

RED ROSE RAMBLINGS

JULY 2016

Events are coming thick and fast now. So this month straight into it.

What follows is a lovely account put together by Ronnie.

Traws Cambria weekend.

A few weeks ago I was bonkers enough to tell the Ed that I would write a few words about Traws Cambria. Dave said "Try to give it a different angle Ronnie, something amusing maybe". So here goes. It was hilarious when we'd had a great run down with Sandra, Chris, Martin, Lynne, Ian and Sue to get the key to our room only to find we had been given what amounted to a corridor

under the eaves with two beds in it, and a very spacious bathroom. We thought about dragging the beds into the bathroom to give us more room but decided instead to have a word with management.

Management said they were full so we said we would try somewhere else. They then offered us two other rooms both of which were hobbit sized, but said we could have a person sized room on the Sunday. We stayed. Shame about the room mix up because the hotel in general and the food throughout our stay was very good.

Saturday dawned dryish and we were all ready to roll by 10.30. We as Red Rose group decided to adopt a couple of friends from West Midlands group. Steve and Sheila didn't know what they were in for but we had a vote and decided they would make fantastic leaders for our trip to Dan yr Ogof. That'll teach them for being friendly! Anyway they led us through some lovely places with names like Llanhamlach, Talybont on Usk and Pontsticill. The Brecon Beacons are a beautiful part of the countryside and we finished our Saturday run at the Dan Yr Ogof national show caves centre which are the largest and longest show caves in Britain, even holding

weddings in the vast Cathedral cave. Also at the cave centre was a shire horse centre and Victorian farm and a lot of dinosaurs, yes real life-like ones.

Saturday night was a triumph for the Dragons. It was their 25th anniversary year and to celebrate they had a Welsh male voice choir to entertain us. The choir regaled us with a dozen songs, every one of them memorable, and finishing with the Welsh national anthem. They bought a lump to the throats of even the hardest among us. The meal was excellent and we all had a great catch up with each other and other groups.

The Sunday run was from Brecon to Hay on Wye -

via the pretty route of course. Funnily enough Steve and Sheila were nowhere to be seen (can't think why) so unfortunately Steve and I lead our small convoy, with Martin and Lynne bringing up the rear so to speak. Some of the roads were a bit rough, some were very narrow and some went through fords and over mountains. Exactly what TR four-wheel drives were made for!!! Great fun though. Hay on Wye is a lovely town famous for its literary festival and claims to be the second hand book capital of the world with over 30 book shops.

Our evening was spent at a local hostelry eating from red hot stones and basically cooking our own food. A super evening with

great company and lots of laughs.

Well Steve and I eventually got our promised room with a four poster bed and two sinks in the bathroom so thanks for leaving, Ian and Sue. Some of us stayed on for another couple days but the main weekend was unfortunately at an end for another year and I can honestly say if you want to give your TR a good work out and have a wonderful weekend with friends in beautiful countryside then join the Dragons in the Brecon Beacons next year. You won't be disappointed.

PS. We've already booked our room – a decent sized one 😊

Weaver

The Weaver Wander for those of you who are not familiar with the term is a charity Classic and Sports Car event held annually and wonderfully organised by the Rotary Club of Crewe and Nantwich Weaver in aid of their chosen charities Parkinson's UK and Macmillan Cancer Support.

We assembled in one of the designated car parks at Reaseheath college Nantwich before sloping off to the canteen for registration and a bacon butty. We were handed the most complete and informative welcome pack and route maps imaginable. At this time with the levels of excitement rising we returned to the car park to

Wander

ready ourselves for the short trip to the centre of Nantwich for the official start. The first unfortunate event was a 1920's Rolls Royce manoeuvring out of our car park managed to scrape the front wing of Morgan. All that could be heard was lots of sorrys and I'll pay for its. Sorry again rang out again and again. The villain was a real gentleman as one would expect of a R.R. owner.

Over 150 Weaver Wanderers embarked on this year's Charity Run in sunny, mild weather bound for Chirk Castle. As in previous years, the cars all paraded through the centre of Nantwich in front of an appreciative crowd, where they were 'flagged' away by the Mayor of

Nantwich. Three routes were planned for the Wander through the Cheshire & Shropshire countryside all culminating in the impressive grounds of the National Trust's Chirk Castle. At the castle we lined up in a field creating a good photo opportunity with the castle as a back drop. When it was time to leave some of the cars returned to Reaseheath to collect well deserved prizes. Who won what I really don't know but they will know who they are.

The photograph of Sue and her little friend Charlie appeared in the Nantwich News. Fame at last for the Wildes. Ian's face has been blanked out to protect the innocent.



Tatton Park

Before we know it June has arrived, a short month and as I write this it's actually July. Where does the time go, how many times have you heard that. The 30th anniversary event for one of Britain's best and most popular classic car shows. Around 2,000 classic and performance cars were on display including nearly eighty of Britain's top classic and performance car clubs including Jaguar, Lotus, Jensen, MG, Triumph, TVR, BMW and all the classics of yesteryear.

Autojumble with specialist

and general trade stands of around 200 stalls, along with the ever popular Car Mart.

Attendance was again very good I counted fourteen TRs on Saturday and Eighteen on Sunday. Tony Shearings TR6 made its first appearance at Tatton since the major rebuild. The rebuild has been followed with great interest on our Facebook page. As we have come to expect Tony put all his army training to good use by lining the cars up with military precision.

However the star of our group for me was the beautifully presented 1954 TR2 owned by Laurie Wardle.

Manchester to Blackpool Classic

A nice account written by Caroline which sounds like a really good day out. It will certainly be on my list for next year.

The 54th Manchester to Blackpool run took place on Sunday 12th June. Attending from Red Rose were Ian and Sue Wilde and myself and Jonathan.

The day dawned fairly sunny but a little chilly and we were glad of a warm drink and a bacon butty when we arrived at Worsley Old Hall in Manchester to sign on and get our route books and rally plaques.

Being the perfect gentleman that he is Jonathan kindly offered to show Sue to the ladies

before we left as we had been to the hall before and he knew exactly where they were located!

It was only when Sue emerged from the cubicle and saw a man standing with his back to her that she realised Jonathan had sent her into the Gents! Fortunately she saw the funny side and amid much laughter we set off for the day.

The first check point was at The Wellington Pub and this time I was in charge of finding the facilities!

The route book was very well done and we managed to get to the lunch stop with no problems, although we did manage to confuse a number of lost cars who had decided to follow us when we didn't do a left

turn but carried on to a car park as Ian and Sue's car had developed a problem and they all followed us in having not been part of the conversation on the CB. That's what happens when you don't follow your tulips!

Lunch was at Fulwood Barracks in Preston. Some people had a picnic in the car whilst others had a pre booked lunch inside. We also had free admission to The Lancashire Infantry Museum which had opened specially for us. It is well worth a visit if you happen to be in the area.

There was just time for a quick photograph before we set off again. Ian and Sue very sensibly chose to put their roof on but Jonathan assured me we would drive out of the rain.

We did not!

He was still optimistic of it stopping at the next check point at Bowker Preston Docks and despite my protests carried on to the final check at Wrea Green when he reluctantly got out and went through the rather lengthy and by this point wet task of putting on our roof. Maybe next time he will listen to his navigator!

Our final destination was Victoria Park in Blackpool, by this time it was raining very

heavily so the prize giving was done in the cafe whilst everyone had afternoon tea.

Our Journey home was long and wet but I am sure we will be attending again next year as it is a very well organised event.

Bye from me, articles to look forward to the next time will be the Leicester weekend and the IWE from Lincoln, plus other little snips from the pen of DB.

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