

The Autocruisers

Newsletter No.32
July 2005

Saturday 3rd September



That's the Open Weekend!!

Use your booking form at the end of the
newsletter.

Chairman's Rantings

This month I'm writing these rantings while on holiday in Scotland where we went across the sea to the Outer Hebrides to visit all the islands. We have thoroughly enjoyed being over on the island and meeting the people. They are so laid back, friendly and courteous and the roads are virtually traffic free. People don't bother to lock their cars as crime is virtually non-existent and everywhere is so litter free, it's a different world. The only draw back we found was that there is always a breeze/wind.

To give you a taste of what it's like we kept meeting up with a couple over on Uist and Benbecula who are waiting for their house to be built so that they can move there this year. The chap was born on Benbecula and has a brother and sister there. He stayed with his sister recently and on the Monday she told him not to lock the back door. He was told to do this every day until Friday when she said, "When you go out today, lock the back door and put the key under the flower pot". On enquiring why she replied, "Archie's on a bender and he knows where we keep the whisky".

We have seen eagles, dolphins, a sea otter and all manner of birds while touring round. The days are much longer up here as at this time of the year it does not appear to go completely dark. You could still read a book outside up until 23.00 hrs. (and due to the breeze you would be able to read the book instead of using it to batter the midges!)

We heard the rally at Banbury went well and you had good weather (we have been asked if we could stay away more often as it was hot and sunny all rally).

Just before we went on our wanderings we visited a firm called Van Aaken Developments at Crowthorne in Berkshire who state that they can improve the performance of your diesel vehicle. In our case they modified and reset the diesel pump. What a difference, we can now overtake pushbikes on a regular basis! After the modification I noticed a difference as soon as I started the engine. You have to re-learn the position of your right foot on the accelerator pedal, as you need to be more 'gentle' with it to achieve the same acceleration as before. On the way home we chose a route with a few hills and we found we were sailing over the hills in fifth, which we have never done before. Also we have noticed a difference while towing our trailer, as we don't have to anywhere as near as much gear changing as we used to do. We consider it money well spent and wished we had had it done earlier.

Well that's the lot for now as we want to see the sun go down and a Gin and Tonic has appeared and I don't want his lap top to start slurring.

See you all soon.

Happy rallying,





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Open for fun



Open for the kids



Open for leisure



Open for exploring

Opening time at Marquis is just that - the time when the door to every single motorhome on the forecourt is unlocked - and left unlocked until closing time. So you can browse at your leisure. Of course, if you'd like to speak to one of our knowledgeable motorhome experts, their (sales office) door is always open. But the choice is yours.

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FOR SALE

The club has a binding machine and a personal photocopier for sale. If you would like to buy them or know of perhaps a small club, Girl Guides, Boy

Scouts or something similar that would like to buy them please contact Sheila Lennie.

The binding machine is a Docubind P100 which we purchased for £139. £30 would secure it. But no reasonable offer will be refused

The photocopier is a Canon FC100 which we purchased for £219. £50 would secure it. It also has a spare toner cartridge. Again no reasonable offer refused.

Rally News

Please make all cheques payable to The Autocruisers.



No verbal bookings can be accepted. All bookings must be made on the official booking form accompanied by the requested deposit.

Every rally carries a rally levy of £2 per person per rally. This money is used to pay for wine for the punch bowls, rally plaques, quiz prizes and any other incidentals. This **MUST** be added onto the site fees except when the fees are quoted as per person.

In future the committee request that all payments are made by cheque. This will make it easier and safer for the storing of monies over the rally weekend.

All booking slips for rallies must be received by the Rally Officer two weeks before the start of the rally with the appropriate deposit.

All cancellations must be received by the Rally Officer no later than one week before the rally. If no costs have been incurred deposits will be refunded. Cancellations received after this period may result in deposits being non refundable.

UPON ARRIVAL TO THE RALLY PLEASE PROCEED TO THE RALLY MARSHALL'S VAN DESIGNATED BY A LARGE RALLY MARSHALL SIGN TO ENABLE YOU TO BOOK IN AND BE ADVISED OF PITCH AND WEEKEND ACTIVITIES. ARRIVALS AFTER 2PM ON THURSDAY PLEASE.

RALLY DATES FOR 2005

July 15 – 17	Midsummer Music & Leisure Show, Lincoln	Book direct with organisers in first instance
August 25 – 29 Bank Holiday	Drum Mohr CC Park Edinburgh for TATTOO	£15 per night with electric
September 1 - 4	Factory Weekend The Haven Arms Hedon	£12 per person no electric
October 6 – 9	Grove Estate Great Saling, Essex	£18 per person no electric
November 10 – 13	Bainland Country Park Woodhall Spa	£6 per night no electric
December 8 – 11		£12 per night with electric Cost of meal to be advised

At the end of the newsletter you will find a subscription renewal form. Please send this to Sheila Lennie with your cheque to cover membership for 2006. Early receipt will entitle you to a discounted membership fee. Full details on the form.

