Dec 2019





Happy Christmas to All our Members

What's Up

<u>Special</u> <u>CHRISTMAS</u>

Club Night
19 December

The Smithy
Cowfold

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atia by ...See Page 3





Newsletter of South Downs Escargots (www.southdownsescargots.co.uk/)

Member group of 2cvGB Articles and 2cv news always welcome.

Please send copy and pics to John Chaplin (biker1@btinternet.com)

Les Slimes Dec 2019



SOUTH DOWNS ESCARGOTS CHRISTMAS CLUB MEETING

THURSDAY DECEMBER 19TH 2019

Not at our usual venue but at The Old Smithy, Cowfold, which for those of you who have not been there before is virtually opposite the car park by the playing fields in Cowfold. Cross the road from the car park and the door is in front of you. Any problems ring Sue or Maurice - 07860 696818 or 07965 091633.

Please bring your own drinks and also a plate of food - People with surnames A to N please bring savouries and M to Z, desserts.

There will be a raffle, a light-hearted quiz and hopefully music and other distractions

Les Fils de Vitesse/Pompey Puddleducks 30th New Year's Day Barbie (See below or 2CVGB News December)

ARUART ZUZU

Ist Les Fils de Vitesse/Pompey Puddleducks 30TH NEW YEAR'S DAY BARBIE Hollycombe Steam Collection Museum at Liphook Hants – GU30 7LP. BBQ's will be supplied and ready to cook around mid-day. Hot and cold drinks free, but bring your own food and picnic tables/chairs. For more details or directions please contact:- Tony White (Les Fils) 01276 34518/07803 143311 tonyshirley2cv@btinternet.com, Karen and Andrew (Les Fils) – 01252 679649 belle2cv@gmail.com, Sean Cullen (Puddleducks) 02392 380037/07906 077139 scullen.sc4@gmail.com

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Many thanks to Chris Yates for this story on his trip to Croatia to the World Meeting

To Croatia By Scamp 2019.

(An Austin Min based kit car)

In some ways this trip started in the year 2000 with a trip of 3870 miles to the top of Norway, Finland and Sweden. This was with Peter Baker in our two Scamps. Have a look on the Scamp web site if you're interested.

The next year 2001 I was then asked by John Shelley to share the driving in his 2CV to Austria to a big 2CV meeting. We went via Prague and back via Venice another long distance driving adventure. This also got me hooked on the 2CV World Meetings. Croatia was my 6th 2CV World Meeting.

So this year the 2CV World Meeting was in Croatia and as John was sharing his car with Pam my best option was to go was by Scamp.

The trip started with driving to Portsmouth ready for a

Saturday ferry to Cherbourg in France.



Saturday night was at a pre-booked campsite in northern France.



Sunday was a short drive to Ferte Vidame where the big 100 years of Citroen celebration was being held. Here I met up with John and the other South Downs Escargo club members who I would be traveling with for the next 3 weeks. The show was big with all types of Citroens old to new, not just 2CVs. There were several of these Citroen halftracks built for Africa.

On the Monday after this show we set off in the direction of Croatia. The group was 9 people and 5 cars so a nice number to travel with not too many to be difficult to organise.

Some had not been to Venice before so we set off to Venice. We travelled across France, briefly into Switzerland and then into Italy.

The first night in Italy we stopped in a hill top village where I don't think the locals saw may foreigners. The bar did a most welcome cheap pizza after a long hot days driving. The next night in Italy we camped on the outskirts of Padua a short train ride from Venice. I visited Padua and some went into Venice on a very hot day.



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The 2CV World Meeting was in a Croatian town called Samobor we stopped in a local hotel the night before. The town was a really nice place with several good restaurants. The locals had got in to the 2CV spirit and decorated the town square with 2CV caricature paintings.

The que to get in to the meeting only lasted a bit over an hour in the sun shine.









My Scamp and our group of tents.



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The meeting lasted from Tuesday till Sunday. A flee market each morning, events each afternoon and bands each night. Across the road from the event site was two supermarkets and various other shops who did a great trade

Closing night fireworks.

In all 3,858 vehicles, 8,190 people from 41 countries and a total of 3783 day visitors attended the meeting.







360 Degree photo of the bar and stage area.



Breakfast in the restaurant the locals set up especially for the event before leaving Samobor.



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We did not take a direct route home and travelled North East to the Hungarian capital of Budapest via Slovenia. The camp site was at the side of the Danube the chalets are on stilts so they get spoilt when the river floods.



Campsite near Budapest, Hungary.

The main part of Budapest city is one side of the Danube with the castle above the city on other side.





Countries Visited

France

Switzerland

Italy

Slovenia

Croatia

Slovenia

Hungary

Austria

Germany

France again.

3295 miles driven in 3 weeks.

My Scamp was reliable and the only annoyance was some random brake squeal that sometimes made it sound like the pads were worn out when there was nothing wrong.

Maybe Budapest to Cheadle in 3 days was too much but that would have been the only change I would have made.

More photos at

http://www.scampownersclub.org.uk/previous/croatia.htm

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Switzerland in 2 years?

For a trip like this the most important things are:

- 1. Good traveling companions.
- 2. A reliable car.
- 3. A tent that is easy to put up for one night's stay.
- 4. Have a plan put don't over plan.



.....and finally a couple of pics from the NEC featuring our very own John Leaney and his Bijou

