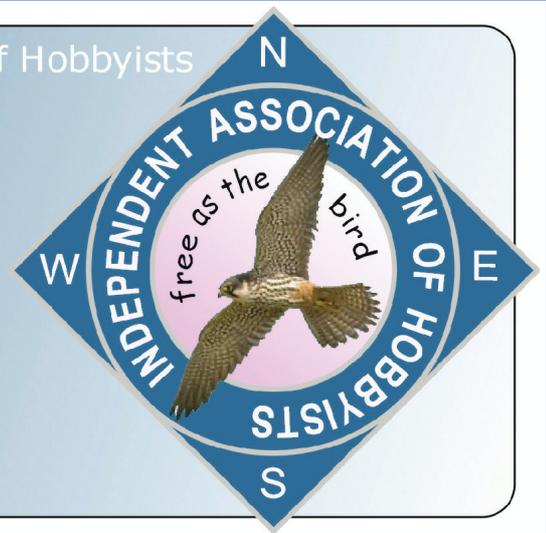


IAH - Independent Association of Hobbyists

Hobby Motorhome Owners Club

The UK's only club for Hobby Motorhome Enthusiasts



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2011

Hobby at the NEC

There was one large stand of Hobby Motorhomes at the NEC Show with multiple dealers represented. The 2012 brochure details a 7 model series comprising Van, Van Exclusive, Siesta, Siesta Over-cab, Toscana



Exclusive, Sphinx and Hobby 600. The Van and Siesta range are Ford Transit based the Toskana Exclusive and Hobby 600 Fiat based whilst the Sphinx is based on the IVECO Daily. On the road prices range from £44026 for a Van 50VS to a whopping £82529 for the Sphinx A77EM before you start adding extras of your taste. The most interesting thing in the brochure for us was the Hobby 600

of which there was scant detail being a taster of things to come. In the pictures it looks very stylish!



Contents:

Hobby At the NEC

Travels of Snuggly Wuggly

Towing with an A Frame in the EU!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Pat & Eric Miller's trip to Germany

EU Low Emission Zones

Forthcoming Rallies

Forthcoming Shows

For Your Amusement

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Hobby Motorhome Owners Club

Travels of Snuggly Wuggly

Tony and Pam are still on their “Great European Adventure” having left the UK in November 2010! You can keep abreast of their travels by visiting their blog at <http://snugglywuggly.wordpress.com/> - a short cut is provided on the first page of the IAH club website - many thanks to Ken for making life easy. The last update, when I checked, was the 10th October 2011 when they were in Hungary. The blog is well worth a visit with dialogue and photos to describe and illustrate the many interesting places they have visited and the experiences they have had!

Towing with an A-Frame in the EU courtesy of Ken Cookson

We had been away for three weeks already. One of them travelling down through Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria and Northern Italy, a second week in Umbria and the third week in the Gargano Peninsular on the Adriatic coast. From there the road south looked straightforward on the map, following the coast and passing through a number of small towns on our way to Puglia.

Having set out in the morning from Vieste, towing our Toyota Aygo on a “EU compliant” A-frame, we had not gone more than 40 km and just reached the coast road when we came across a barrier with a nice policeman who told us that the road was blocked ahead and we had to take the diversion to regain the coast road further down. As is the way with these things, especially in Italy, the diversion lead us along increasingly narrow country roads with no indication of which turnings to take. Having travelled by autostrada for most of the holiday so far, I was at first determined to stay on the old road but after wasting a good hour fruitlessly trying to find the way, I saw a sign to the A14 and gave in, more tolls and less sightseeing were inevitable.

We were bowling along an almost empty motorway on our way towards Bari when we were overtaken by a “Sicurezza Autostradale” van who gave us a very long look and then slowed down and pulled on to the hard shoulder, let us pass and then followed us. After a couple of minutes he pulled alongside and indicated that we should stop. There were two of them in the van wearing Dayglo overalls and one asked us in Italian about the A-frame while the other was on the phone calling the police. When they arrived with flashing lights and sirens, I thought that I would show them the Italian translation of the document from the manufacturers saying, in effect, “it’s legal in the UK therefore it’s legal to use in Italy” and that would be that. But after scrutinising all our paperwork and spending a lot of time on the phone they told us that we could not tow the car in Italy as it was not safe and was illegal. I, of course, said that it met all trailer regulations that applied but their reply was that if it was a trailer then I had to produce an official document to that effect, if I only had official documents for a car then it was not a trailer and could not be towed on the motorway. I was fined 39 euros made to take the A-frame off and told not to use it again in Italy. They wished us a good holiday and departed leaving us feeling disillusioned to say the least.

