

The Murvi Club

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Held on: 22 March 2014 at 18.00

Present:

Ian Baxter & Jane Senior
Pete & Anne Bland
Brian & Sheila Cady
Roger & Anne Clough
Jackie Coles & Steve Little
Hugh & Jeanette Constable
Anne & Stewart Cormie
Leigh & Annabel Darnton
Jane & John Day
Jo Durham & Hanneke van Deth
Bob & Maggie Eley
Ellie & Simon Elsdon
Angela & Robert Emuss
Anne & Nigel Evans
Robert & Christine Flitney
Jacqueline Fournier
Ingrid & Billy Gawthorpe
Terry & Margaret Gordine
Philip & Hilary Greenwood
Kelvin & Jill Holford
John & Mary Laidler
Ronnie & Suzi Leadbitter
Ian Leslie
Alan & Marilyn Major
Nick & Yvonne Mawby
Penny McCallig & Andrew Shewan
John & Ruth Morgan
Liz & Dave Nayler
Roger Norman
Roger & Wendy Pepper
Penny & Nick Potts
Sue Quinlan
Trevor & Sheila Redman
Philip & Anne Strong
Karin & Adrian Sumption
Martin & Penny Sweet
Alan & Marion Turner
Peter & Elaine Vincent
Geoff & Carol Wilkinson
Alan & Chrissie Williams
Vince & Christine Wright
Julia Wright

Apologies:

Robert and Carolyn Ash
Andrew & Elizabeth Bawn
Dick & Vicky Constable
Martin & Jo Cox
Martin & Brenda Elliston
Andy & Sylvia Embling
Alan & Jane Fletcher
Mike & Sylvia Frew
Graham & Jenny Goodacre
Heather & Chris Gould
Nick & Audrey Goulden
Debbie & Wilf Harris
Mel Harris
Barry & Joyce Hopewell
Barry Ireland
Ian & Pat Johnson
Pete & Di Johnson
Tony & Chris Lewis
Charles & Dee Marks
Bob Moakes & Janet Parish
Pauleen & Nic Nicholls
Wendy Palmer and Lin Powell
Meg & Pete Privett
Chris & Nadine Reed
Campbell & Jackie Sayers
Robbie Singer
Richard & Lynn Stevens
Roy & Kath Tipping
Mike Warburton
Tim & Elaine Withall

- 1 Julia Wright took the chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2 The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23/03/13 were approved and signed by the chairman.
- 3 There were no matters arising from the Annual General Meeting held on 23/03/13.
- 4 Julia Wright, the Chairman, reported as follows:
I'd like to welcome you to our 4th AGM. I'd like to give a particularly warm welcome to the 16 new members here, who have joined since our last AGM. If everyone on our attendance list has turned up, we have 42 vans here. That is a record number and is more than double the number of vans at the inaugural meeting in 2010.
As Nick will confirm, the membership continues to grow. The on-line chat discussions have also continued to grow with postings up by 40% on the previous year. We hope the number of meets and events will

continue to grow as well.

Sadly I have to report the death of one of our members, David Wickers. Those of you who attended the Historic Vehicles Event at Powderham in 2012 will remember David. He and his wife Lorna made great efforts to ensure that we enjoyed ourselves, despite the appalling weather and the cancellation of the event itself. I still have fond memories of time spent in the beer tent. I have written to Lorna on behalf of the Club, expressing our condolences at her loss.

On a happier note, the trip to Greece is going ahead. Four Murvis will be leaving for the Peloponnese on 9 April. GB Privilege, the organisers, have done us a big favour by allowing the trip to go ahead with only six vans in total. Their normal minimum is 10. As I write, the weather there is sunny with a temperature of up to 21 degrees! It will certainly be something to look forward to.

Our planned meet at Bucklers Hard in September is already proving popular. I have nine vans provisionally booked in. I would like to thank Robert and Angela for pointing out that I have, purely by coincidence, managed to choose the weekend of Beaulieu's most famous motoring event, the International Autojumble. This is the biggest outdoor sale of motoring items this side of the Atlantic and will take place on 6th & 7th September 2014. 'With over 2000 stands, groaning with all kinds of vintage and classic motoring ephemera, there is something for everyone and lots of bargains to be had.' Please come and talk to me this weekend if you would like to know more, or to put your name down for a place. Finally, some thanks:

To Karin and Adrian Sumption for organising the weekend.

