December 2021



Inside

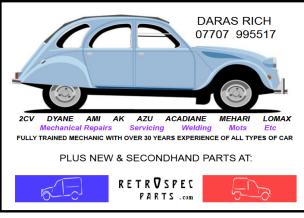
- World Meeting
 The Journey Continues Part 8 Sweeden
- Club Meeting at Royal Oak Wineham. 19.30 on Thursday 16 December (out door heated huts available)
- Escargots New Year Meal
- · New Years Day Barbie







HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TO ALL SOUTH DOWN ESCARGOTS & FRIENDS





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)



Escargots New Year Meal Gathering

Traditionally the Escargots have a post Christmas Saturday meal together at a gastro pub.

(Service and choices being so much better after the holiday).

John Shelley & Pam have offered to organise this for 2022 :0)

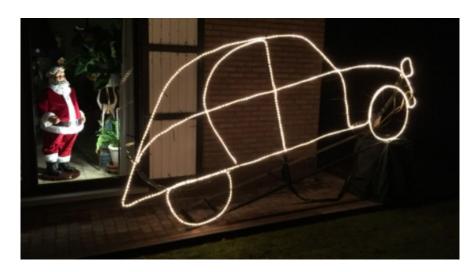
Venue: The Bolney Stage, Bolney

When: Saturday 15-1-2022, 7.00 for 7.30

The Bolney Stage will apparently have a new menu for 2022 (but similar type food and prices).

Ideally John needs numbers by 15 December to book the tables. So if you are interested email him at

Jonjon.shelley@gmail.com



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World Meetings Smooth Driving all the Way (Almost)! Part Eight - Swedish Adventure Trials and Tribulations

Summer 2007 had arrived and it was time to get ready for the trip to Sweden. Some of our members had time for a real adventure this time and devised a mammoth journey across northern Europe covering the Baltic States, Germany, Poland and Russia before crossing to Finland and then on into Sweden. They were the ones who had time! For Sue and I work commitments were such that we had to take a shorter trip, while still covering a lot of continental kilometres.

We did not however make an auspicious start. The drive to Dover was fine but somehow I managed to put diesel fuel into Pierre instead of petrol. Though I suddenly realised my mistake part way through filling the damage was done and so we called for assistance. Sadly this took some time to arrive as the operative who came out was on the M25 when contacted. We rang P & O to delay our ferry crossing and then could only sit and wait. Luckily we had not planned a long journey on our first day and had booked an hotel near Brussels, which we would still have time to reach.

After our tank had been pumped out, wasting about 15 litres of fuel and we had re-filled with unleaded petrol we were on our way again and indeed easily reached our planned night stop in time to eat dinner at the adjoining restaurant. That was a relief and perhaps unwisely I thought "it can't get worse". It could and did. Leaving aside my momentary aberration the following morning, when I set off on the wrong side of the road, more significant problems were to come.



Heading east towards Germany from the outskirts of Brussels I started to detect a worrying exhaust noise, as yet relatively faint but no doubt bound to get worse! This it did once we were heading across Germany on the autobahn network and Pierre started to sound like a tractor. Eventually I pulled into a service area for fuel and a break and as we entered the parking area noticed a group of French 2CVs. I stopped nearby and by the time I had lifted the bonnet and discovered a fractured Swan neck exhaust pipe several Frenchmen had arrived. This was no surprise as it had hardly been a quiet arrival! The problem was obvious for all to see and the first arrival, who turned out to have his own motor repair business in France, asked if I had any empty cans, such as coke or the like. We didn't and neither did any of the French when asked. His next request was for kitchen foil, which they did have and he managed to get a thick wedge of this on both the severed parts of the pipe and secure it with a jubilee trip. This was for sure a very temporary fix but we agreed it would keep us going for the moment and at least cut down the noise.

We gratefully thanked our French helpers, hoped to see them again at the meeting in Sweden and were once more on our way. Our destination was Lubeck, north-east of Hamburg and not far from the North Sea coast of Germany. There we had arranged to meet up at a hotel with Matt, Rita and Alex Damper. On arrival I checked that the swan neck 'repair' was still holding and we had a short stroll to ease the stiffness out of the legs. In keeping with the theme of last couple of days, I incurred the severe wrath of a German cyclist, by inadvertently putting a foot in the cycle lane on a path, fortunately without damage to either of us.