Needless to say, Lucy was not keen to drive on the Italian roads, where it would appear there are few rules and no quarter is given, so, after a decent distance, we linked up again and continued our holiday though I was obviously apprehensive until we got to France a few weeks later.

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Towing with an A-Frame in the EU - continued.

When I returned to the UK, I was fairly confident that this incident was against EU policy and my right to tow in any EU country would be upheld. How wrong I was. There is an EU website (ec.europa.eu) where you can take up queries and legal issues throughout the EU, and I put my problem to them. Below is an extract from their reply:

“You should know that road traffic rules are not harmonised within the EU and the rules therefore remain governed entirely by national law. The rules under the UK’s Road Traffic Act may therefore vary substantially from those under the Italian Highway Code (Codice della strada). Therefore whilst it may be legal to tow a vehicle with a motorhome in the UK, this is not necessarily the case in Italy.

We understand that the Department of Transport takes the view that when an A frame is attached to a car and is towed by a motorhome, the Department of Transport takes the view that this forms a single vehicle much like a car towing a small trailer. As a result, when towed, the car will need to comply with regulations on trailers (including attaching the number plate of the motorhome to the car).

Again these are matters that relate to road safety, which are not laid down by EU law and remain governed entirely by national law. Therefore, while it may be valid for the UK, the Department of Transport’s view does not apply to road traffic rules of other EU countries.

Regrettably, it does not appear as though the Italian authorities acted unlawfully in issuing you a ticket.

In the future, you may wish to appraise yourself of the Italian traffic rules. “(cheek!)

So don’t believe that EU regulations will protect you abroad. When the guys with the uniforms and the guns tell you it’s not legal then that’s that.

Incidentally, I’ve done a good deal of combing through internet forums and found that the EU MP who successfully got a fine refunded for a motorhomer who was stopped in Spain in the 1990’s has been unable to repeat the action for a similar but more recent offence. Southern Europe is flexing its muscles!

In my case, I got the impression that the police only acted because a complaint had been received from the motorway safety people. We saw plenty of other coppers who showed no interest other than looking us over.

If anyone has any comments or feedback on this issue please use the Forum on the Hobby Owners web site www.hobbyowners.org.uk



Grazie e arrivederci! Ken Cookson

Ken’s friends!

Hobby Motorhome Owners Club

Pat & Eric Miller's trip to GERMANY (May 2011) – 'Stellplatz' - Schloss' – mit Spargel!

I expect many of you have toured Germany - if only to the Dusseldorf Show – and back, as we have done in the past, which also included a tour of the wine regions and the Black Forest. However, this year we thought we were going on a group visit to the Hobby factory in Rugen, but at the last minute this fell through, so we made the decision to explore Northern Germany as originally planned. We did the usual ferry crossing from Dover to Dunkirk, travelling through France and Belgium en route to spending our first night at a Stellplatz at Straelen. Here we met up with a much travelled motorhomer whose van was decorated with maps from all over the world and places he had visited. Our next stop was at a Stellplatz at Haltern, overlooking a large lake where we sat watching children having a sailing lesson, or rather launching their dinghies by themselves and heading off across the lake under the watchful eye of their instructor. We made our way into town where we found Haltern buzzing with shoppers and a busy market in progress in the central square and, of course, had to buy the traditional bratwurst in a roll from a stall for our lunch as well as the inevitable ice cream from one of the many Eiscafe's, popular in every German town. A nearby park attracted our attention, where a festival was in progress, displaying many brand-new models of cars. Eric was very taken with a white Mercedes coupe at a mere 60,000 euros – I had to drag him away towards the stage where an excellent band 'The Street Kings' were playing, to take his mind off the 'boys toys'. In fact, his mind was so elsewhere he left his rucksack behind which had all our money and passports inside. Fortunately, the ladies in the tea-tent had noticed it and put it safely to one side – phew! We might have had to stay there forever as illegal immigrants. I kept a watchful eye on him after that.