To Nick Mawby for providing the PA system

To the committee, for all their hard work behind the scenes.

And lastly to you, the members for coming along and supporting us.

- 5 Roger Pepper, the Secretary, reported as follows:
Committee meetings took place on 24 March and 17 November 2013. The committee have been in regular touch by email between the meetings.
Adrian Sumption was co-opted to the committee to act as our Editor
The following decisions have been taken:

The Club will not advertise or endorse any commercial products.

£25 will be paid to rally leaders who use their own gazebo to meet wear and tear costs. If possible this will be recouped from those attending the rally.

Members' addresses will no longer be included in the year book for security reasons.

The Club's gazebo is not being used and storage and transport is a problem. It has therefore been disposed of and the proceeds donated to a local school.

A five year subscription for the Club's domain name has been taken out.

I notified Natural England, Welsh Assembly Government, The Scottish Government, ACCEO and Grove Insurance of our name change. The Treasurer has notified our bank.

Membership of ACCEO and our public liability insurance have both been renewed.

- 6 Alan Major, the Treasurer, reported as follows:
A copy of the accounts was sent out with the AGM papers.
The continuing growth in the number of members has increased the club's income and meant that additional expenditure on the club's internet infrastructure has been met without the need to draw upon reserves. Fortunately the charge for other significant item of expenditure, our Public Liability Insurance, is banded according to membership numbers and despite the additional members in 2013 we remained within the same charging band. So with only a very modest adjustment to the premium this expenditure remained at a similar level to the previous year. At the end of the year there was a £267 surplus of income over expenditure and this amount has been added to the general reserve.
As the club's income continues to be sufficient to meet its financial commitments I will be recommending to the Executive Committee that the membership subscript remains at £5 per year.
The acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Dave Naylor, seconded by Roger Norman and agreed unanimously.

- 7 Nick Mawby, the IT and Membership Secretary, reported as follows:

Numbers

It is four years since I responded to Pam Crummay's suggestion of setting up a club, and when I spoke to her about the viability of her idea, she said she would be happy if we managed to get up to six members. I can confirm we have passed this target!

At this point in 2011 we had 89 vans, in 2012 there were 124, last year 163, and today we have 191 paid or pledged to pay.

During the year 13 members have left:

5 had sold their Murvi

1 was not using the van enough

1 was disappointed by lack of local meets
1 was not into social events
and 1 gave no reason;
a further 4 have not responded despite 4 emails and a postal reminder.

Privacy

Our privacy policy was updated in March 2013 to clarify that membership information would not be disseminated outside the club or Murvi Motorcaravans Ltd.

Following Martin Sweet's suggestion last year, I did not include full addresses in the year book.

Website

Last March the committee agreed that we should upgrade the website. It has been moved from the free Yolasite to a Wordpress site. This gives us far more flexibility but is taking me longer than anticipated to get all features running. Wordpress enables the installation of many customisable add-ons and will allow us to authorise additional members to edit specific areas of the website. For instance, if someone wanted to run a small local meet, they could have their own page. Or if there has been a particularly useful thread on the chat group, someone could upload an edited version, cutting out the irrelevant material.

Photos

I would appreciate feedback on the value and format of the photo list.

It would be appreciated if members could take note of certain principles when sending your photo:

- Ensure it is more than 10 years old, alternatively use photoshop to ensure you are unrecognisable,
- Wear hat and sunglasses,
- Give more prominence to your dog than yourself,
- Use the lowest resolution possible.

Half of you will have been given a list of names and details, and again I would appreciate feedback, the other half have suffered a technical hitch, and in future I will double check my drug dosage calculations! Finally, if anyone would like to become involved in managing a small part of the website, please email me (nick@mawby.net)

- 8 Adrian Sumption, the Editor, reported as follows:

The next newsletter will be published in June/July. Although description of Murvi travels are of interest to members I would like to receive articles on other subjects for instance tips and ideas.

