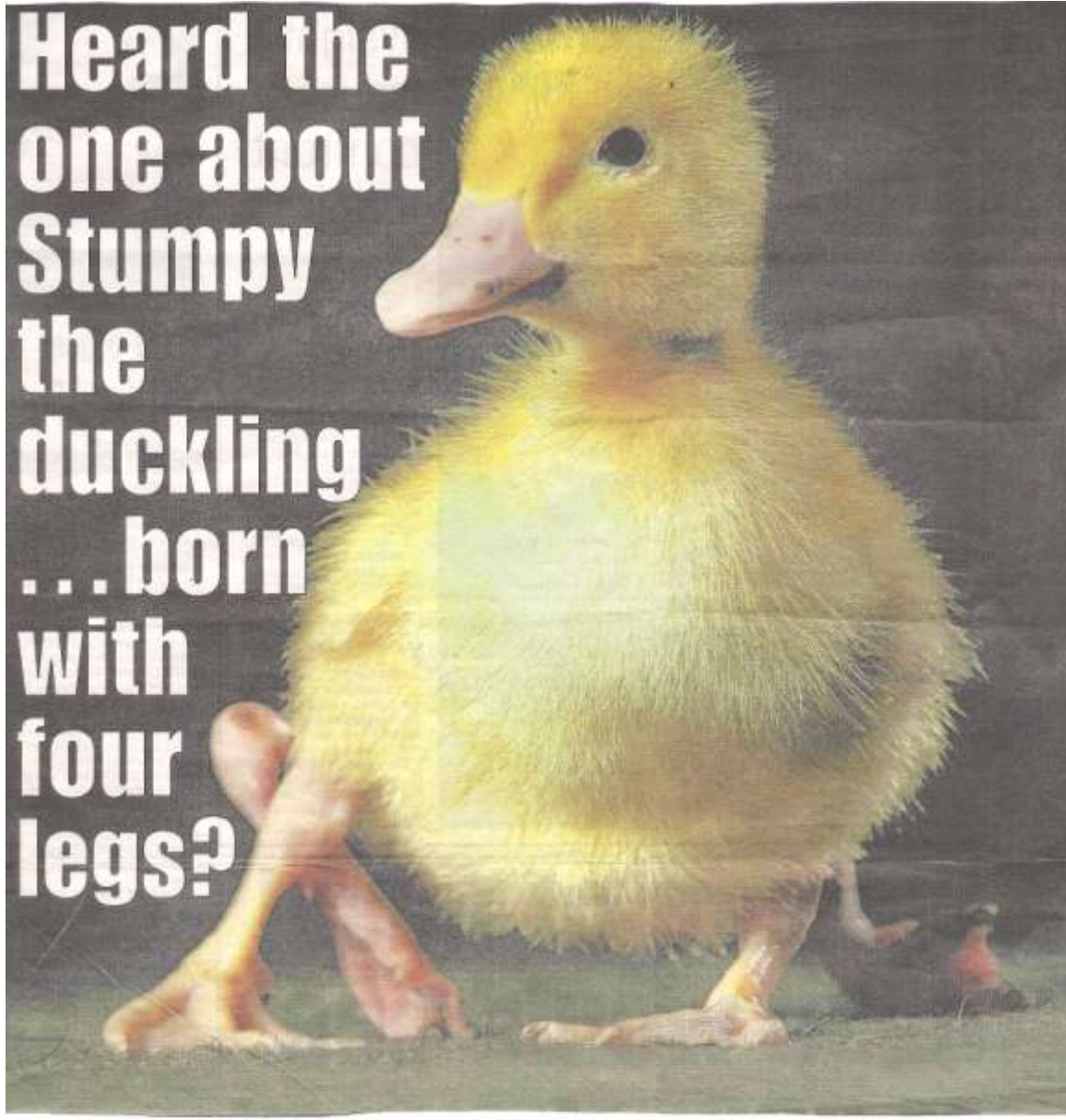


The Autocruisers

Newsletter No.40
July 2007



Hello Stumpy

Stumpy The Four Legged Duck

(Fact not fiction)

First some background information as to where it all began.

Nicky Janaway, our daughter-in-law, owns and manages a duck farm called Warrawee Duck Farm on the edge of the New Forest in Hampshire. At any one time there are 2,500 ducks producing 900 to 10,000 eggs per day. Both eggs and ducks are sold to various outlets in the surrounding area. However, fertile eggs are kept to be hatched in one of several incubators which can produce 700 ducklings over a 28 day cycle. These ducklings have to be sexed. This is where Stumpy's story begins.



On February 9th, Nicky was busy sexing another batch of ducklings when to her surprise and disbelief she noticed one little male duckling had four legs. Not two but four! A phone call to the vet who examined the duckling confirmed four legs, and he was well and full of spirit. A second phone call to the local Echo where this little duckling made headline news on the front page with photos. Well the next day the phone did not stop ringing. Radio interviews, television appearances, more photo shoots, it was

endless. E-mails were now coming in from all over the world wanting to know more about this little duckling. He needed a name so Stumpy became a star in his own rights. He even appeared on the Richard & Judy television show. Slowly the publicity grew less and less but Stumpy was growing fast. He now had his own pen and a girlfriend duck called Alice. All was peaceful. On April 9th, calamity, Stumpy has lost a foot from one of his extra legs but he took it all in his stride. It didn't affect him at all. But the local media got hold of the story and the publicity started again, more photo shoots, more radio interviews, more television appearances, more e-mails even from two schoolchildren in Australia wanting to know if he was okay.

But the best yet to come! Stumpy was asked to open a new pet superstore at Eastleigh in Hampshire. On April 21st he duly did his best and marched proudly into the store in front of a host of press photographers and the store as officially opened.