Rally News

**Midsummer Music Festival
Lincoln Showground
July 15-17**

Book direct with show on official form in first instance Then send Autocruisers form to Rally Officer

Camping fee £16, (less £2 for club membership, remember to insert your membership number on the form), Concert Tickets £17 per person unless you subscribe to MMM, Which Motorcaravan and others then tickets will be £16 each.

Please note: You must purchase at least one concert ticket to be able to camp for the weekend.

**Drum Mohr Caravan Park, Edinburgh
Edinburgh Tattoo Rally
August Bank Holiday Weekend
August 25-29**

Anyone wishing to attend this rally may do so but unfortunately we do not have any spare tickets for the Tattoo. It may be possible to book tickets for Friday nights 9.00 pm performance. We have booked for South Stand F. We will have spaces available on the coach for anyone wishing to attend the rally and spend the evening in Edinburgh if you are unable to purchase tickets.

On Saturday night we will be holding a Burns Supper

**Factory Open Weekend
September
September 1-4**

Please send in your booking forms complete with cheque for £12 per person. Please ensure that booking forms are received by the Rally Officer no later than 20th August.

**8th Annual General Meeting
Haven Arms, Hedon
October 6-9**

Please send booking form with cheque for £18 per person. We shall have a supper on Friday night with our Annual Darts Match and on Saturday night we shall have dinner with cabaret. This is a not to be missed rally!

Dunham on Trent

21-24 April

Lance and I travelled to this rally independently. No we hadn't had a row, fisticuffs or a divorce. I had to travel to Leeds on Tuesday for a seminar and so Lance travelled down to John and Carol's on Wednesday where I met him after my seminar had finished.

We enjoyed a lovely meal in Carol's kitchen with Lorraine and Steve who arrived not long after us and then we retired to the sitting room. Doesn't that sound grand! We listened to some music, chatted and had a couple of drinks before crossing the road to the paddock to where our vans were parked.

Thursday morning dawned and Steve drove off the field but unfortunately Lance had to be pulled off. Lorraine and I were the marshals on the main road and were prepared to jump out and stop anything moving – all that power in our hands and nothing came past! Lance safety on the road having been pulled out by Steve saw Lorraine and I leave for the village hall in Dunham.

Having parked up it was then a question of waiting for everyone to arrive. It has been noted that more and more of you are arriving on Thursday and this rally was no exception. We had one member arrive with a car but the car had to be pushed. Another decided to cross Dunham Bridge not once but twice when in fact they didn't have to cross it at all. I fear they have been mixing with Jim and Rosie for too long and this bridge crossing has rubbed off. Mind you Jim and Rosie go for the expensive ones, like the Humber Bridge, whilst Ron and Joyce chose Dunham Bridge at 25p a go!



After having a wonderful lunch in the adjacent pub Janet, Lorraine, Carol and I decided to leave the men to marshall whilst we whiled away an afternoon in Retford. We visited 'Home Bargains' the store visited and written about in the Kerry Jenkinson rally report; had a statement printed from the bank ready for the committee meeting; (which we never did have), and ordered the pasties for Saturday night.



We were unable to book the village hall for Thursday night as that was their Bingo night but they very graciously allowed us to join them. A number of us bought our tickets at the door from one of the smallest ladies I have ever seen and we sat down and the game commenced. It hadn't been going very long when we heard 'two little ducks 22' at which we all shouted QUACK, QUACK much to the amusement of the bingo caller and the horror of everyone else. Then we heard 'on it's own number 2' and yes you guessed it we shouted 'QUACK'. We played nine games I believe and

those numbers came out every game. We got louder and louder as each game progressed much to the amusement of the bingo caller and by this time the congregated players. I don't think they have ever had such a noisy bingo night. We gave them a bottle of wine to put in their raffle and then Peter Lockwood went and won it back! John Jenkinson called twice for the bingo and Lance also won. We also took away a few of the raffle prizes but there were no hard feelings and we were told that we could go back again.

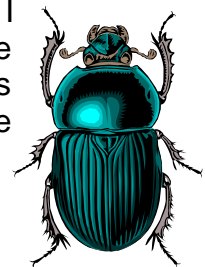
On Friday Lance and I volunteered to be rally marshals and with only Joyce & Ron Bull left on site (they were waiting for the arrival of Sue). We greeted the second of our first timers, Alan and Sandra Owen. Richard & Eileen Burrow having arrived on Thursday.

We had all been looking forward to welcoming Don & Monica Roberts to the rally after quite a long absence due to ill health but unfortunately they were unable to come as Monica was feeling under the weather. Actually, she just likes Don running round and doing everything for and is milking the situation for all it's worth! When I phoned her to see how she was she has now decided that she will have a hip replacement! Well Monica, your secret is out now because Don will read this and be wise to your little game! We really hope to see you again as soon as possible and wish you well with your hip replacement.



