

C.T.C. NEW FOREST RALLY 2010.

NEWSLETTER.

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Dear New Forest Rally enthusiasts,

Our first Newsletter for 2010 is written with a feeling of sadness and excitement. Firstly I am very pleased to confirm that the Rally is **ON**; the dates are as proposed –

From: Friday 23rd July to Saturday 31st July.

We received confirmation of the dates from Forest Holidays, who manage the Forestry Commission's campsites in Mid January, but we were unable to obtain details of the camping costs until last Monday, 8th February.

The increase in costs came as a shock;

- the price for a standard pitch has increased to £151.50 for the 8 day period,
- there was to be no discount for use of the Rally site during the high season,
- no reduced price for lightweight campers
- extra children were to be charged at £25
- extra adults at £49
- all booking arrangements were to be sent to the Forest Holidays head office. The only concession offered was to members of the Camping & Caravan Club and holders of Forest Holiday card (cost £15 per person), who would pay £122.50 for the 8 days.

We took the view that the new cost structure would deter many of our regulars and moreover with all the bookings being sent to the company, we would not know who, or how many would be attending the Rally until we arrived at Roundhill.

The New Forest Rally was started in 1975 and we have been at Roundhill for 35 years, so it was with great sadness that we started to look for an alternative venue. Amazingly, we have found a site, which can accommodate us on the required dates and has all the facilities we need. Three of us visited Avon Tyrrell Manor near Burley last Wednesday and were very impressed with the facilities and the security of the site, especially for the children. It is a UK Youth Activity Centre but caters for adults as well; the staff were friendly and helpful and assured us that the New Forest Rally can continue in the format, which we have enjoyed for the past 35 years. We were able to consult some of the long-standing supporters of the Rally, who agreed that we should change and we have therefore booked Avon Tyrrell Manor for this year's Rally. The new venue is about 2 miles south of Burley and less than a mile from the dismantled railway track that leads to the Holmsley Cafe; easiest access by road is to leave the A31 at the Picket Post junction, thence to Burley and take the Bransgore Road, turning right at cross roads, signpost Avon Tyrrell.

Please have a look at their website on www.avontyrrell.org.uk for details of the facilities. The cost is £6.58 for adults per night, i.e. £105.38 for 2 people for 8 days, roughly equivalent to the £100 of last year. Children under 5 are free of charge, and children aged 5 to 14 are £5.00 per night

The “pros and cons” of Avon Tyrrell are:

- Self contained site offering security for families and children.
- Superb facilities, including cycle circuits for the children, swimming pool
- Easy access to Forest Trails
- Easy access to shops (Ringwood, Christchurch, New Milton) and to the sea (Highcliffe)
- Some delightful lanes in the Avon Valley and to the west, which most of us haven't previously explored.

But.....we are further away from Beaulieu, Calshot, Lepe etc Lymington Ferry is 9 miles away via the Holmsley railway track

We think the move could give the Rally a new lease of life; we can keep a similar programme to previous years, but with some new features. When the weather improves, we hope to spend a couple of days in the area, to plan routes and destinations, sort out tea shops etc. and details will be published in the next Newsletter and on the new website, which should be up and running by the end of this month.

I hope this covers all the information required at the moment, but if you have any queries or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at the above address or contact John Capell, Tel: 01494 715636, address: 9 New Road, Great Kingshill, Bucks HP15 6DR, e-mail: john.capell@btinternet.com

If you would like to attend the Rally, please find a Registration Form attached, which should be returned to John. He will acknowledge all forms and payments, as in previous years. We have included a space for you to indicate whether you wish to take part in any of the activities available at the Centre. The “pay for” activities have to be booked in advance on a group basis, so use will depend on demand

Hoping for some good weather and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Forest,

Best Wishes, Davin and John