That is the story so far, what next? Well that depends on the relationship between Stumpy and



his beloved Alice. Watch this space or the national press.
Barry & Rita Janaway

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CHAIRMANS RANTINGS

I wasn't able to do a rantings for the last newsletter as Janet and I were coffin dodging in Portugal and Spain and thoroughly enjoyed it. I'm writing this as the rain is beating down on the roof of our study, onto an all ready saturated ground and trying to remember the good weather we had on the earlier rallies in the year. We missed the Bakewell Rally but understand those who went enjoyed it.

Stourport rally turned out to be a little different as there was a river boat cruise to the 'local pub' where we had a an excellent meal. The weekend weather was great and everyone could get out and about visiting the local attractions in the town.

Stratford-on-Avon was a rally to remember as it was our hundredth rally and a lot of organisation went into it. The live music went down extremely well. The singer, Phil, unfortunately fell over outside the marquee, during the second interval (alcohol had not passed his lips all day as he was driving back to Colchester after the gig), but continued doing his stuff, even when a pair of knickers were thrown at him, during the last session. He drove back in the evening and on Monday visited the hospital, as his ankle was giving him problems. They diagnosed a broken ankle and put it in plaster. To-date he is still hobbling around. It was really wonderful to see you all enjoying yourselves over the weekend and made all the work by your committee worthwhile. On behalf of you all I wish to thank your committee for all the hard work they put in to make it such a success.

Then there was Emberton, which was a nice quite, restful friendly rally. It was a bit damp and on the Sunday, the rally field became a lake and I thought that there would be problems getting off, but out off the 15 motorhomes that came, only three need assistance to get of.

Our motorhome went in for an MOT and amongst the minor things that needed attention was a rear wheel bearing, which the garage said 'needed adjustment', so they adjusted it. Our motorhome has just enjoyed a holiday in France all on its own since 13th June until its return on the 26th June due to wheel bearing failure. I will tell you a shortened version of what happened.

We departed for France on the in the early hours of the 8th June, from Dover to Calais and stayed at a France passion site over night. *(He forgot to mention that we missed the ferry! We arrived fifteen minutes too late to board and had to wait for the next ferry but he is right that it was in the early hours of the morning. Ed)*

The next day we were up bright and early and set off for St Cere when only a couple of miles down the road the bearing failed. At this stage I should explain that for the first time ever we took out Euro Assistance insurance via the Camping and Caravanning club and we have nothing but praise for them as they arranged everything, form getting us to a garage, on the back of a breakdown lorry, to hiring cars and paying ferry expenses to get us home. Why was the motorhome in France such a long time, I hear you ask?

Well just before we went we had the motorhome MOT'd and the garage said that there was play in a rear wheel bearing, so they adjusted it. Unfortunately it was tightened too much and caused the bearing to overheat, melt all the bearing grease and then weld itself onto the stub axle!! Trying to locate a Peugeot stub axle is like looking for hen's teeth! Enquires were made all over France and the UK and none could be found, and Peugeot would not be making any until 20th June and then time is required to get them distributed. The motorhome is 'resting' at the garage who made the wheel bearing adjustment awaiting the part (they have admitted liability and repairs, as one would expect, will be done free of charge).

Topical story:-

The small community had been warned for days that the river was swollen and could break its banks at anytime. It happened on a Sunday afternoon and within hours the area was under 6 feet of water.

Doris and Ida were sitting on the roof of Ida's bungalow waiting for the waters to recede when suddenly Doris spotted a hat on top of the water. As she watched, the hat would move slowly one way and then come back the other way, over and over again.

"Well, that's odd," she said, pointing the hat out to her friend. "It seems to be moving up and down."

"Oh that's just my Jack," replied Ida, dismissively "I told him he had to get that lawn mowed today come hell or high water!"

Well that's the lot for now, hope to see some of you at a forthcoming rally.
Keep on rallying,

Peter



Roll of Honour

25 Rallies
Terry & Kath Birks



RALLY DATES FOR 2007



11th – 14th January	Blackmore Caravan & Camping Club Site Worcestershire	£27 Thursday arrival £18 Friday arrival
8th – 11th February	Hollyfast Caravan Park Wall Hill Road, Allesley Coventry	£39 Thursday arrival £26 Friday arrival
1st – 4th March	Greenhills Holiday Park Bakewell	£27 Thursday arrival £18 Friday arrival
12th – 16th April	Lickhill Manor Caravan Park Stourport on Severn	£28 Thursday arrival £21 Friday arrival
3rd – 7th May Bank Holiday W/e	Riverside Caravan Park Stratford	Thursday arrival £28 Friday arrival £21 NO HOOK UP
24th – 28th May	Emberton Country Park Buckinghamshire	Thursday arrival £32 Friday arrival £24
21st – 24 June	Lucksall C & C Park Hereford	Thursday £25.50 No hook up £19.50 Friday £17 No hook up £13
26th – 29th July	Bourton Rovers Football Club Bourton on the Water	Thursday arrival £32 Friday arrival £24 NO HOOK UP
23rd – 27th August	Arthur Mellows Village College Glinton, Peterborough	£40 per van NO HOOK UP
6th - 9th September	National Coal Mining Museum Wakefield	Thursday £24 Friday £16 NO HOOK UP
4th – 7th October AGM RALLY	Lakeside Caravan Park North Somercotes Louth	Thu £21 Fri £14 Sat. Carvery 2 course £8.75 per person 3 course £10.75 per person
8th – 11th November	Sherwood Forest Caravan Park Gorsethorpe nr Edwinstowe	Thursday arrival £36 Friday arrival £24
6th – 9th December	Bainland Country Park Woodhall Spa	Thursday arrival £50 Friday arrival £35

**All rallies will carry a £1 per person levy
Peterborough & York shows will have club pitches booked**

An airline's passenger cabin was being served by an obviously gay flight attendant, who seemed to put everyone into a good mood as he served them food and drinks.