It was today that the latest MFI production was unveiled. Len Foster - **Mr Foster** showed us his latest Invention). It was a glorious afternoon and before the sun disappeared and it started to get cold we had all sat around in a very large circle and talked the afternoon away. The tea urn was fired up and scones with jam and cream were the order of the day in the hall.

We had our Faith Supper at 7pm and afterwards, I don't know why I suggested it, but we had a beetle drive! Getting people to move from one table to another proved a lot more difficult than it was at the PTA meetings I used to attend. There we had winners move one way and losers move the other. After the first try with winners moving I didn't dare introduce the losers moving! We would have still been there! We also had a game or two of Irish Bingo!



On Saturday Lance, Tom, Margaret & I went out to Brownhills for a look around. I can honestly say that we didn't see anything there that we would have swapped our vans for! I did, however, see a twin tub washing machine and after a little bit of cajoling Lance agreed that it would be a good idea to buy it. No sooner said – than done!

Arriving back at the campsite it was almost time to get ready for our evening's entertainment. We had a wonderful meal served to us and it went like clockwork. You would think that John and Carol and their helpers had done this all their lives! After the meal we were treated to live entertainment from The Kirks. They played all sorts of music and we sang, clapped and stamped our feet in time to their music all evening. We thoroughly enjoyed it. A big thank you is offered to John and Carol for arranging such a brilliant rally.



All too soon it was Peter and his closing speech time. You all know how I hate that time of the rally when Peter says have a safe journey home and everyone starts to leave. But if you didn't leave we wouldn't be able to have another rally to look forward to I suppose. Coffee and biscuits consumed and it was time to say goodbye. No wait – Lance said we could stop for lunch – so we did!

Thank you once again John and Carol and when are you running the next one?

A woman was shopping at her local supermarket, where she selected:

- * **2 litres of Hi-Lo milk,**
- * **a carton of eggs,**
- * **a litre of orange juice,**
- * **a head of lettuce,**
- * **a 500g can of coffee, and**
- * **a kilo package of bacon.**

As she was unloading her items on the conveyor belt to check out, a drunk standing behind her watched as she placed the items in front of the cashier.

While the cashier was ringing up her purchases, the drunk calmly stated, "You must be single."

The woman was a bit startled by this proclamation, but she was

intrigued by the drunk's intuition, since she was indeed single.

She looked at her six items on the belt and saw nothing particularly unusual about her selections that could have tipped off the drunk to her marital status.

Curiosity getting the better of her, she said "Well, you know what?

You're absolutely correct. But how on earth did you know that?"

The drunk replied, "Cause you're ugly."

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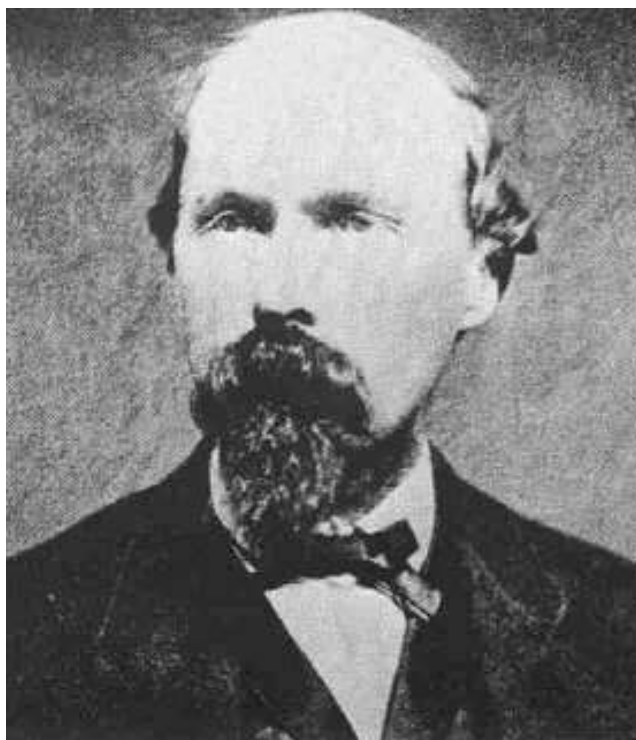




Strange but True
Articles supplied by
Peter Lockwood



Dr. SAMUEL MUDD



Dr. Samuel Alexander Mudd was born on December 20, 1833, on a large plantation in Charles County, Maryland. He was the son of Henry Lowe Mudd and his wife, Sarah Ann Reeves. As a youngster, Sam enjoyed swimming, fishing, hunting, and weekend trips with his dad. He attended public schools for two years, and he was also tutored by Miss Peterson, a governess hired by his father. At age 14 he entered St. John's College in Frederick, Maryland. He stayed for 2 years. He then attended Georgetown College in Washington, D.C. In 1854 Mudd transferred to the University of Maryland in Baltimore and studied medicine and surgery. He graduated from that institution in 1856.

