



South Lancs Caravan Club Newsletter

Number 2/2020



Hi Everybody,

Hope you are all staying safe and looking forward to further easing of lock down and getting out and about in the `van.

I am pleased to report that the feedback from the last newsletter was really positive and we will continue to produce these to keep everybody updated as events unfold.

We have put the latest advice from the Caravan and Motorhome Club regarding running rallies on the website. Hopefully you have all been able to access it and are up to date with the latest guidance. If not please advise us and we can e mail it to you.

Rally Update

On the 29th June the Caravan and Motor Home club issued the following message.

"Last week, at the same time as the Prime Minister's welcome announcement that caravan parks were able to re-open from 4 July in England, a new and unexpected provision was factored into the guidance around [meeting up](#)' which stated that it would be illegal for gatherings of more than 30 people to take place. I stress the word illegal here because unlike other guidance, this specific provision will be written into law. Since before lockdown we have asserted as a Club, and continued to emphasise

this in our protocol for rallies, that a rally was only for the siting/parking of leisure vehicles and that no social aspects of a rally could take place. However, there is now a very strong concern that by the manner in which a rally is organised through a Centre to enable a group to come together for a common cause, it is much more difficult to argue that a rally is not a gathering. The spirit of the legislation is certainly to reduce the risks of the virus spreading which are associated with large groups of people coming together and the Club has received the view of Scotland Yard that indicates that rallies are likely to attract the attention of local police forces as gatherings, particularly because there is a lot of nervousness by local populations in tourist areas about the spread of the virus.

In the absence of clear guidance in this area from the Government at this time, the Club's Executive Committee discussed the situation at length this morning and reached the conclusion that **all rallies for July should be cancelled**. This means that the exemption certificate (under which rallies are able to operate**) will be withdrawn for the month of July. The Executive Committee will reassess the situation at its meeting on 20 July to give advice about those rallies which are currently planned to take place in August, and beyond. This was a very difficult decision to take, and the Committee was very aware of the disappointment that this would cause many members who are eager to return to rallying as soon as possible and will have made plans, some even as soon as this coming weekend. However, the overriding feeling was that the safety of the Club's members and volunteers must be paramount, the Club has a responsibility to comply with the law and there was no desire to place our volunteers into a situation where they may have to deal with a police intervention."

For South Lancs this means that the rallies scheduled at Landsdowne and the holiday at Scarborough have had to be cancelled.

In terms of future rallies, the caravan club will review their position on 20th July.

We will continue to plan for the future, and are planning to re-arrange some of the cancelled rallies in a revised programme during September and October.

Tony and Jean and Ernie and Dolores have rearranged the following rallies:

- **Lansdowne for August Bank Holiday starting on 28th August.**
- **Whitley Village Hall for 4th to 6th September**

Although the Airshow is cancelled we are currently exploring the opportunity to run a free and easy rally at **Victoria Park on 11th to 14th September**. Currently details are being finalised and forms will be circulated via the website as soon as details are finalised.

We will circulate further details of a revised rally programme as soon as the picture becomes clear.

Currently the **Blackpool Rally** planned for the **25th to 27th September** is still going ahead.

The booking forms for the above rallies are on the website.

Obviously all the above is subject to continuous review, and in line with advice from the Government and CAMC. We will continue to update everybody as further information becomes available.

Next year's rally programme is being planned but is a little sparse at the minute as potential venues remain closed.

If anyone is interested in running a rally, or has ideas for a new venue please speak to Tony Lee who will be able to advise and assist.

Paying for a Rally

In accordance with instructions from the CAMC no cash payments should be paid for rallies.

Whenever possible payment must be made before attending the rally.

Were possible the preferred payment method is via direct payments.

Payment should only be made once its is confirmed the rally is definitely going ahead. Once confirmed by the rally officer that the rally is going ahead and you are accepted onto the rally please make the payment directly to the

South Lancs Caravan Club Account.

Sort Code 05 – 00 - 05

Account Number 04265501

Please mark payments with the name of the rally and surname e.g. SMITH/BLACKPOOL

If you do not have access to direct banking, then you can still pay by cheque. Cheques should be made payable to the **South Lancs Centre of the Caravan Club.**

Please send to the rally officer in the normal manner but mark the envelope with your name on the back of the envelope. This will indicate to the rally steward that a cheque is enclosed. The envelope will not be opened for 72 hours and will be passed to the Treasurer in the normal manner.

If you unable to pay until you attend the rally, please place a cheque in an envelope marked with your name and amount. The rally officer will have a receptacle for this.

Committee Meetings

We are still meeting remotely using Zoom.

In the current climate this has provided the opportunity to continue to hold meetings and provided additional flexibility for those, who due to other commitments, can't always travel to meetings. We have decided to purchase an annual licence to continue to do this at cost of around £120.00.

It does not mean that all meetings will be held this way, as there are times when a face to face meeting is desirable or required. However, the ability to meet

remotely provides additional flexibility to hold meetings at short notice and for a relatively small cost we felt it was necessary in the current situation.

The purchase of the licence also means it can be used by others and in particular it also allows access for the Junior Committee to meet, which we all think is important for them and for the future.

AGM

At this moment in time we are still planning to hold the AGM in October. However, we will keep this under review and if Government advice changes, or the venue is not available due to restrictions, then we will look to alternative ideas. If necessary, we may look to hold it during the course of a rally were it may be easier to implement safe social distancing.

Keeping in Touch

As rallies hopefully recommence we will all be able to socialise safely and keep in touch with friends old and new. However, given the positive response from the last Newsletter we have decided to continue to use this as the preferred communication method. This will continue as required going forward.

If you have any other ideas or views please let us know.

Thank you for your continued support.

I hope to see everybody soon and please stay safe

.