As the plane prepared to descend, he came swishing down the aisle and announced to the passengers,

"Captain Marvin has asked me to announce that he'll be landing the big scary plane shortly, lovely people, so if you could just put up your trays that would be super."

On his trip back up the aisle, he noticed that a well-dressed rather exotic looking woman hadn't moved a muscle. "Perhaps you didn't hear me over those big brute engines. I asked you to raise your trazy-poo so the main man canpitty-pat us on the ground."

She calmly turned her head and said, "In my country, I am called a Princess. I take orders from no one."

To which the flight attendant replied, without missing a beat, "Well, sweet-cheeks, in my country, I'm called a Queen, so I outrank you. "Tray-up bitch."



GONNA BE A BEAR

In this life I'm a woman. In my next life, I'd like to come back as a bear. When you're a bear, you get to hibernate. You do nothing but sleep for six months. I could deal with that.

Before you hibernate, you're supposed to eat yourself stupid. I could deal with that too.

When you're a girl bear, you birth your children (who are the size of walnuts) while you're sleeping and wake to partially grown, cute, cuddly cubs. I could definitely deal with that.

If you're mama bear, everyone knows you mean business. You swat anyone who bothers your cubs. If your cubs get out of line, you swat them too. I could deal with that.

If you're a bear, your mate EXPECTS you to wake up growling. He EXPECTS that you will have hairy legs and excess body fat.

Yup, gonna be a bear!

23rd – 27th August
Arthur Mellows Village College
Helpston Road
Glington
Peterborough
PE6 7JX
NO HOOK UP

£10 per van + £1 per person rally levy

6th – 9th September
National Coal Mining Museum
Caphouse Colliery
New Road
Wakefield
WF4 4RH
NO HOOK UP

Thursday arrival £26

Friday arrival £18

A room is booked for all nights to keep us out of
the cold!

Saturday evening meal arranged

A43 - A16 - A15

*From A15 take B1443 (signposted
Glington) Continue forward onto
Lincoln Road (B1443) entering
Glington.*

Turn left into Helpston Road

From the North

*Leave the M1 at junction 40 (A638)
towards Wakefield, take the first right
after the traffic lights (Broadway).*

*The Malt Shovel pub will be on your
right. At the end of Broadway turn
right onto the A642 to Horbury and
Huddersfield. Stay on this road for
approx 5 miles through Horbury Bridge
and Middlestown. The museum is on
the right.*

From the South

*Leave the M1 at junction 38 (A637) and stay on this road through West Bretton and Flockton.
At the roundabout at the Blacksmith's Arms, take the third exit towards Horbury (A642).*

The Museum is about 2 miles from here on the left.

4th – 7th October
Lakeside Park
North Somercotes
Near Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 7RB

Thursday arrival £21 + £1 per person levy

Friday arrival £14 + £1 per person levy

Friday night buffet supplied from club funds

Saturday night, Cabaret & Carvery

2 course £8.75 per person

3 course £10.75 per person

Please pay for meals with booking form

Booking forms must be received by 31st August



On the A1031

Rally News

8th – 11th November
Sherwood Forest Holiday Park
Goresthorne
Nr Edwinstowe
NG21 9HW

Thursday arrival £36 + £1 per person levy
Friday arrival £25 + £1 per person levy

Friday punch bowl & soup kitchen

Sherwood Forest Caravan Park is situated in an ideal location, within easy access of the A1, between the A60 and the A614.

6th – 8th December
Bainland Country Park
Woodhall Spa
Lincolnshire

Thursday arrival £50 + £1 per person levy
Friday arrival £35 + £1 per person levy

Friday night buffet supplied from club funds

Saturday night Christmas Dinner
Followed by
Live entertainment

Situated on the B1195 miles 1.5 from the centre of Woodhall Spa, towards Horncastle and just before the WCF petrol station

BOOKING FORMS FOR THIS RALLY WILL BE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER. DO NOT BOOK WITHOUT OFFICIAL BOOKING FORM.

Please ensure that you bring your chequebook to a rally. We will not accept any cash for payments for meals, site fees owing etc.

ALL CHEQUES MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO - THE AUTOCRUISERS

The Rally Officer has received cheques with booking forms made payable to Lance Lennie. We have been unable to accept these and have had to return them

for correction. This adds to our postage costs, which account for a large amount of money each year.

DON' T FORGET , PAY BY CHEQUE

Stourport Rally

Arriving at Lucksall Caravan Park at Stourport we were greeted with the best rally field we have every seen in our ten year history! It was completely flat and every pitch was marked out. We had worried whether or not we would have enough electrics for everyone but as another rally booked hadn't the decency to confirm before arrival how many hook up they wanted we were awarded all of them so everyone was satisfied.

Stourport was just a short walk along the water's edge through a wonderfully kept park. The amazing thing about the park was that it was full of families enjoying themselves. It quite took me back to my youth. Well not exactly, as I can't remember that far back!



The weather was extremely kind to us and we had a wonderful weekend and even managed to do some sunbathing.

We pitched our club tents and a wonderful faith supper appeared on Friday night with everyone being very generous with their offerings. Most of us sat outside because it was such a nice night. We also had music supplied by Shon & Yvonne Gosling and one

of their fairground organs.

Dennis Robson sold raffle tickets for a very large hippopotamus that was being raffled for The British Lung Foundation. Glen Sykes was running the London Marathon and asked for sponsorship from the club. The club sent him a cheque for £100.

Dennis & Cath Robson were presented with a cake and some flowers for their wedding anniversary.

On Saturday most people went into Stourport and a lot of them visited a little café on the high street. I know 'cos we kept meeting them there! Alec & Sylvia Blackburn will find out of the way places next rally!

In the evening it was time to dress up as we had arranged to go on a cruise and visit a pub about an hour and a half away for a meal. As so many of us wanted to go we had to do this in two journeys. I can tell you by the time the second sitting came round we were all very hungry and thoroughly enjoyed our meal. We were

slightly concerned that it would be cold on the way back but we needn't have worried because it was very mild.