Pat about to select her chair?

Northern Germany:

The following day we drove northwards (I missed Hamburg as I had fallen asleep) until we reached the flat landscape of Altenland. Although we were following the coast road we were unable to see the sea because of the raised dykes which prevent the sea water flooding the land. By early evening we had reached our destination of Dagebull on the North Sea coast, close to the border of Denmark. The Stellplatz was a small grassy area which took about half a dozen vans, close to the ferry terminal which served the Halligen Islands. As we wandered around the headland, looking at the beach chalets and the most unusual beach chairs, unique I think in this part of the world – made from basket work, seating two people, with padded seats and backs and a foot rest which slides out for sunbathing (see picture) folding up into a kind of box when not in use – I couldn't help thinking how perfect they would be on our chilly English beaches as protection from the wind. Next morning we caught the ferry to the island of Amrum, watching the seals basking on spits of sand, and many kinds of sea birds wheeling around in the clear blue sky. The island is small, surrounded by a wide stretch of golden sand, very quiet and peaceful. The next day we took the ferry boat to Fohr, a slightly larger island, closer to the mainland with a larger population. The capital town of Wyk caters for tourists with its quaint houses, shops and cafes, surrounded by pretty villages with thatched roofed cottages and gardens filled with flowers. We took a bus to the next town of Alkesum, to visit the Kuntz Museum and Art Gallery, a modern building having a wonderful range of paintings by German, Dutch and Norwegian artists, depicting scenes of the islands. The sun shone all day and was so warm we couldn't believe our luck, so it was quite a shock when we awoke the next morning to thunder and lightning and torrential rain. Fortunately, it stopped by mid-morning and the skies were blue once more. Our next stop was at the Emil Nolde Museum at Seebull – miles from anywhere, deep in the countryside. It had been the home of

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Pat & Eric Miller's trip to GERMANY (May 2011) – continued

the artist and his wish that after his death his paintings should remain in his studio where he had worked whilst under house arrest during the war. Hitler had forbidden his paintings to be exhibited on account of them being considered degenerate. They were rather garish and primitive in style but nothing unusual by today's standards!

Our next stop was at Augstfelde (near Plon) a very pleasant campsite with excellent power showers (we both had a good pummelling until we were pink and shiny!) The breakfast rolls which I bought in the camp shop were delicious – and the shopkeeper wasn't bad either! (I got an unexpected hug and kiss - does he do that to all his customers I wonder?).

After breakfast we set off on our 200 mile journey to the island of Rugen on the Baltic coast where we stayed at Camping Meier, close to the 5 km long 'holiday' apartments built by Hitler to house his Nazi employees. This is a very ugly concrete block which stretches along the beach, almost to the next town, now derelict, except for one area now used as a youth hostel. The campsite was pleasant, with a good restaurant, and friendly proprietors (who seemed to think it was hilarious that an English couple owned a Hobby!). The weather continued fine and sunny so, in the morning we set off on our bikes along the cycle path to Binz, an attractive sea-side town on the Baltic, with a very long promenade and a beach of fine white sand which stretches along its pine clad shore for miles and miles. Here you can take a boat trip to the white cliffs around the bay from the town pier, but we chose to have a coffee and eat gateau instead – the Germans certainly know how to make cake!

East Germany:

After two nights we left the coast and headed south through Eastern Germany to Berlin, staying at another lakeside campsite at Potsdam. From here we took our bikes along the cycle path alongside the lake towards Potsdam to visit the famous palaces of Sanssouci. We took many wrong turnings before enlisting the help of a taxi driver to find our way to the Park entrance. We had been warned that bicycles were not allowed within the Park but the young lady on the gate assured us we were quite at liberty to cycle anywhere we pleased – just not inside the palace! Sanssouci was built as a summer residence for King Wilhelm IV but, after the death of his male lover, he retreated to the Palace where he lived quietly with his beloved dogs, who share his burial ground. There are several grand palaces within this enormous parkland, but we did not go inside any of them (too expensive – not enough time), their splendour was obvious from the outside, surrounded by ornate gardens and statuary. The little Chinese House was delightful, decorated with gold painted figures playing various musical instruments. There was too much to see in one day and we had a long cycle ride back, negotiating the traffic, before reaching the lakeside path back to the campsite.