After graduation Dr. Mudd returned home and began life as a practicing physician and farmer. On November 26, 1857, he married Sarah Frances Dyer, his childhood sweetheart. The Mudds' first child, Andrew, was born in November of 1858. By 1859 the Mudds had a farm of their own. It was located about five miles north of Bryantown, Maryland, and 30 miles south of Washington, D.C. In 1860 the Mudds' second child, Lillian Augusta, was born. Two more sons were born in 1862 and 1864. During the Civil War, Mudd was a Confederate sympathizer and member of the Confederate underground.



Strange but True
Articles supplied by
Peter Lockwood



On Sunday, November 13, 1864, John Wilkes Booth first met Dr. Mudd at St. Mary's Church near Bryantown, Maryland. Evidence indicates a second meeting of the two men took place c. December 18 at the Bryantown Tavern. Then, on December 23, the two men met yet again in front of Booth's hotel (the National Hotel) in Washington, D.C. Booth wanted Dr. Mudd to introduce him to the Confederate courier, John Surratt. Walking along 7th Street, the men came upon none other than Louis Wiechmann and John Surratt! Booth invited all three men up to his hotel room for a drink. Depending on one's point of view, the discussion and events at this "meeting" were either totally innocent or "suspicious."

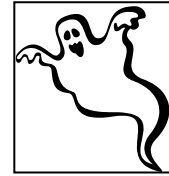


After he shot Lincoln, Booth broke his left leg in his leap to the stage at Ford's Theatre. Needing a doctor's assistance, he and David Herold arrived at Dr. Mudd's (about 30 miles from Washington) at approximately 4:00 A.M. on April 15, 1865. Dr. Mudd set, splinted, and bandaged the broken leg. (The National Park Service photograph to the left shows Booth's boot which Dr. Mudd removed when he treated the leg). Although he had met Booth on at least three prior occasions, Dr. Mudd said he did not recognize his patient. He said the two used the names "Tyson" and "Henston." Booth and Herold stayed at the Mudd residence until the next afternoon (roughly a 12 hour stay). Mudd asked his handyman, John Best, to make a pair of rough crutches for Booth. Mudd was paid \$25 for his services. Booth and Herold left in the direction of Zekiah Swamp.

Within days Dr. Mudd was under arrest by the United States Government. He was charged with conspiracy and with harbouring Booth and Herold during their escape. He went on trial along with Lewis Powell (Paine), George Atzerodt, Mary Surratt, David Herold, Ned Spangler, Samuel Arnold, and Michael O'Laughlen. In court witnesses described Dr. Mudd as the most attentive of the accused. He was dressed in a black suit with a clean white shirt. Testimony against the doctor at the trial included his harsh treatment of some of his slaves. He shot one male slave (who survived). New information regarding Dr. Mudd surfaced in 1977. A previously unknown statement by conspirator George Atzerodt indicated that John Wilkes Booth had sent liquor and provisions to Dr. Mudd's home two weeks prior to the assassination. Like the other defendants, Dr. Mudd was found guilty. His sentence: life imprisonment. He missed the death penalty by one vote.



Strange but True
Articles supplied by
Peter Lockwood



Mudd was imprisoned at Ft. Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas about 70 miles from Key West. Dr Mudd was allowed to stay in mail contact with his wife. Mrs Mudd also wrote letters to President Andrew Johnson seeking her husband's release. An attempted escape failed on September 25, 1865. In February of 1867 Dr. Mudd was assigned to the prison's carpentry shop. In the summer of 1867, yellow fever broke out on the island. After the fort's physician died on September 7, Mudd took a leadership role in aiding the sick. Dr. Mudd, himself, came down with the disease but recovered. Michael O'Laughlen was one of those who passed away due to the epidemic. Because of his outstanding efforts, a petition to the government in support of Dr. Mudd was signed by all non-commissioned officers and soldiers on the island. Early in 1869 a courier from the United States Government knocked on the front door of the Mudd farm. When Mrs. Mudd answered, the man handed her an envelope and said, "From the President of the United States. Please sign this receipt to certify that I have delivered it to you. If you have a reply, I shall return it for you." Mrs. Mudd opened the envelope and found a letter written on White House stationery. It read:

Dear Mrs Mudd

As promised I have drawn up a pardon for your husband Dr. Samuel A Mudd. Please come to my office at your earliest convenience. I wish to sign it in your presence and give it to you personally.

Sincerely

Andrew Johnson

President of the United States of America.

Mrs. Mudd went to the White House the next morning. There the President signed and delivered to her the papers for the release of her husband. The date of the pardon was February 8, 1869.

Dr. Mudd was released from Ft. Jefferson on March 8 and arrived home on March 20. He had served somewhat less than 4 years in prison. He partially regained his medical practice and lived a quiet life on the farm.

Dr. Mudd's father passed away in 1877. In January of 1878 Dr. Mudd's youngest daughter and ninth child, Mary Eleanor ("Nettie"), was born. In January of 1883 Dr. Mudd had a busy schedule with many sick patients during a harsh winter. On New Year's Day he put on his muffler and overshoes and called on patients. He came down with a severe cold. He was running a fever and had to remain in bed. As the days progressed, the fever rose. On January 10th, 1883, Dr. Mudd died of pneumonia or pleurisy at the age of 49. He was buried in St. Mary's cemetery next to the Bryantown church where he first met Booth in 1864. Sarah Frances, who was buried next to him, lived until November 29, 1911.