The Dampers had arrived when we got back to the hotel and we arranged to wander the short distance into Lubeck and find a restaurant, which we duly did. From our albeit brief observations we found it a guite an attractive town and the restaurant we chose was fine, though a little smoky. Although we were in the inside 'no smoking' area it was a very warm evening and the front windows had been removed to allow more air to circulate. The prevailing wind however also allowed some fumes to come in from the smokers outside. The next day was to see us travel in three countries. First of all we covered the 90 or so kilometres to the port of Puttgarden, to catch the car ferry to the Danish port of Redbyhaven. On reaching the booking kiosk we found that we could book a discounted combined ticket for this ferry journey plus the onward Oresund bridge/tunnel from near Copenhagen to Malmo and duly did so. I reckoned this as the third thing to go wrong on this trip when somehow between the ticket office and getting on the ferry we managed to lose the ticket for the second leg. This was getting to be an expensive journey. The ferry crossing was smooth and the number of wind turbines in the waters to the east of us as we crossed was enormous. These days, with the large wind farm now established off the south coast of England we of course find the sight normal but back in 2007 this was the largest wind farm I had ever seen. Our plan today was to cross into Sweden and so we drove the 190 kilometres or so from Redbyhaven through to the outskirts of Copenhagen and the bridge. There of course we had to buy another ticket for the one lost



The bridge is a magnificent sight and it combines with a short distance of tunnel on the Danish side near the island of Saltholm. The overall length is nearly 8 kilometres. It was some relief to me to arrive at Malmo and actually get into Sweden, an outcome which had looked a little unlikely at times in the last few days. We stayed with the Dampers a little while longer and I particularly remember camping near the coast as we headed north. We then split up again as they were off to visit Matt's Swedish relatives. We headed to the north-east and after the camping went back to hotel overnight stops. Our plan was to meet up with our other group who after their arrival in Stockholm following the wanderings through Russia and Finland would be heading north for Borlange, where the World Meeting was to be held. A meeting date, place and time had been set on Route 70 from Stockholm as it headed north-west to Borlange. Would this all work out? Find out in the second part of the Swedish Adventure.





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Saturday 1st January 2022 - Les Fils de Vitesse/ Pompey Puddleducks NEW YEAR'S DAY BARBIE

Good news! Our New Year's Day Barbie at Hollycombe Steam Museum will be going ahead in 2022. Unfortunately the OK from Hollycombe came too late for the November issue of 2cvgb News, but the notification will be in the December magazine. To give you a bit of advanced notice the details of the event are included below.

We will be back again in 2022 at the Hollycombe Steam Collection Museum just off the A3 at Liphook Hants - GU30 7PL. The site is signposted from the A3 Liphook

junction - follow the familiar brown tourist signs. As always barbecues will be supplied and ready to cook around mid-day. Hot and cold drinks free, but bring your

For more details or directions please contact:-

own food and picnic tables/chairs.

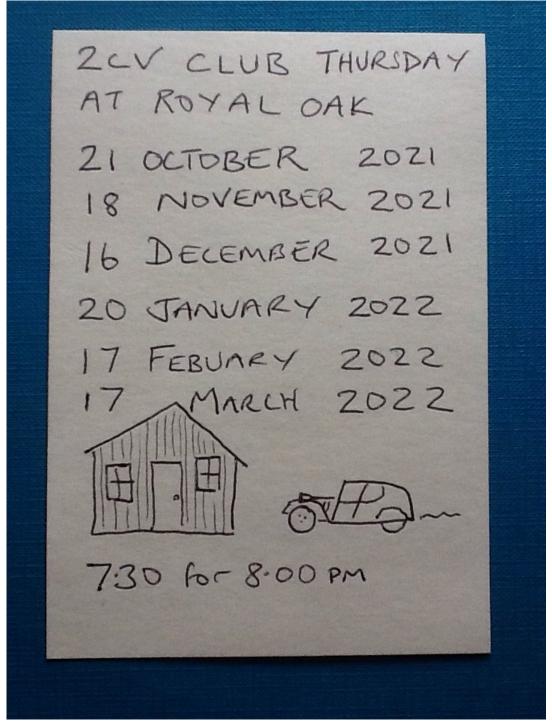
Tony White (Les Fils) 01276 34518/07803 143311 tonyshirley2cv@btinternet.com

Karen and Andrew (Les Fils) - 01252 679649 belle2cv@gmail.com

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