Berlin:

The following day we decided to catch the train into Berlin. We did the usual sightseeing, watched the street performers by the Brandenburg Gate; were overwhelmed by the size of the Reichstag (German Parliament) with its famous Norman Foster dome; the Art Nouveau buildings in the Jewish Quarter; the Sony Centre – an architectural masterpiece – housing

Reichstag



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Pat & Eric Miller's trip to GERMANY (May 2011) – continued

cinema, shops, restaurants etc. under a huge domed glass ceiling. Then a coffee and cake in the Roof Garden restaurant of Ka-De-We (similar to Harrods) before heading back to the Bahnhof.

Dresden:

Our next campsite – Mochwitz – on the outskirts of Dresden, was a pleasant grassy site, dotted with trees. The staff were friendly (free token for the showers) and there was a good restaurant where we sampled our first taste of German Spargel (Asparagus) very much in season and on sale everywhere – every eating place, farms, market stalls, as well as in supermarkets. The large white variety is popular here and served in several different ways – we had it in a cheese and wine sauce with Schnitzel and rosti. We caught the bus into town - Dresden was virtually flattened during the war by the Allied Forces (a reprisal for the bombing of Coventry, I believe) – the city has risen like a phoenix from the ashes with its brand new centre, although the blackened remains of some of its historic buildings in the old town remind visitors of its glorious past. The Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady) has been completely restored to its former glory by funds from many countries, including Britain. The interior is quite breathtakingly beautiful. We also visited the Zwinger Palace with its Nymph Grotto, then walked over the bridge to the so-called ‘new town’ now the old part of Dresden, a very cosmopolitan area with narrow streets, old shops and cafes catering for a wide ethnic group – Greek, Turkish, Asian – lots of graffiti everywhere, but a fascinating area to explore. We stopped for much needed refreshment at ‘Katy’s Garage’ – a ramshackle collection of buildings housing café, bar, nightclub, advertising musical events, around an inner courtyard where we found a seat under a bright orange umbrella, welcome shade from the hot sunshine while we sipped our cold beers and watched the world go by before making our way back to the campsite.

Schloss: Konigstein

After all this sightseeing we fancied a quiet trip down the River Elbe to Konigstein, but as the paddle steamer took three hours to get there we caught the train from Dresden which took only half an hour. As the train rattled through the countryside all the way to the border, we looked out at the magnificent scenery and looked forward to visiting the Schloss which stood high on a promontory overlooking the River Elbe and the National Park bordering the mountains of the Czech Republic. An old fashioned little bus and train took us up the mountainside, then we had to disembark for the last uphill climb to the entrance to the castle (there are lifts for the not-so-able). It was a grim looking place, used as a fortress during all the wars in the past, including the last war. There were huge gun emplacements, dark cellars, prison-like accommodation blocks around a central square, where we found a restaurant and a free loo (most public loos cost 30-70 cents). We stopped for a coffee and a rest before exploring the various buildings, including a pumping station for drawing up the water from a very deep well (hundreds of feet below) originally

Konigstein & Castle



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Pat & Eric Miller's trip to GERMANY (May 2011) – continued

dug out centuries before with very primitive tools – incredible!). A walk around the ramparts gave us an appetite for our sandwiches, made from a very 'heavy' loaf bought in Dresden! We made our way back down to the village on foot along a stony track which was hard-going – I understood why people preferred the train ride. We were amazed to find a huge crowd of people waiting for the paddle steamer to take us back to Dresden and had to jostle our way aboard and struggle to find a seat. However, we sat next to a pleasant couple of German doctors who chatted to us all the way so the 3 ½ hour journey went very quickly. After the hot sunny day we were greeted at Dresden with a thunderstorm, so had rather a wet walk back to the station and campsite.