Dr. Mudd's descendants, most notably Dr. Richard Mudd (1901-2002) of Saginaw, Michigan, worked indefatigably to clear his name of any complicity with John Wilkes Booth.



Strange but True
Articles supplied by
Peter Lockwood



The U.S. Army has rejected an appeal to overturn the 1865 conviction of Dr. Samuel Mudd as an accomplice in the escape of John Wilkes Booth after the Lincoln assassination. Mudd's 99-year-old grandson, Dr. Richard Mudd of Saginaw, has waged a long campaign to clear his grandfather's name.

On March 14, 2001, Judge Friedman rejected Richard Mudd's contention that his grandfather should not have been tried by a military court because he was a citizen of Maryland, a state that did not secede from the Union, and thus entitled to a civil trial. John McHale, a Mudd family spokesman, said that an appeal of Judge Friedman's ruling would be filed. On Friday, November 8, 2002, a federal appeals court dismissed the case. Judge Harry Edwards wrote that the law under which the Mudd family was seeking to have Samuel Mudd's conspiracy conviction expunged applied only to records involving members of the military. Although Mudd was tried by a military tribunal, he was not a member of the military.



Dr. Richard Mudd, who passed away at the age of 101 on Tuesday, May 21, 2002, argued vehemently and sincerely for the innocence of his grandfather. Dr. Mudd was extremely articulate, impressive, and eloquent in his arguments. The effort to exonerate Samuel Mudd will now be carried on by Richard Mudd's son, Thomas B. Mudd.





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One Over the Eight

Derivations of everyday words and expressions

To Knock Off

Often used when someone is finishing a job, or more particularly, a shift. In the cotton mills in the north of England, the machines were run by a continuous belt running over pulleys. When you finished your shift, you knocked the belt off the pulleys and the machines came to a halt.

A Lap Dog

Someone who is made a fuss of is often referred to as a lapdog and the picture comes to mind of a sweet little dog sitting in the lap of a lady and being pampered and petted.

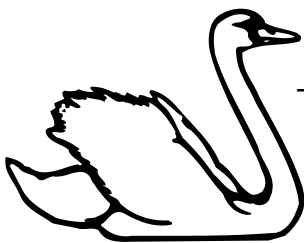
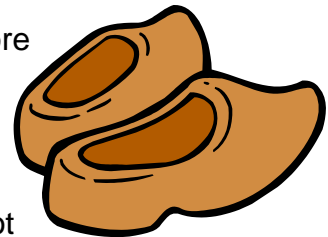


However, in the Middle Ages lapdogs served another purpose and that was to rid a lady of her fleas. Everyone, from royalty downwards, had fleas and ladies used to keep their little dog on their lap, not on top of their skirts, but on their bare knees. The fleas preferred the blood heat of the little dog and so jumped off the lady and into the fur of the dog. After a while, when the dog was put outside, it took all the fleas with it.

Sabotage

To sabotage something is to make a plan go wrong or, more usually, to wreck machinery and is a word which is used more commonly in time of war or revolution.

It is another of those sayings which has its origins in a French word, this time a sabot or wooden clog worn by French peasants. If they wanted to wreck machinery they threw a sabot into the machinery and this would damage it, often beyond repair.



Swan Song

This is often used to describe a musician's last work or an actor's last role. It comes from the myth that a swan would go somewhere peaceful to die and would always sing just before it died, so the swan's song was the last thing it did.

No one knows where this idea came from but it has been believed for hundreds of years.



A guy and a girl meet at a bar. They get along so well that they decide to go to the girl's place. A few drinks later, the guy takes off his shirt and then washes his hands. He then takes off his trousers and washes his hands again.

The girl has been watching him and says, "You must be a dentist." The guy, surprised, says "Yes! How did

you figure that out?" "Easy," she replied, "you keep washing your hands." One thing led to another and they make love. After they have done, the girl says, "You must be a good dentist." The guy, now with a boosted ego says, "Sure, I'm a good dentist, How did you figure that out?"

"Didn't feel a thing!"

A woman and a baby were in the doctor's examining room, waiting for the doctor to come in. The doctor arrived, examined the baby and, checking his weight, found it somewhat below normal and asked if the baby was breastfed or bottle fed.

"Breastfed," she replied.

"Well, strip down to your wait," said the doctor. She did. He pressed, kneaded, rolled, cupped and pinched both breasts for a while in a detailed, rigorously thorough examination. Motioning to her to get dressed he said, "No wonder this baby is underweight. You don't have any milk!"

"I know," she said, "I'm his Grandma, but I'm glad I came."



Several men are in the locker room of a golf club. A mobile phone on a bench rings and a man engages the hands-free function and begins to talk. Everyone else in the room stops to listen.

Man: Hello

Woman: Honey, are you at the club?