As this was a Bank Holiday rally we stayed over on Sunday and we had a boules competition Ladies v Men. Margaret & Brian Bennett were very good at keeping us right and making sure that no one cheated. It was quite a riotous event with the men finally winning the competition. At this point may I ask 'DOES ANYONE HAVE THE BOULES TROPHY?' If so, please let a member of the committee know who you are.



Jim said 6" to the left!



Did he say 8" to the left or 12" to the right?



Oh Bum! I think we need help

This was then followed by the result of the Treasure Hunt. Jim Keen had organised this and it consisted of a large square of grass where the treasure was buried. Lollipop sticks were purchased, names written on and then pushed into the ground. Now Jim had the exact measurement of where the treasure was buried. The measuring took four men and caused a great deal of laughter.

We also spent an hour or so with Jim's Horse Racing. All the money raised was added to the amount collected at the raffle for the British Lung Foundation.

We were all so impressed with the site that it has been booked for July 2009 when we will spend 10 days there.

All too soon it was time for our goodbyes. Another great rally!

According to a news report, a certain private school in Markham, Ohio was recently faced with a unique problem. A number of 12-year-old girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the toilets.



That was fine, but after they put on their lipstick, they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints.

Every night the maintenance man would remove them and the next day the girls would put them back. Several

memos were posted about this without effect. Finally the principal decided that something had to be done.

She called all the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the school caretaker. She explained that all these lip prints were causing a problem for the caretaker who had to clean the mirrors every night. To demonstrate how difficult it was to clean the mirrors, she asked the caretaker to show the girls just how hard it was.



Following the instructions, the man took out a long-handled squeegee, solemnly dipped it in the nearest toilet bowl, and scrubbed at the mirror.

There was complete silence in the room. Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror.

There are Teachers ... and then there are Educators!

HANDY TIPS

The mirror in the vans washroom will always mist up just as you are about to start shaving because of the hot water in the basin. The tip is to periodically wipe the mirror with washing up liquid and this will stop the droplets of moisture forming on the mirror.

Brian Green

Another way is to spray the mirror with shaving foam and then wipe off. This will also stop moisture forming.

John & Carol Jenkinson would like to thank everyone for their telephone calls, cards and kind thoughts during John's illness. He is in good spirits and his treatment is going well and they both hope to be with us again soon on a rally field, treatment permitting. We all wish John a very speedy recovery.

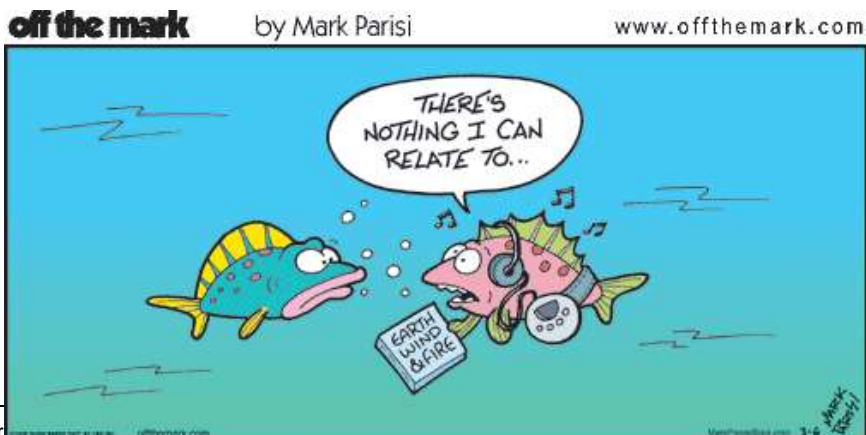
Our 100th rally

As this was such a special occasion and we are celebrating our 10th year I shall be producing a special newsletter after the AGM with reports from both of those rallies. It was a fantastic rally and we were pleased to see our 'Inaugural Members' attending.



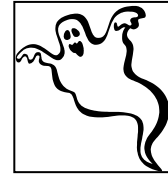
Graham & Sylvia Cork, Sue & Colin Granville, Lance Lennie, Ken Stokes, Sheila Lennie, Tom & Margaret Smallwood

Peter & Vesta Darnell are not in the photograph, as they had to leave early in the morning. The remaining inaugural members are Mike & Chris Bedwell, Jack & Jay Parker and George & Jean Watson who were unable to attend.





*Strange but True
Articles supplied by
Peter Lockwood*



DID JOAN BURN?



That is the intriguing question posed in a re-examination of the story of one of the world's most romantic heroines. The trouble with searching out the truth of what really happened in some of the world's great mysteries is that we often have to deal with someone whose position in the world's story has been deliberately altered to suit later generations.

For instance, Joan of Arc. It would, indeed, have been hard enough for us to get at the truth of Joan's story if we had lived in her own time - so carefully, it seems, was, the truth veiled even then. But in the five hundred years since her time it is doubtful whether any single story in the whole of history has been more twisted, stretched, pummelled, distorted, taken apart and rebuilt than Joan's.

Who was Joan? Somewhere you have probably read that she was a shepherd girl from Lorraine in France devout but illiterate. Well, two highly skilled researchers and writers (of whom more in a moment) have recently made out an excellent case for her being the daughter of the Duke of Orleans (and therefore the aunt of King Henry VI of England) and the tool of the scheming, divided noble houses of the French states that existed in her lifetime.

You have probably learned somewhere that the English burned Joan of Arc at the stake. The same writers have re-examined the strong body of opinion that believes that Joan was never burned at stake at all - that someone else was burned in her place at the last moment, and that she was set free, married, reappeared in French society and lived happily ever after. Indeed, seeking the whole truth about Joan of Arc is rather like admiring your reflection in a brick wall. It can't be done!