Schloss: Colditz

Here we found a very pleasant campsite on the edge of a forest (next to a magnificent swimming pool) within easy walking distance of the village and castle. This area of Saxony has some lovely historic buildings and cobbled streets. The village nestles below the rather formidable Colditz Castle which dominates the skyline. We joined an escorted tour of the castle, which has had a face-lift since its infamous wartime use as a prison for officers in the allied forces. It is now painted a pretty yellow and not as austere as in former times. Part of the castle is now a School of Music and another section is a Youth Hostel. In former times it was a mental hospital,

and later a school before becoming a prison. The former prison building is now open to the public as a museum where there is a collection of the crude tools used by the prisoners made from cutlery and tin cans. It was incredible how they achieved so much with so little at their disposal. We saw a hand-made sewing machine made out of floorboards and bits of metal, with which they made German uniforms from sheets and blankets, using home-made dyes to make them look authentic. A glider was also constructed but never used due to the war ending before it was finished. The old tunnels were re-opened in the 1980's so that people can see how much work went into their construction. Out of hundreds of escape attempts very few were successful. The castle dates back to medieval times and conditions were very basic and extremely cold in winter. It is well worth a visit and far more interesting than you would think, particularly if you have a good English-speaking guide.

Weimar:

In this part of Germany one is not far from some of the concentration camps but we had no interest in visiting these sites, preferring instead to concentrate on the historical old towns. Weimar is an attractive town with many large, elegant buildings, and a new shopping centre, plus a large park and river. We stayed overnight in the municipal Stellplatz, which we found quite easily next to the municipal swimming pool and gardens. We parked up alongside several other vans then walked into town to look for the Goethe House and Museum. The sign-posting was terrible and we had almost given up when we suddenly found ourselves outside the door. The Frauenplan, where the house is situated in a large cobbled square, where horse-drawn carriages wait to take people for rides around the town. There are numerous cafes and bars, a popular area for locals as well as tourists. After downing a rather large pizza, we made our way back through the town, stopping to watch a group of young people doing Graffiti art work on the sides of a couple of 40 ft container trailers. We were amazed at their skill and the effects they managed to achieve with cans of spray paint. A large audience had gathered to watch them.

Colditz Castle before it's coat of paint



Hobby Motorhome Owners Club

Pat & Eric Miller's trip to GERMANY (May 2011) – continued

We were now on our return journey, planning to visit some of the old historic towns of Thuringia. The first on the list was Arnstadt, reputedly the oldest town in Germany dating back to 704. There were the ruins of an ancient schloss (palace) – just a few stone walls and a tower with an ornate clock – the area was cordoned off and contained models of the old town and churches. In the town we saw the family house where Bach had lived and the church where he used to play the organ (in fact we had coffee and rhubarb cake in the Bach Café next to the church!). Our next stop was at the Stellplatz in Friedrichroda, centre of a popular walking area in the Thuringian Forest. The camping area was at a small private industrial site, next to Lidl, owned by Knut Ortlepp who arrived to collect 5.50 euros to stay the night outside his factory. From here we walked two miles to Marienglashohle – a former mine – which has a crystal cave. It was a pleasant walk through the forest to the mine, with a visitor centre and café. The woman who sold us the tickets also took groups down the ‘hole’ to see the ‘crystal’ cave. Our next Stellplatz was another private site owned by a garage selling motorhomes (handy if you need a repair) on an industrial site 3 miles from Eisenach. The town was large and busy so not the place to take a motorhome, instead we caught the bus after a 1 km walk to the bus stop. Here we discovered Bach's house and Museum and also the house of Martin Luther (Protestant preacher), both very grand. We did not manage to visit the Wartburg Schloss, which we could see on the skyline from the stellplatz, as it was closed. The Wartburg is renowned for being a typical German castle, famous for its ‘Legend of the Roses’. The story goes that in medieval times a young princess was married off to a wicked baron who lived in the castle and starved the people of the town, so she used to hide bread and meat under her cloak to take to these poor people. Her husband's soldiers had orders to stop and search her and, miraculously, the food had turned into roses!