Man: Yes

Woman: I am at the shops and have found this beautiful leather coat. It's only £500 is it OK if I buy it?

Man: Sure,.....go ahead if you like it that much.

Woman: I also stopped by the Mercedes dealership and saw the new 2005 models. I saw one that I really liked.

Man: How much?

Woman: £55,000

Man: OK but for that price I want all the options.

Woman: Great! Oh, and one more thing ... the house we wanted last year is back on the market. They're asking £950,000 for it.

Man: Well then go ahead and make them an offer, but just offer £900,000.

Woman: OK. I'll see you later. I love you!

Man: Bye, I love you too.

The man hangs up. The other men in the locker room are looking at him in astonishment. Then he asks: Anyone know who this phone belongs to?



Barnstones Camp Site

Banbury

We left home on Wednesday 25th for our rally at Barnstones, this was a return trip to the site for many, but for Steve and I it was a nostalgic return as this was the site of our very first rally with The Autocruisers. We remember that rally well, as it marks the making of some very good friendships, we also remember that it was freezing cold and we couldn't believe there were people daft enough to rally in such icy conditions, little did we know what we were letting ourselves in for.

On this occasion we had met up with Joe en route who was going to help with the marshalling and together we arrived at the site in beautiful sunshine. Steve commenced to get the 'marshal' boards set up and the van plugged into the mains and as normal I got on with preparing tea for the three of us. We then sat in the evening sun to await the arrival of Lance and Sheila who in fact didn't arrive until gone midnight when I was getting some much required beauty sleep, Steve waited for them though, "he takes his marshalling duties far beyond the call of duty."

The site is much improved from what we could remember from our previous visit and Dave, the owner, is a lovely man only too willing to help in any way he can.

Thursday the troops started to arrive one by one and there was plenty of space for everyone to park with ease. The rally had started and still the sun shone. At this point I would like to thank everyone who attended this and the Dunham rally for adhering to the new rule of not arriving before 2pm on the Thursday, as this is proving a success in enabling the rally marshal's time to arrive and get things set up prior to your arrival.

Sheila, Lance, Steve and I were to be the only committee members on this rally apart from a quick visit by Dave & Sylvia, so our work was cut out for us. Who was to take the responsibility of the Chairman's job of entertaining you all and as the Vice Chair was there either there was a big hole where Peter should have been. Sheila and I have now decided that as Peter & Janet don't holiday together anyway, Peter was on the Isle of Harris whilst Janet was on the Isle of Lewis, (a private joke folks), there is no reason why they can't work their holidays' around the rally dates in future!

On Friday Joe, Lance, Sheila, Steve and I set off on our bikes for Stratford on Avon. We walked around the market and we purchased some magnet bracelets, they supposedly help to ease all aches and pains, Lance and Steve felt assured that theirs were working as they began to feel much better within a short time of wearing the, Steve's doctor will be so pleased that a £10 bracelet has worked far better than all the treatments they have given him for the last ten years. As for Lance, his bracelet cured his 'tight wallet syndrome' and no doubt you will all be pleased to hear there is to be a new addition to the Lennie household, by way of a new BIG GIRLS bike for Sheila. Lance has said he will buy her a new 125 Burgman scooter. YES YOU DID LANCE, everyone heard you say so.

To enable us to out on the Friday, Bill & Judy Nicholls kindly took over the marshalling and we extend our gratitude to them.



We arrived back on site to find Teresa and Ben had arrived and as Jimmy wasn't getting down until later in the day, they were sat in the car. When Ben saw us arrive back he promptly jumped out of the car with his mum and shut the doors behind them only to find the door locks were down and the keys inside. (There now appears to be a fault with the locking mechanism), also inside were all the groceries Teresa had bought with her. Having rung the AA with whom she has cover they told her that as this was a self induced fault it would cost her the princely sum of £190 to come out, she quickly declined! Jimmy arrived eventually and 'delighted' ha! Ha! At the prospect of having to go back home to Swadlincote on the back of Steve's bike to collect the spare set of keys, he had never been on a motor bike before in his life, the look of fear on his face was something to behold! We are left wondering if they will ever get a fault free rally as on their first rally at Banham, they had to leave early due to Teresa being called back into work on an emergency. This time though the fault was rectified on Steve & Jimmy's return with the spare keys and they soon settled in to enjoy their first full rally at the same place as her Mum and Dad's. Like mother, like daughter. Jimmy has also decided he wants a bike. *Steve should have shares in a bike shop. He was responsible for my wanting a new bike as well. Ed.*



On Saturday there were high winds and there was some trouble keeping the tents tied down, (*memories of the Hurricane rally at Telford! Ed*), but luckily they held fast and almost everyone clambered inside to enjoy their fish and chip supper. I say almost everyone as it soon became clear that there was no room inside for about a dozen of us who had to brace it outside in the cold, with Sheila and Sylvia conducting the quiz by dashing from one tent to the other.