Let us remind ourselves briefly of the 'official' story of Joan. Reference books say she was born in Domrémy, France, in 1412, but even that is suspect. A close study of documents about her life makes it clear that she must have been born earlier in the fifteenth century. In Domrémy, says the traditional story, heavenly voices heard by Joan, an illiterate shepherd girl, convinced her to seek the presence of the Dauphin Charles at Chinon, and inform him of her divinely-



inspired mission to drive out the English and their French allies and lead him to Rheims Cathedral, where he would be crowned King Charles VII of France.



Strange but True
Articles supplied by
Peter Lockwood



This Charles was an ugly, apathetic fellow when he met Joan, convinced that he had no right to wear a crown. His country was writhing in the terrors of war, invaded by England, divided against itself and bankrupt into the bargain. Charles, surveying the mess, could be forgiven for believing that the task was hopeless.



Nevertheless Jeanette, to give her French name, convinced him that a greater power had sent her to help. It is certainly true that she took a prominent part in raising the siege of Orleans and defeating the English, she led the Dauphine, who was slowly becoming a changed man, to his coronation at Rheims. She was also certainly captured by a rival French party and handed over to the English, who put her on trial and sentenced her to death. These are known and accepted facts. Yet even a second glance at them shows that to be so amazing as to demand further investigation.

Heroine or heretic? Saint or sinner? Those are questions that have bothered people for five centuries. Scores of books have been written about them, and according to the mood of the times, Joan has sometimes been in favour and sometimes out of favour. The fact that today she is considered a saint and a heroine must not prevent us from considering any fresh ideas offered about her. 'The queerest fish among the eccentric worthies of the Middle Ages.'

That was the verdict of the famous writer George Bernard Shaw, who wrote a play called *Saint Joan* about the maid of Orleans. And then again: 'In the official thesis on Joan of Arc, nothing is credible. Nothing.' That was the verdict of two writers - a Frenchman, André Guérin and an American, Jack Palmer White, who wrote a book called *Operation Shepherdess* about her. Guérin and White leave no question in anyone's mind that the Joan of Arc story needs official reappraisal. But the most extraordinary doubt they throw upon this extraordinary girl is that she was ever burned at the stake - despite what our history books tell us.

Sample evidence follows from a manuscript of 1439 (eight years after the 'execution'), now in the British Museum: '...finally they burned her, or another woman like her. About this many persons were, and still are, of diverse opinions.'



Another sample from ancient French 'writer: Many persons... believed firmly... that she escaped the fire, and that another was burned to make believe it was she.' According to Guérin and Palmer, heretics about to be executed were always permitted certain Catholic rites. But the same rites were never permitted to relapsed heretics (that is, heretics cast off by the church). Joan was a relapsed heretic. Yet she was permitted the rites.

'We are lost! We have burned a saint!' an English soldier is said to have cried out when the flames licked around Joan. Onlookers claim that a dove flew from her mouth and ascended towards heaven. In the fifteenth century a public burning really was a public burning. Everybody went along to have a look. At Joan's supposed burning at Rouen 160 soldiers were posted all round the perimeter of the square. The object: to keep away sightseers! Again, invariably at a burning the stake was built close to the ground. At Joan's supposed burning the stake was built so high that the executioner found it difficult to make a proper pile of faggots to reach the unfortunate victim. Perhaps it was deliberately built high so that she could not be recognised. But surely some of the soldiers would have recognised her? None did, because the victim was veiled.



The exact place of the pillory in Rouen

Guerin and Palmer point to the detailed records of witches burnt at the stake during the year 1431, when Joan was supposed to have been burnt. They point, too, to the records for the year before, 1430, and the year after, 1432. There is no mention of a Joan of Arc having been burnt in any of those three years. If Joan was freed at the last moment, and a substitute put in, then why?

The answer, it is claimed, is that Joan was really a royal princess, much too important a person to burn, who had been used with great success by the French to rally and followers in their after the burning, a Arc turned up again at say that the woman was was made most Orleans, whose people had given them during presumably, would have well to have recognised Joan or impostor - married a French gentleman and little more was heard of her. It is true that after the burning a dozen 'Joan of Arcs' turned up in France. But that, of course, could have been a deliberate official attempt to add to the confusion.



inspire their fainthearted desperate cause. Five years woman calling herself Joan of Metz in France. Some people an impostor. At any rate, she welcome by the city of remembered the help Joan their siege, and who, got to know her sufficiently her again. Later, the woman -

Irish Vasectomy

After having their 11th child, an Irish couple decided that that was enough, as they couldn't afford a larger bed. So the husband went to his doctor and told him that he and his wife didn't want to have any more children.

The doctor told him there was a procedure called a vasectomy that would fix the problem but it was expensive. A less costly alternative was to go home, get a large firecracker, light it, put it in a beer can, then hold the can up to his ear and count to ten.

The husband said to the doctor, 'B'Jayzus, I many not be smartest guy in the world, but I don't see how putting a firework in a beer can next to my ear is going to help me with my problem.'

'Trust me, it will do the job,' said the doctor. So the man went home, lit a cracker and put it in a beer can. He held the can up to his ear and began to count: '1, 2, 3, 4, 5,' at which point he paused, placed the beer can between his legs so he could continue counting on his other hand.

Ron & Joyce Bull

Many of you will have heard that Ron & Joyce were getting married and sent them congratulatory cards and flowers. I am sorry to inform you that Ron was taken ill before the big day and has been in hospital ever since but is making progress. I received this letter from Joyce asking me to insert it in the newsletter.

I would like to thank you all for the cards, flowers and best wishes Ron and I received for our 'wedding' I was completely overwhelmed by your kindness and thoughtfulness and I express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. As you probably know by now, Ron suffered a stroke on

the morning of the wedding and our plans had to be postponed. However, we are making arrangements to proceed with the ceremony even if it has to be held in hospital. (He's not going to get out it despite his best efforts!)

