

In the afternoon a fantastic Bar-b-Que was had and enjoyed by all. Rolls with Chicken, Burgers and sausages with salads, followed by cakes and trifles for desert.

In the evening was the 'Home Grown Entertainment' provided by talented members of the club.

We hope all those who attended enjoyed themselves and will come back again. It was nice to see some younger members and some from Scotland, Wales and all over England

A big thank you to all the organisers and anyone who helped in any way.

Hoping to see you all again next year.

Ginny.

Ginny.

The Boules competition. Competitive ? Keith Neat won.



As well as all the fun, food, entertainment, and good company, club members also received this tray (well, not this tray, this one is mine) to celebrate the club's 35 year existence.

Members were also offered the Romaclub shopping bags and lapel badges, which were produced to celebrate our 25 years.

Just wait and see what we might have on offer in five, or ten years time. AH.