The next Stellplatz was much better at Alsfeld, within walking distance of the town centre, very old, mostly 14th century buildings – I have never seen a place so entirely made up of beautiful stone and half-timbered houses, some magnificently carved and painted. The tourist information provided us with a map and a marked walk around the town, listing houses of most historical importance. The whole town was fascinating and we happily whiled away the morning exploring the narrow cobbled streets and generally soaking in the atmosphere. We stayed the night at another Stellplatz, near Schwalmstadt, another old town but not as picturesque as Alsfeld. The next day we stopped at a Stellplatz at Homberg, not far from the town which has a large market square surrounded by fine half-timbered houses (they are very tall in this part of Germany – about 4-5 storeys high).

Town Centre Alsfeld



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Pat & Eric Miller's trip to GERMANY (May 2011) – continued

The Krone Tavern built in 1480, said to be the oldest hostelry in Germany still functioning. Next stop Fritzlar, with a Stellplatz just outside the original city walls which still surround the town, plus the remains of an ancient Benedictine Monastery dating back to 724 and a cathedral (11th-14th century). We enjoyed a bratwurst and chips at a small café where the jovial owner drew up a chair and chatted to us while we ate, he spoke good English and had a great sense of humour. A little brown dachshund was begging for food so he gave it some tit-bits, he said the dog had got into the habit of coming in for food – it wasn't his! We returned to the van to find the wind had got up and the blossom from the trees was piling up in great drifts like pink snow. We carried on for another 40 km to Marburg, where the Brothers Grimm began their research into German fables. The campsite, beside the River Lahn, was a 10 minute walk from the centre of the city. We crossed the bridge into the town and climbed the steep cobbled streets up to the market square. A large stage was set up in front of the Rathaus (city hall) where the 'Big Band' would be playing that evening – swing/rock/pop music. We listened to them doing a practice run and they sounded good. This is a university town, founded in 1527, with many grand medieval and historic buildings stretching all the way from the banks of the river up to the magnificent Schlossberg. We also visited St Elizabeth's Church (1235) with its beautiful stained glass windows, and the Landgraves Castle where Luther and Zwingli held their famous religious speeches in 1529. We wandered back down to the square for a glass of wine and listened to the band before making our way back to the van to prepare for our homeward journey.

EU Low Emissions Zones

Going abroad be aware it is not only London that is a Low Emission Zone. Go to <http://lowemissionzones.eu/> to see the full range of countries and cities/towns affected. This website is funded by the EU and aims to be a source of reference. The countries with low emissions zones are [Germany](#), [The Netherlands](#), [Norway](#), [United Kingdom](#), [Austria](#), [Denmark](#), [Italy](#), [Sweden](#), [Hungary](#), [Czech Republic](#) with many more zones in the planning stage and about to be implemented soon. The schemes are not implemented in a common manner. Low Emission Zones (LEZs) are areas or roads where the most polluting vehicles are restricted from entering. This means that vehicles are banned, or in some cases charged, if they enter the LEZ when their emissions are over a set level. They are also known as Environment Zones, Umweltzonen, Milieuzones, Lavutslippssone, Miljozone, Miljözon. They are often the most effective measure that cities can take to reduce [air pollution](#) problems in their area. The emissions that are aimed to be reduced by LEZs are mainly fine particles, nitrogen dioxide and indirectly ozone. Vehicle emissions are classified by the so-called "[Euro Standards](#)" for the vehicles that they affect. In many cases another factor is whether or not the vehicle has a [particulate filter](#) or catalytic converter. Before you travel into a LEZ, you need to find out the [emissions standard of your vehicle](#). All LEZs affect heavy duty goods vehicles (usually over 3.5 tonnes Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)), and most buses and coaches (usually defined as over 5 tonnes GVW). Some LEZs also affect vans, cars and motorcycles. Most LEZs operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, with some of the Italian LEZs currently the only exceptions to this rule. In some countries you must take action before entering the zone these include Germany, Sweden and Denmark where a windscreen sticker needs to be purchased. In London your vehicle needs to be registered (if foreign). In Norway pre-Euro 4 vehicles need to ensure they pay the charge

The morale of this story - check before you travel!