He is making steady progress but the road to recovery will be slow and we anticipate him being in h hospital for quite some time.

I would also like to thank everyone for their care and concern shown during Ron's illness, knowing you are thinking about us has been a great comfort at a very difficult time.

My very best wishes to you all
Joyce



I feel that I have to inform you at this point of a purchase that Joyce made for her wedding day. She was told that she should buy a 'decent' bra for the big day. 'Right' said Joyce, 'will we go to Marks & Spencer?' 'No' was the reply we will go to a proper lingerie shop and you can get a really good one.' So off they went.

On entering the shop the sales assistant asked her what size she bought. The assistant then measured Joyce and well you all know Joyce and she had been wearing the wrong size for years! No I am not going to tell you what the sizes were, if you want to know, ask Joyce!

Anyway, after a short wait in the cubicle the sales assistant returns with a number of the correct sized bras. Joyce dutifully tries them on and decides that she liked the first one she tried on the best and tells the assistant that she will take that one.

The assistant goes to wrap it up whilst Joyce puts herself right for the world. Leaving the cubicle she approaches the till and the bra is ready for her in a pretty bag. 'How much do I owe you?' she asks.

'£60' was the reply. At this point Joyce tells me that her knees were knocking, her legs were trembling and she really needed to sit down. Struggling with her purse she passes across the requested £60 and was then taken home to get over the shock.

Ron asked her a couple of days later if she was wearing her new bra. 'Not bloody likely' was the reply, 'at that price, I'm keeping it for my wedding day.'

Well Joyce, here's to you and your bra and we all hope that you are wearing it very soon. Our best wishes go to both you and Ron and his speedy recovery.

After the wedding why not be a 'Wonder Woman' and do a 'Superman' and wear it outside your clothes!



Emberton Rally

24th to 28th May 2007.

We set out on a lovely sunny Thursday morning and had a good journey to Emberton Country Park. Margaret and Brian Bennett were already there, so, after an enthusiastic welcome from Jasper, we got our chairs out and joined them for morning coffee. Brian and Peter then set out the pitch markers. This was to be a small rally compared to lately, less than 20 vans. Peter and Brian decided where to line our vans up and we settled in putting out awnings etc. It was then about lunchtime so set our tables outside and ate together in the beautiful sunshine. After all was cleared away we had time to relax in the sun before 2 o'clock when the rally began. 12 members arrived over the afternoon. A few gathered outside ours for a drink and a chat until tea time. Then in the evening we gathered outside Jack and Janet's after their famous slow gin was promised. A very convivial evening was enjoyed by all.

Margaret and Brian know Emberton Park very well, after many years of running Scout camps there, so they were a mine of information about anything anyone wanted to know. The park is lovely with a large fishing lake in the middle and a river to one side, lots of lovely trees and lawns. There are several rally fields of different sizes, ours was tucked away to the side so would be quiet if the park was busy over the bank holiday.



On Friday morning, after directions from Brian, we waked the ½ mile or so into Olney, a really lovely little market town. We found a factory shoe outlet, and guess what, it was Peter, not me that bought new shoes. After a happy hour or so mooching round, we found a little teashop called the Teapot for coffee and cake (anyone who knows us knows this is essential to our enjoyment of any town). We then walked back to the campsite, a bit of rain threatened but didn't come to much. But we sat in the van for a while and ate lunch in. Other members visited Milton Keynes and Northampton, which were quite handy, with buses available from Olney.

After lunch the men folk on site set to and put the two tents up, ready for the evening. We had wine instead of punch bowl for a change and as usual a lovely selection of delicious food for the faith supper. Peter opened the rally and welcomed the first timers. Raffle tickets etc were sold. Terry Shepherd won Sheila's safe. When all the monies were taken care of everyone tucked in to supper. It was decided to organise fish and chips for Saturday night, so Gwen Jack and myself went into Olney in Gwen's car, Gwen and I promising Jacks



Janet we'd take good care of him. Thanks to Jack being a bit cheeky, we organised fish chips and mushy peas for £2 a head. We socialised in the tents until 10 o'clock, and were able to try out the new tent lights, very successful.

Saturday morning was fine and those of us still on site gathered for 10 o'clock morning coffee. Quite a few of us then wandered into town and had another look round. We met Alec and Sylvia, and went to The Teapot for a very pleasant lunch.

We went back to the camp site but decided to walk back into town to post a letter, Then walk round the lake stopping for afternoon tea at the cafe on the far side, we met Sue and John Cook and had a nice chat. Decided we would come back Sunday lunchtime for Jacket potatoes. Little did we know!



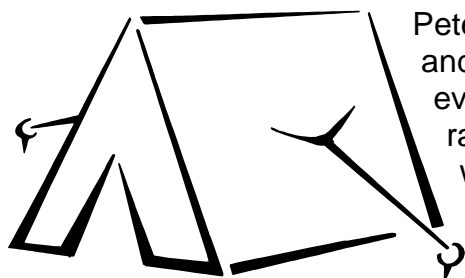
Saturday evening the clouds looked ominous. Gwen Jack and I went for the fish and chips, wonderful service they were well on with the preparation, and we returned about 6.30 with supper for all, excellent value. A pleasant evening of joke telling followed, everyone going back to their vans early, as it was cold and raining quite hard.

After raining all night it was still raining and rained. A few coffee. Otherwise I think Peter phoned to order the café was flooded.



raining on Sunday, in fact it rained and hardy souls met in a very wet tent for everyone stayed in their vans all day. numbers for jacket potatoes to be told

Peter went over to prepare the tent for raffle and quiz evening to find some fairly serious puddles; he swept them out as best he could. And put a table up for the raffle. We decided to press on with the evenings business as quick as possible and wind up the rally so everyone could get away early Monday morning.