Lance and Graham Cork celebrated their birthdays on May 13th and it has become a tradition with them that they take it in turns to supply a birthday cake. This year it was Graham's turn and a cake and candles were produced but unfortunately due to the wind the candles wouldn't stay lit so they had to pretend.



Sunday and the sun shone once more, the winds had died down and it was a glorious day. Jack and Janet had told us about Waddesdon Manor, a National Trust property owned at one time by the Rothschild's. It was a 'must visit' they said. So we did, they were right, if you never visit a National Trust property again you should visit this one. The wealth displayed here is beyond belief and the gardens spectacular. I could go on to tell you all about it but I won't, if you anywhere near this fabulous house visit it and see for yourself.

We returned to the site in time to prepare for the BBQ. Sheila had bought salad, bread rolls, dressings etc for everyone's use but most people sat outside their own vans to cook and eat and so did not realise this had been provided. However lots of us set out table together in the centre of the field and all that was missing were the silver candelabras or it could have been mistaken for Buck House garden party. Joe tried to supply the music but it couldn't be heard very well so he gave up. We held the draw and lots of very nice prizes were donated. Steve is especially grateful for winning two little keys fob LED torches. We then announced the Bonus Ball number and the winners were Joe Beech and yours truly which put another smile on Steve's face. It was then time to say goodnight. We had decided on a farewell coffee set for 10 am Monday but lots of people were going to be setting off early so we thanked Sheila for organizing another successful rally and those who had attended. This proved to be a good idea as Monday morning it decided to rain and the coffee morning was cancelled.

We had four new couples on this rally and I trust they all enjoyed themselves and will return to see us again. If you did enjoy it, tell other Autocruise owners about us, if you didn't, don't say anything at all.

It was lovely to see Vera and Bill Blundell at this rally and we would like to wish Vera the very best of luck with the new treatment she is receiving and although she says she still feels the same, many of us thought she was looking much better. So keep up the fight Vera, we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Now just one last word,

COME BACK PETER ALL IS FORGIVEN!!!

A handy tip on how to get home using no diesel

The Terry Birks method.

Terry & Kath Birks had a problem with their van and unfortunately had to call out a recovery vehicle to get them home to Wallasey.

I am happy to report that they did indeed get home safely and at no cost for diesel!





FREEBIES

An Irishman, an Englishman and a Scot were sitting in a bar. The view was fantastic, the beer excellent and the food exceptional.



“know” said the Scotsman, “I still prefer the pubs back home. Why, in Glasgow there’s a little bar called McTavish’s. Now the landlord there goes out of his way for the locals so much that when you buy four drinks, he will buy the fifth for you.”

“Well,” said the Englishman, “at my local, the Red Lion, the barman there will buy you your next drink after you buy the first two.”

“Ahhh, that’s nothing,” said the Irishman. “Back home in Dublin there’s Ryan’s Bar . Now the moment you set foot in the place they’ll buy you a drink, then another, all the drinks you like. Then when you’ve had enough drinks they’ll take you upstairs and see that you get laid. All on the house!”



The Englishman and the Scotsman immediately pour scorn on the Irishman’s claims. He, though, swears that every word is true.

off the mark by Mark Parisi
www.offthemark.com



“Well,” said the Englishman
“did this actually happen to you?”

“Not me myself, personally, no,” said the
Irishman, “but it did happen to me sister.”

ACTUAL NEWSPAPER HEADLINES

- March Planned For Next August*
- War Dims Hope for Peace*
- Cold Wave Linked To Temperatures*
- Lawyers Give Poor Free Legal Advice*
- Queen Mary Having Bottom Scraped*

*Patient at Death's Door - Doctors Pull Him Through
Lingerie Shipment Hijacked - Thief Gives Police the Slip
Juvenile Court to try Shooting Defendant
If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last a While
Nappy Market Bottoms Out
Prostitutes Appeal to Pope*

Tea Bread

This tea bread was supplied for the Faith Supper at Dunham by Pam Wilson and a number of people asked for the recipe so here it is.

1lb raisins
½lb currants
¾ pint of hot tea
1 medium egg
1lb Self raising flour
1lb dark brown sugar.

Mix fruit and sugar in bowl pour over hot tea, leave overnight. Beat egg well, stir into mixture, add sieved flour and stir well. Makes two 2lb loaves. Grease tins well do not use greaseproof paper. Bake at Gas No.3, Electric 160°C, 325°F for 1¼ hours. Test with warm skewer.

Cakes are better for storing for 7 days before eating.



**There is a dangerous virus being passed electronically,
orally and by hand.**

This virus is called Worm-Overload-Recreational-Killer otherwise known as (WORK). If you receive WORK from any of your colleagues, your boss or anyone else via any means DO NOT TOUCH IT. This virus will wipe out your private life completely.

If you should come into contact with WORK put your jacket on and take 2 good friends to the nearest pub. Purchase the antidote known as Work-Isolator-Neutralizer-Extractor (WINE).

