



RAMS HEAD



**Huddersfield District Association
Autumn 2016
Newsletter No. 339**



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ROMAN'S FORUM

It's August Bank Holiday Monday and I'm sat in the motorhome writing this latest column for the Rams Head in the shadow of Snowdonia. However when you read this I will be with most of you at Pugneys'. It seems far in the distant past since I camped with the DA at the Region Meet!

With the majority of us all having holidays over the summer it is the first opportunity to thank everyone who helped create our entry to the Mardi Gras parade "carry on cruising" also to those who participated and cheered us on....to win!! Huddersfield DA finally has got its name on the trophy!

Our THS meets have all been completed thanks to all our stewards for making this happen as it not only provides the DA with valuable income it also provides all members with the opportunity for affordable holidays.

Whilst on a THS at Tenby this week I spoke with someone who had just parted with £500 for 7 nights on a commercial site in the same vicinity!!

As we now approach the seasons of darker nights there are a number of meets you will need to plan in:

At Bolton Abbey we plan to hold our third Macmillan Coffee Morning Bookings are now required for our meets in October at Scarborough and Doncaster over the half term holiday and for the York shopping meet in November. Not forgetting our younger members, we will also be having our children's treat at Thornton Hall Farm. So there is a lot to look forward to this autumn!!

Cheers
Roman

Nelson's Column

Once again the Summer holidays are over and all is back to normal. We did eventually have a summer this year although it took a long time coming. We've not done too bad, as we had two good weeks in Scotland and four good weeks in Weymouth(that's six weeks of summer)!

There are a few forward events planned including the children's party at Thornton Hall Farm, so children make sure that you have your card up to date to get your full discount.

John Inman is taking bookings for The Scarborough Club Site, Aeroventure Doncaster(which is a follow on meet) and York Christmas Shopping Meet, so make sure you contact John if you want to go to any of these sites. I know he has already sent out some booking forms. York is a particularly busy meet, so it is advisable to book early if you wish to attend.

If you have anything you would like to include in the next publication, please e-mail me at anne.nelson3@ntlworld.com.

Thank You

Can I take this opportunity to thank the committee and DA for the Get Well card and present. In all I had three operations but am progressing quite well but I won't be doing any marathons.

Ken Gledhill

Are You Overweight

One of our members, Mick Morrow kindly sent us this photo of an extract from the Hymer Club magazine. It is a matter which is important for all of us. If you had an incident and you were found to be overweight in addition to fines, confiscation etc. , would your insurance company fully fund any claim? It is important to check that all axles and the whole vehicle, to ensure that you are within its plated weight limits. Thank you Mick for reminding us of this important issue.

Robert Baldwin

Weigh it Up. During the Peterborough Show I attended a seminar on vehicle load weights and how the Maximum Authorised Mass (MAM) that the motor home can be loaded to, also known as MTPLM or Maximum Technical Permissible Laden Mass, including fuel, passengers etc; in short, everything, and the dangers of exceeding these weights. During the seminar VOSA data for the past few years on weight checks was shown. During 2011 there was a 58% increase in cases where vehicles were found to be exceeding their weight limit during surprise checks. The average fine for such offences was £580 and from their data it was estimated that 75% of motorhomes on the road were overweight. The maximum fine for being overweight is £5000 per offence. That means that if you are stopped and your rear and front axles exceed their plated limit your total weight will be too. That's three offences in all and you could incur maximum fines totalling £15000.

Weight and the MOT. During the AGM one member, whom I will not name to protect the guilty, produced his latest MOT certificate. During the rolling road test the vehicles overall weight was recorded. His Hymer is plated at 3850kg and the recorded weight was 3972kg – a total of 122kg over his legal weight limit. At the time of the check the vehicle had a full fuel tank, 40 litres of water, a spare wheel and gas cylinders. There was no driver or passenger nor was the vehicle loaded for a trip.

When the Certificate was issued the fact that the vehicle was overweight was recorded in the advisory notes attached to it. These advisory notes are recorded on the DLVC data base. This means of course that any police or VOSA check will flag up the fact that the vehicle was recorded as being overweight during the MOT and you could be stopped and checked as a result. The use of automated number plate recognition cameras (ANPRC) could do likewise and, just to add to your worries, there are some roads now with built-in weight sensors.

This is quite a worrying addition to concerns already held by many of us. I must close now as I have to put the scooter in the van garage and load all the other paraphernalia carried on a trip and hurry down to my local weighbridge.

List of Weighbridges. Check your weight – **YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED.** A list of weighbridges in the UK can be found at www.chrishodgetrucks.co.uk

Celebrations

September Birthdays

4th Archie Knapper
7th Ken Gledhill
9th Helena Boryslawskyj
12th Nola Baldwin
17th Kath Vale
19th Elsie Netherwood
21st Vince O'Neill
23rd Leanne Fuller
23rd Fearne El-Zebedi
26th Christine Wood
28th Stephen Coley
28th Stephen Baldwin
28th Sam Patterson

September Anniversaries

23rd Andrea & Clifford Smith

October Birthdays

8th Ruby-Ann Moodie
10th Yvonne Ward
12th Danielle Baldwin
20th Elizabeth Womersley
26th Andrew Ward
29th Hollie Cobb
30th Bernie Boryslawskyj

October Anniversaries

2nd Maureen & John Short
6th Anne & Tony Nelson
22nd Lesley & Peter Cobb
31st Joanne & Gary Wood



**PLEASE LET ME KNOW OF ANY CELEBRATIONS BY
E-MAIL anne.nelson3@ntlworld.com**

[HDA WEB SITE](http://www.huddersfield-da.co.uk/)

**Don't forget that up to date information about our DA is
Available on the web site**

<http://www.huddersfield-da.co.uk/>

**FORUM section now ready for members to chat and
pass on information.
Why not take a look**

Steward's Report - Weymouth THS

We went to steward Weymouth this year thinking that it would be our last, due to the possibility of 300 houses being built on the site. We had heard some rumours before we went that there could be another hold up to the planning, but thought it better to wait until we got there to find the full facts. However, there had been another meeting on the previous week which completely changed the issue. The planning permission was knocked back due to drainage, flooding and access problems and the builder was going to have to re-apply.