Peter just started the raffle when there was a gust of wind and the two tents parted and flaps were flying all ways, everyone got hold of a bit of tent and held it down while the raffle and quiz were whipped through. Margaret Bennett was the lucky winner of the Body Shop gift pack carried forward from the Stratford rally. One of our first timers, Peter Durrant was kind enough to get up and thank everyone for making them so welcome on their first

rally. Everyone then set to dismantle the tents a quickly as possible, luckily we had our trailer with us so they were dumped in there where they stayed for a few days till we could dry them out.

Monday dawned it was still raining the rally field was under water but all but three vans managed to pull off O.K. We were away by 9 a m, leaving the three vans to be towed of later which the park ranger arranged. We always say every rally is different, and in spite of the wet finish we really enjoyed Emberton.

Janet Lockwood

Flashlights are tubular metal containers kept in the caravan for the purpose of storing dead batteries.

MY FORGETTER
a poem by Arthur Perkins

My forgetter's getting better
But my rememberer is broke
to you that may seem funny
but, to me, that is no joke
For when I'm "here" I'm wondering
If I really should be "there"
And, when I try to think it through,
I haven't got a prayer!
Often times I walk into a room,
Say "what am I here for?"
I wrack my brain, but all in vain
A zero, is my score.
At times I put something away

Where it is safe, but, Gee!
The person it is safest from
Is, generally, me!
When shopping I may see someone,
Say "Hi" and have a chat,
Then, when the person walks away
I ask myself, "who's that?"
Yes, my forgetter's getting better
While my rememberer is broke,
And it's driving me plumb crazy
And that isn't any joke !!
Sound like someone you know?

Basic flying rules

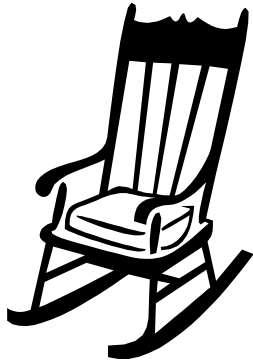
Try to stay in the middle of the air. Do not go near the edges of it. The edges can be recognised by the appearance of ground, buildings, sea, trees and interstellar space. It is much more difficult to fly there.

So if the Jacksonville Jaguars are known as the "Jags" and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers are known as the "Bucs," what does that make the Tennessee Titans?

If 4 out of 5 people SUFFER from diarrhoea, does that mean that one enjoys it?

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?

"I am" is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that "I do" is the longest sentence?



GRANDPA ON THE PORCH

A man came to visit his grandparents, and he noticed his Grandfather sitting on the porch, in the rocking chair, wearing only a shirt,

With nothing on from the waist down. "Grandpa, what are you doing?
your Willy is out in the wind for everyone to see!" he exclaimed.

The old man looked off in the distance without answering.

"Grandpa, what are you doing sitting out here with no pants on?" he asked again. The old man slowly looked at him and said,

"Well...last week I sat out here with no shirt on, and I got a Stiff neck.

"This is your grandma's idea."



Hereford Rally

Arriving at Hereford we were greeted by John & Terry who pointed us in the direction that they wanted us to park up. We were sharing the rally field with another group but they weren't getting on our site, not with our Marshals!

We had brought a tent with us but were reluctant to pitch it as the weather forecast wasn't a good one. Peter and Janet took the tents home from Emberton and they took days to dry out in between the showers. We decided to wait a while and see what happened weather wise before making a final decision.

Most people arrived on Thursday with just a few arriving on Friday and as there was a bus stop near the campsite entrance Hereford was visited by most people with some going further afield to explore the region.

The faith supper was cancelled on Friday night, as we still hadn't made a decision about the tent. We did however; go looking for The Crown Inn, which advertised on a board in the rally field that they provided free transport to the pub. Once found, and it took some finding, haggling took place and a deal was struck for them to pick us up on Saturday night, feed us and then return us all to the campsite. Having achieved this I returned to the pub nearest to the campsite to pick up the rest of the committee who had decided to stay there and have a drink whilst I roamed the countryside around Hereford looking for this pub.

Saturday morning arrived and another trip into Hereford was called for. After looking around the shops Sylvia Cork, Margaret Bennett and myself were just going back to the car park when we saw Peter and Janet looking for

a parking place. 'Come with us,' we said as we still had a valid car parking ticket. Having given them the ticket we said that we would see them later at the campsite. Not having a van, as it was on holiday all by itself in France, they had come every day in the car to join us.

The taxis arrived and we were all ferried to the pub ready for our meal. There was a bit of a mix up on the journey home and a number of us had to sit outside and wait for the taxis to arrive but it wasn't raining!

Sunday morning, we had still not made the decision about the tent, and decided that now would be too late to pitch it but we would have a coffee morning anyway. So now it was down to the trusty awnings! Everyone arrived and so did the rain!