- 9 Karin Sumption, the Rally Secretary, reported as follows:

Last year's AGM was attended by twenty seven vans. Thirty six had booked in but as the weather deteriorated on Friday morning, with a heavy fall of snow, some coming from long distances decided not to risk the journey. Despite the bitter weather the weekend was a success with everyone wrapping up warm and going out for walks or exploring Worcester. We had the use of a room every day so were able to get together and warm ourselves up at the end of every day.

There was a Murvi presence at the Midsummer Motorhome Show in Exeter. Seven vans attended and despite everyone agreeing that it wasn't the most interesting show they had been to a good time was had by all with lots of exploring of the surrounding countryside & coast. The highlight was the Friday evening's entertainment at which the Murvi dancers stole the show!

The other meets organised this year were all rolling affairs.

In September Adrian & I organised a trip to Scotland over three weeks, travelling from Perth to the North-eastern tip by way of Speyside, the Moray coast, the west Highlands and Cape Wrath, returning via the Strathnaver valley and Braemar. There were six vans taking part with people arriving and leaving every few days. As well as the beautiful scenery we saw it was a very sociable affair and I hope we can arrange something similar again.

In November there were three meets running on from each other.

Four Murvis stayed at the Caravan Club site at Cambridge Cherry Hinton for three nights, organised by Julia Wright. The site was well situated for Cambridge itself and there was plenty to see and do. With a bus stop only 5 minutes walk from site, most went to explore Cambridge. The Cambridge University Botanic Garden proved a very relaxing experience, particularly the cafe! Some visited one of the many museums and the fascinating Imperial War Museum at Duxford. (Many thanks to Roger for providing a taxi service.)

This was followed on Thursday by Roger & Wendy Pepper's annual seaside meet of 28 vans on a beautiful wide open site on the North Norfolk coast. People enjoyed walks along the coast, cycle rides and a trip on the North Norfolk railway. In the evenings we all congregated in the bar to socialise.

On the Monday morning four vans drove to the Lincolnshire coast to a site near the Donna Nook nature reserve for three nights. This meet was suggested by Hanneke van Deth who, unfortunately, couldn't be there. The mud flats are taken over in November by grey seals for the birth of the baby seals. The mothers and babies arrange themselves close to the viewing path so everyone gets a good view of them, while the males stay in the background nearer the sea fighting each other! Apparently there were over

1200 babies in 2013. It was well worth the visit. We had a very interesting morning watching the seals followed by a pub lunch. There was a bus stop very near the site so we spent the next day visiting Louth. So far this year we have four meets arranged or being planned, details are on the website or speak to me for information.

April-May - GB privilege organised trip to Greece

August – Great Dorset Steam Fare

September – Bucklers Hard in the New Forest

We are open to suggestions for a meet at a motorhome show. I have a list of those that Murvi are exhibiting at and some others which look interesting. Let me know if there is one you fancy.

A meet is being planned for the weekend of 13-17 November, probably at the Hidden Valley Campsite near to Ilfracombe in North Devon. Further details will be available later in the year.

If you would like to organise a meet or, when you are travelling around, you fancy some company let me know where you are going and I will let other members know so that they can get in touch and join you for some of the time.

Let's see if we can exceed last year's total of meets this year!

- 10 Alan Major, Nick Mawby, Roger Pepper Karin Sumption and Julia Wright were elected to the Executive Committee.
- 11 Dave Naylor proposed Martin Sweet as Auditor. Angela Emuss seconded and his election was carried unanimously with the meeting's thanks to Martin for carrying out this function.
- 12 Alan Taylor proposed that the Club write to the Caravan Club suggesting that site wardens are instructed to give some latitude to the parking of Murvi vans on pitches in order the sliding door can be sheltered from the wind if necessary. This was unanimously agreed by the meeting.
- 13 The next Annual General Meeting will be held on 21 March 2015 at a venue to be announced. Sue Quinlan suggested that the Caravan and Camping club site at Malvern may be suitable as it has a meeting room.

The meeting closed at 18.40.