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NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2007



Bill Ryding showing the pulling power of his TA.

Chairman's Chat

Well that's it for another year, the skiing holiday is over and it's back to work. Although the effects of global warming seem to be effecting the ski seasons, Karen and I still had a great time. The 2 resorts we visited this year, Steamboat Springs and Vail (Colorado) only had snow bases of some 35 inches as opposed to the normal 55 inches, but whilst we were there we had a lot of fresh snow fall and powder days which was great until we started our journey home. Normally we leave the ski resort early Saturday morning and get home early Sunday morning. Not this time!

The weather forecast indicated that there was a good chance of snow for our return journey so we got up and left Vail that bit earlier on the Saturday morning. It had dropped a good few inches of snow over night and it was still snowing, but the roads weren't too bad, the snow ploughs had been out leaving only an inch or two, so 50 to 60 mph in the 4x4 wasn't too much of a problem. We managed to make good time and arrived at Denver airport for our check in time.

But then to cut a long story short we were about to start an adventure;

The plane was delayed taking off for de-icing and was delayed for landing at Chicago due to bad weather.

Our next flight could not take off due to toilets that could not be repaired and by the time it was confirmed that they could not be repaired the weather was too bad and the airport was closing down.

It is now about 8pm; we haven't eaten since early that morning and by now we should have been almost half way into our flight to Manchester.

We now had to re book an alternative flight; this would be on Sunday afternoon going via Heathrow. The airline gave us tickets for the new flights and vouchers for a hotel and taxi's to and from the hotel.

So we now go to collect our luggage but it could not be found, the airport say it is not lost but they don't know where it is, but it will be sent to Manchester on the next available flight. As there was nothing else we could do we went outside (where it's blowing a gale and snowing) to join the taxi queue.

A couple of hours later we get a taxi and at 3am we arrive at the hotel, with no luggage

and still not having eaten since Saturday morning. The hotel was great, they weren't serving food but they arrange for pizza to be delivered and they supplied everything we needed in the way of wash gear.

In the morning we had a leisurely breakfast, returned to the airport, check in for our flight and then went to see if we could find our luggage. This was now at Chicago and was booked to fly on the next available flight to Manchester.

So with time to kill we go for a meal, then "duty free" shopping and catch our flight.

We now get to Heathrow and are going through security when we are told that bottles of duty free which I have just carried off one flight cant be carried on to the next one, I will have to go through to the check in desk. By the time I've done this and found Karen we just make it on to the Manchester flight.

As we are about to get off the plane at Manchester I recognised some of our baggage on one of the trolleys so we went to the carousel to collect it. One suit case and the skis turn up, but two cases are missing along with the duty free. So we go to the lost luggage desk where it was explained that the two cases were at Manchester but they could not get hold of them at that time. They would deliver them as soon as possible. So we then caught our taxi and got home at about 4:30pm on Monday.

The joys of travelling, still not to worry its time to start planning next years ski trip.

As you can imagine by the time we got home we were absolutely knackered and decided that we couldn't make it to the Feb club night. So we'll see you at Fox Lane in March.

Tony

PS. Don't forget the Wales trip. To be sure of a place on this trip you need to get your booking form and deposit (of £100 per couple) to me or Bill Ryding by the March club night. So far I know of confirmed bookings from; A Schultz, M Newton, B Bradshaw, A Fowler, G Lockwood, M Blennerhassett, N Stevens, B Ryding & T Sharples. If your name is not here but you want to book on, please let me know ASAP.

Secretary's Notes

You can all breath a big sigh of relieve this month. This is going to be the shortest secretary's notes I've every written.

Due to the pressures of International Bulk Haulage, family commitments and the planning of a month's holiday relaxing on a beach somewhere hot, I have neglected my duties as secretary. (The holiday is well earned I can assure you).

Julie and I missed the ten-pin bowling held on the February's club night so I am unaware as to who won on the night. March's club night is a good old natter and noggin. The perfect opportunity for me to catch up on recent events.

There are several weekend events planned for the summer months. Some of which will require tickets. If you could let me know which events etc... you're interested in, I can put the tickets aside for you once they have been received.

Look forward to seeing you in a couple of days.

Graham

A Cautionary Tale sent in by Roger Schofield – extract from the V8 magazine

Hello Victor,

Having searched the internet in order to seek help with a problem that I have with DVLA over my SORN document, I came across your website and SORN pages. On reading the problems that your members have had, I felt I should tell you of my problem. I have not much time so I shall be brief.

I have a lorry which I use for a race transporter which is off the road for three months of the year. I cashed in my road tax at the post office and filled in the SORN document. This was all done in the correct way.