After talking to Richard, the farmer, it seemed very likely that we would be able to camp there again next year, so in view of this I asked him to provisionally book it for next year, to be confirmed by Mike B. He had a 'Plan B' which was his Brother-in law's site but it was right at the side of the busy Weymouth/Dorchester By-Pass and very noisy. There was also quite a walk to the bus stop. After putting out a few feelers to our regulars, it wasn't met with any enthusiasm.

The weather this year was really good and we had a good turn out of units. We always have a lot more Motorhomes on our site due to the close proximity of the bus stop and this year was no exception, with 116 Motorhomes, 67 Caravans and 4 tents.

We had our usual entertainment in the marquee, with Bingo, Play Your Cards Right and Card Bingo. Due to the good weather we decided to have one final night on the last Wednesday, so we took the marquee down on the Thursday a day later than usual. Our Bonus Ball also went down really well this year and in all we made £174.80 for our Charity.

We had our share of problems with fridges and cars etc. and also a couple of ambulances and visits to hospital, but all turned out well and it looks like we'll be doing it all again next year.

Anne & Tony, Eileen & Victor

WEB SITE

In order to improve attendance by visitors and members alike, we would like to add photos of the sites at which we camp and their surrounding areas and local places of interest.

If you have any such photos, please send them to Chris Wood with details of the photographs , at:

chris.4.wood@gmail.com

May we please remind parents of young children that, when camping with HDA, they are responsible for their children's behaviour, and must supervise them at all times. If we are in a room which is part of a larger building , children must not wander around, but stay in our booked room.

Dogs must be tied up at all times.

*Thank you for your cooperation
The Committee*

Dinner Dance Menu

Can you please reply to me to let me know if you will be attending and then if you are, what your choices are from the following:

Starters

SOUP & ROLL

PRAWN COCKTAIL WITH MARIE ROSE SAUCE

WARM TARTLETS OF GOATS CHEESE WITH CARAMELISED

ONION AND CHERRY TOMATOES

TRIO OF MELON AND PARMA HAM

Main Course

BUTTER ROAST TURKEY

BRAISED LAMB SHANK ON MINTED MASH & RED WINE JUS

ROAST BEEF, YORKSHIRE PUDDING WITH WATERCRESS &

HORSERADISH GRAVY

ROAST SALMON FILLET ON STEAMED GREENS WITH LEMON

& DILL POTATOES

VEGETARIAN OPTION

Desserts

CHRISTMAS PUDDING

APPLE CRUMBLE WITH CREAM OR CUSTARD

TIA MARIA CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES & BAILEY TORTE

GRAND SELECTION OF CHEESE, BISCUITS, GRAPES &

CELERY

WINE, TEA/COFFEE & MINCE PIES WILL BE PROVIDED BY

HUDDERSFIELD

Lynda Baldwin

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR WEEKEND MEET STEWARDS

Huddersfield DA weekend meets will commence at noon, 12.00h.

Stewards are not expected to arrive at 12.00h as they may have work or other commitments.

The first person to arrive at the meet must act as temporary steward until an Officer of the DA or appointed Steward for the meet arrives.

It is the responsibility of the appointed Stewards to ensure the site is signed.

Appointed Stewards may ask someone who will arrive at the site before them to sign the meet, giving thought to members who may never have been to the site.

Members arriving at 12.00h must recognise that signs may not yet be in place.

Members arriving on the site before the Appointed Steward must be prepared to move their units if requested as areas for Youth, Catering Teams and Marquees may be required.

A space for the Appointed Steward must be left vacant near the entrance to the meet, although the Steward may choose not to camp there.

Members on site (Each Unit) may reserve only **ONE** space for friends/family.

Basic Camping & Caravan Club Rules

1. The steward is a volunteer. Help the steward to help you by observing the rules.
2. All vehicles to be restricted to 5mph on the meet field. Learner drivers are not allowed.
3. Try to restrict movement of vehicles when wet to prevent damage to the field.
4. Please do not allow your children to play ball games, fly kites etc. close to camping units, as damage is easily caused and expensive to repair.
5. It is strongly recommended that all units carry a suitable BSI and/or F.O.C. approved fire extinguisher. Fire buckets should be placed outside the front of the unit at all times.
6. Chemical toilets must not be taken/washed or primed at drinking water points and only emptied at designated elsan disposal points.
7. Motorhome owners should not open waste water tanks until they have left the camping field. Waste water containers should be emptied around the perimeter of the camping field, unless there is a designated waste water point. (DO NOT USE THE ELSAN POINT).
8. All animals should be kept under control and must not be allowed to run loose on the field.
Recommended: length of lead when tethered is a maximum of 2 metres. Animals must be exercised away from the units.
9. Generators are permitted and must be used reasonably. It is expected that generators should not be used for more than 4 hours each day, unless for medical reasons. Generators should not be used between the hours 9pm to 10am.
10. There should be no noise between 11pm and 7am.
11. Each pitch should be left clear of litter at the end of the meet and a careful check made before leaving the field that nothing has been left behind.