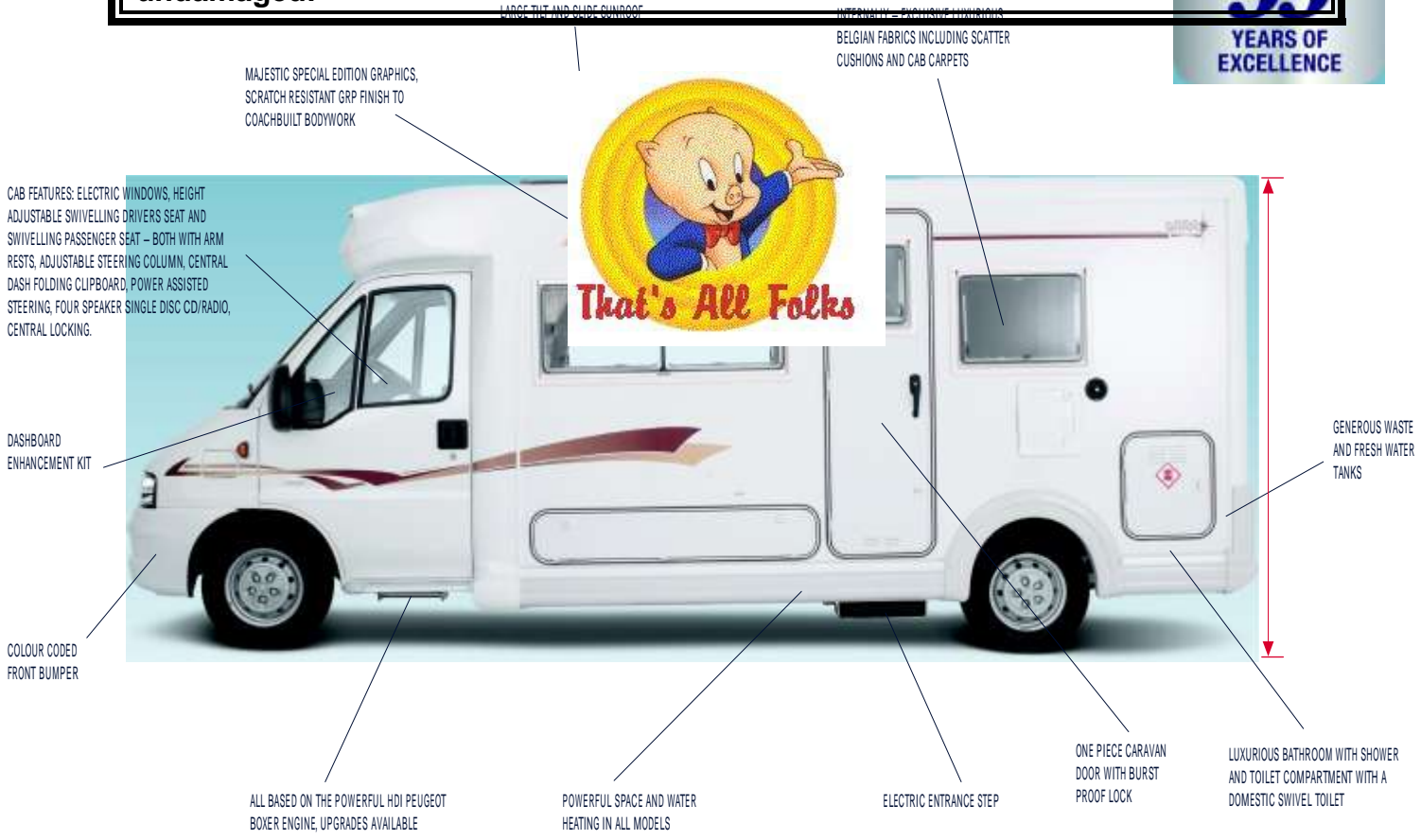


Unfortunately I have damaged my right foot and am unable to walk at the moment and I have to finish this newsletter quite abruptly.

I was doing a road test on my scooter for my Compulsory Basic Training as it only lasts 2 years and I had not passed my test during this time, and so had to take the CBT again. The young lad behind my on the road test failed to see that I had stopped at a road junction and he didn't. The bike fell over with me on top of it and it landed on my right foot. I am now off work and laid up with my foot



bandaged from toe to knee. Happy to say that I took the impact and the bike is undamaged!



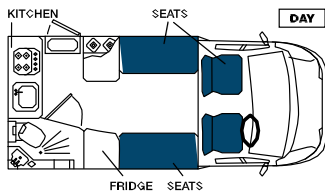
ONLY 20'3" LONG AND 7'4" WIDE (STARLET II)

The Majestic range, exclusive to Marquis Motorhomes

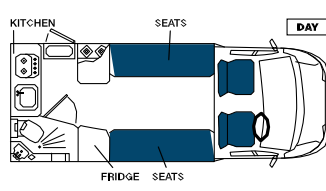
The Majestic badge is exclusive to Marquis Motorhomes and with nine vehicles in the range, every one of them offers you the very best in quality, style and value for money. Produced in association with Autocruise and based on the Peugeot Boxer chassis, every vehicle comes with power assisted steering and a fuel efficient turbo diesel engine. In addition, each Majestic model comes with the option of a Luton overcab bed* or our standard elegant low profile design. And the Majestic's high specification means that you're not only buying exceptional comfort – you'll be purchasing a motorhome that has more 'extras' as standard than any other comparable model in its price range. For

further information or to arrange a test drive contact your local branch.

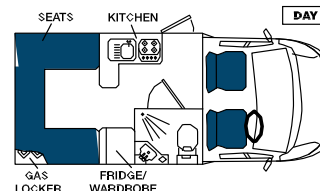
*Excludes Starlet II and Stardream. Available in low profile only.



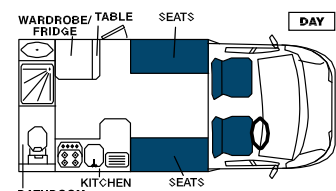
Starfire



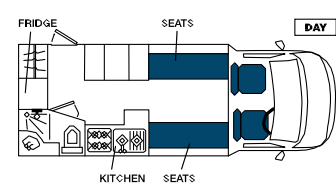
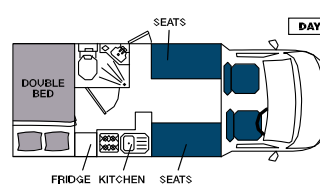
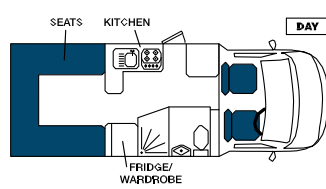
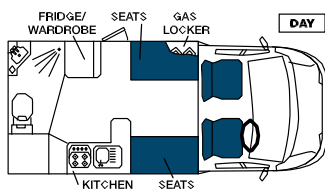
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Starspirit



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