At a later stage, but in more than 4 weeks, I received confirmation that the vehicle was on a SORN and from the date that I did it at the post office. This confirmation also told me the dates that the SORN had started and would end.

This was all well and good, until I received a letter from the DVLA stating that I was being fined £80 for non declaration. This eventually went straight into the hands of their debt collectors when I did not pay the fine.

The debt collectors are contactable by phone. When I contacted them and told them that I had declared SORN on time and had the document to say so, I was told that on the back of the SORN declaration it states that, when declaring a SORN the DVLA notify you within 4 weeks that they have received your declaration. As I was not notified by them for more than 8 weeks I am in default.

This basically means that if the DVLA do not get on with their paperwork and your declaration hangs around on the desk at their office, you have still to pay them for their back log of work. I am so angry about this as I have a document clearly stating that I declared SORN at the right time. This is still ongoing and I keep getting phone calls from the debt collectors asking for payment or they will take me to court. I am thinking OK I will go to court because this is ridiculous but I guess I will end up with more fines and fees. How can this be right?

Regards,
Robert Stevens

Wales Trip 25th - 27th May 2007



After the success and interest in the Isle of Man and Scotland trips it has been decided to arrange a trip to Wales over the late May bank holiday weekend. The weekend will be based at the Bala Lake Hotel, overlooking Bala Lake.

Accommodation is available for 3 nights (Fri, Sat, Sun) on a 2 sharing, Bed, Breakfast & Evening meal basis. 2 day options may be available, please contact us for more information

Cost of accommodation per couple is: - £360.

Further details of the weekend's itinerary will be sent out in April, this is expected to include a number of runs or sight seeing tours.

For further details please contact: -

Bill Ryding – 01772 323116 (from end of March 2007) or Tony Sharples – 01772 495417

To be sure of a place on this trip the attached booking form and deposit of £100 per couple is needed by Tue 20th March.

Christian Names.....

Surname

Address:.....

.....

.....Postcode.....

TEL No:

e-mail address

No of NightsNo of Rooms.....

Room Preference Twin Double

Make of Car.....Model.....

YearReg No.....

Please make cheques payable to: - **Preston & District MGEC** and send To:

Tony Sharples
31 Riverside Ave
Farington Moss
Leyland
PR26 6RQ

or Bill Ryding
5 Dove Cote,
Clayton-le-woods,
Chorley,
PR6 7AY

Calendar of Events for 2007

Date	Club Event	At	Time	Meet
Tue 27 Mar	Natter & Noggin - Possible Guest speaker	Leyland	20.00	Sports Club
Tue 24 Apr	Natter & Noggin with slide show	Leyland	20.00	Sports Club
Sun 13 May	Cholmondeley Castle	Malpas, Cheshire	9.30	Charnock Richard Services
25-28 May	Wales	Bala Lake	TBA	TBA
Tue 29 May	Show Your Car Off	Spinners Arms	20.00	Spinners Arms
Thu 14 June	Evening Run	TBA	TBA	TBA
Tue 26 Jun	Treasure Hunt (Martyn Davidson)	TBA	19.30	TBA
Sun 1 July	Garstang Show	Garstang	9.30	Burlingtons
Sat 7 July	Lostock Hall Carnival	Lostock Hall	TBA	Lostock Hall
Sun 8 July	Leighton Hall Classic Car Show	Leighton Hall	9.30	Burlingtons
Thu 12 July	Evening Run	TBA	TBA	TBA
Sun 15 July	Lancs Classic Car Show	Hoghton Tower	TBA	TBA
Tue 31 July	Auto Test	Schultz estate	20.00	Andy's
4/5 Aug	Northern National	Pateley Bridge	TBA	TBA
Thu 16 Aug	Evening Run	TBA	TBA	TBA
18/19 Aug	Wigton Classic Penrith	Penrith	TBA	TBA
Tue 28 Aug	Evening Run	TBA	TBA	TBA
Sun 9 Sep	Lancashire Lanes Run	TBA	TBA	TBA
Tue 25 Sep	Club Night - Guest Speaker	Leyland	20.00	Sports Club
Tue 30 Oct	Quiz Night	Leyland	20.00	Sports Club
Tue 27 Nov	Natter, Noggin & Planning	Leyland	20.00	Sports Club
Fri 7 Dec	Annual Dinner	Leyland Golf Club	19.30	Leyland Golf Club
Sat 29 Dec	Cold Turkey Run	TBA	TBA	TBA

Committee, Contacts & Useful Information



Committee

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All articles are to be sent to the editor by the 15th of the month. The Newsletter will be published and posted at the end of each month (Jan to Nov) in time for club night.

Trading Members

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