Hobby Motorhome Owners Club

Forthcoming Rallies (to keep abreast of events please check the Club Website):

Pre Christmas Rally December 1st-8th Newton Mill Holiday Park, Bath, Somerset BA2 9JF. See Rally Calendar on website

Forthcoming Shows

(Just a few dates for your diary if you are so minded as to visit a show or two! Please check internet for detail before traveling as there was some conflicting information about when trying to compile this data!):

The Motorhome Show, Royal Bath & West Show Ground, Shepton Mallet. Jan 6-8 2012

The Outdoors Show, Excel London. Jan 12 2012

The Welsh Caravan Motorhome and Outdoor Leisure Show, Cardiff International Arena. Jan 13-15 2012

Manchester Central Caravan & Motorhome Show. Manchester Central. Jan 19-22 2012

The Belfast Holiday World Over 55's Holiday Show & Caravan & Motorhome Show, King's Hall Exhibition Centre. Jan 20-22 2012

The Dublin Holiday World Over 55's Holiday Show & Caravan & Motorhome Show, RDS Simonscourt Ballsbridge. Jan 27-29 2012

Scottish Caravan and Outdoor Leisure Show, SECC Glasgow. Feb 3-6 2012

The Motorhome Caravan and Camping Show, Excel London. Feb 14-19 2012

Boat and Caravan Show, NEC Birmingham. Feb 21-26 2012

Wales Caravan and Motorhome Show at Chepstow Racecourse. Mar 20-22 2012 (Check dates)

British Leisure Show Royal Windsor Racecourse Mar 11-13 2012

The Caravan and Motorhome Show at Westpoint, Exeter Mar 16-18 2012

UK Motorhome & Caravan Spring Fair, Newark Showground Mar 26-27 2012

South Coast Caravan & Motorhome Show Broadlands Romsey Apr 8-10 2012

The National Motorhome Show, East of England Showground Peterborough. Apr 27-29 2012

Merry Christmas

This is the last Newsletter of 2011 so it seemed appropriate on behalf of the Committee to wish all members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I am sure this message will provoke a reaction of either that was thoughtful or bah humbug depending on your perspective of the so called festive season. Whichever applies - enjoy!!



Hobby Motorhome Owners Club

For Your Amusement (chosen by Technical Officer!)

November was when my son celebrated his birthday, and I got him an iPhone. He just loved it. Who wouldn't?

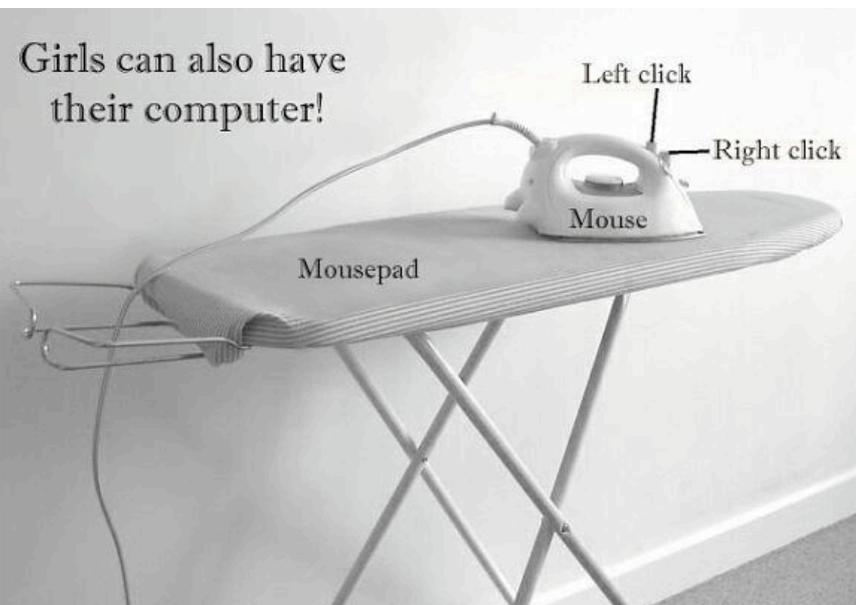


I celebrated my birthday in January, and my wife made me very happy when she bought me an iPad.

My daughter's birthday was in February so I got her an iPod Touch.



Girls can also have their computer!



My wife celebrated her birthday in July so I got her an iRon.

It was around then that the fight started!

What my wife failed to recognize is that the iRon can be integrated into the home network with the iWash, iCook and iClean.

This inevitably activates the iNag reminder service.

I should be out of the hospital by Saturday!!