The quickest acting WINE type is called Swift-Hitting-Infiltrator-Remover-All-Zones (SHIRAZ) but this is only available for those who can afford it. The next best equivalent is Cheapest-Available-System-Killer (CASK). Take the antidote repeatedly until WORK has been completely eliminated from your system.

Forward this warning to 5 friends. If you do not have 5 friends, you have already been

infected and WORK is controlling your life. This virus is DEADLY (Destroys-Every-Available-Decent-Living-Young-at-heart).

Update 25-06-05:

After extensive testing it has been concluded that Best-Equivalent-Extractor-Remedy (BEER) may be substituted for WINE but may require a more generous application.

Rude and Politically Incorrect Jokes Supplied by Lance Junior



A soldier was having a psychiatric test prior to discharge. The psychiatrist asked, "Tell me, Private, what would happen if I cut off one of your ears?"

"It would be hard to hear," replied the soldier.

"Good," said the psychiatrist. "What would happen if I cut off your other ear?"

"I wouldn't be able to see."

"That's interesting, why do you say that?"

"Because my cap would fall over my eyes."

Charlie was a very sprightly 80-year-old. He thought he'd give the ladies at the Old Folks Home a bit of excitement and ran across the lawn naked. As he passed a couple of elderly spinsters, one said to the other, "My goodness, Annie, what was that that just passed?"

"I don't know what it was," said her companion, "but it certainly needed ironing."



Roxy, a large German Shepherd, was sitting up in the seat of the cinema, wagging his tail, growling at the villain and barking excitedly at the hero's escapades.

The man in the seat behind was intrigued. "Excuse me," he said tapping Roxy's owner on the shoulder. "That dog is extraordinary. I've never seen anything like it."

"He surprised me too," said the owner. "He hated the book."

Pete had an embarrassing twitch in his eye. He had tried everything to get rid of it. At last he found a Chinese doctor who told him that a regular dose of aspirin would fix his problem.

When he returned Dr Woo asked him how he was progressing.

"No good," said Peter. "Every time I go into the chemist and ask for a packet of aspirin, they give me these!", and he threw down fifty packets of condoms.





“Doctor, doctor, I need some pills. I’ve become a kleptomaniac”
“Try these, said the doctor, “and if they don’t work, get me a C.D. player.”

“Doctor, doctor every time I sit down I see visions of Mickey Mouse and Pluto. And when I stand up I see Donald Duck.”
“How long have you been having these Disney spells?”



THE BACON TREE

Two Mexicans are stuck in the desert, wandering aimlessly and close to death. They are close to just lying down and waiting for the inevitable, when all of a sudden...

"Hey Pepe, do you smell what I smell. Ees bacon, I is sure of eet".

"Si, Luis, eet smells like bacon to meee".

So, with renewed strength, they struggle off up the next sand dune, and there, in the distance, is a tree, just loaded with bacon.

There's raw bacon, dripping with moisture, there's fried bacon, back bacon, double smoked bacon...every imaginable kind of cured pig meat you can imagine!!

"Pepe, Pepe, we ees saved. Eees a bacon tree".

"Luis, are sure ees not a meerage? We ees in the desert, don'forget".

"Pepe, when deed you ever hear of a meerage that smeell of bacon...ees no meerage, ees a bacon tree".

And with that...Luis races towards the tree. He gets to within 5 metres, Pepe following closely behind, when all of a sudden, a machine gun opens up, and Luis is cut down in his tracks. It is clear he is mortally wounded but, true friend that he is, he manages to warn Pepe with his dying breath.

"Pepe...go back man, you was right, ees not a bacon tree"

"Luis, Luis mi amigo...what ees eet?"

"Pepe...ees not a bacon tree....."

Ees.....

Ees.....

Ees.....

Ees, a Ham Bush"



Whilst doing a bit of DIY, Colin, Monsieur Le President fell off his ladder at his home in Castelsagrat in France. I am very sorry to say that unfortunately he has broken his pelvis and is in hospital in Agen and is in traction and is likely to be there for a month.

Sue tells me that he will probably be unable to walk for about six months.

Our best wishes go to him for a very speedy recovery.



For Sale

Unfortunately due to Peter's major surgery, Peter & Margaret Baynes have sold their Starburst and for the foreseeable future will not be rallying. Margaret writes 'But, maybe next year, when Peter is back to full strength, we can consider the purchase of another Autocruise.'

Because of this they have some articles for sale. Anyone wishing to purchase any of the items listed below please contact Margaret on 01296 630987.

Fiamma Top Box Size 2 H42cm x D91cm x W120cm	£100
Taylor-made Internal Silver Screens for Peugeot Boxer (as new)	£25
Power Ace (rarely used)	£25
Airblock Alarm System (unused) New price £230	£150
Harrison Hightop Deluxe stand alone motor annexe (used four times) together with Harrison optional stand alone side annexe with inner tent (unused) Colour Kingfisher/Grey	£300

We wish Peter well and a speedy recovery and thank them for their best wishes to the club for many more successful rallies for many more years. They say they shall miss their 'itinerant' days.