

# News & views



## Adria's Master plan

### Slovenian company launches Matrix on new Renault base vehicle

ADRIA WAS the first major motor caravan manufacturer to announce the launch of vehicles based on the latest Renault Master chassis.

Boasting engines that meet Euro V emissions regulations, low-profile Matrix Supreme 677 SL and 677 SC are proper four-berths, thanks to a pull-down bed over the lounge.

Towards the back, the 677 SC has a transverse double bed while its

sister model has twin singles that can be converted to a double.

Both vehicles come with five homologated travel seats, plus luxuries such as full Alde heating and hot water systems. Prices were still to be confirmed at the time of writing, but are expected to start at around £57,000.

Renault's latest engines are 2.3-litres producing 125bhp or

146bhp, also available with the six-speed semi-optional Quickshift.

Chassis will be rated at 3,500kg, with the option to go up to 3,800kg – note both models have the same starting kerbweight of 3,147kg.

Renault has also announced the development of some 25 Pro+ service centres that are committed to motor caravan servicing. For more details, call the converter

hotline on 0800 040 7343, or email [converterhotline@renault.co.uk](mailto:converterhotline@renault.co.uk).

**For more information on the Matrix Supreme range, call Adria on 01787 888980 or visit [adriaconcessionaires.co.uk](http://adriaconcessionaires.co.uk).**

In brief

The new Vanmaster Association aims to help its members get the most from their luxury caravans. This owners' club plans to hold a variety of get-togethers, the first of which will be a five-day event in Southport during September. See [vanmasterassociation.org.uk](http://vanmasterassociation.org.uk) for further details.



## Scottish National a triumph

THE EAST Scotland Centre hosted more than 260 outfits from all over Britain at the 61st Scottish National Rally at The Border Union Agricultural Showground, Springwood Park, Kelso from 29 April to 3 May.

Visitors included Caravan Club Chairman Grenville Chamberlain and his wife Liz, as well as Vice Chairman Janet Moore and husband Darrill. The

rally was officially opened by Alasdair Hutton OBE TD.

Saturday's Dinner Dance at Springwood Hall was a great success, as were the Inter Centre Sports, won by the East Scotland Centre (the prize for best cheerleading went to the South-West Scotland Centre).

The Sunday church service was taken by Captain Stephen Turner of

The Salvation Army and accompanied by St Boswell's Concert Band.

On Sunday evening, during a Family Night, the Scottish saltire was handed to West Scotland Centre Chairman Billy Eames for safekeeping until next year's Scottish National Rally at Lanark Racecourse. On Monday ralliers enjoyed a bus tour before departing on the Tuesday.

### Plenty of legwork

CARAVAN CLUB member Mark Lock from Bristol made the journey from Land's End to John O'Groats during June, alternately running a marathon and cycling approximately 100 miles a day to raise money for Help the Heroes.

Fellow Club member Jackie Zajac provided the on-the-road back-up for Mark in her motorhome, which then became the fund-raisers' accommodation as they pitched on a number of Club sites and Certificated Locations for their overnight stops.

This 850-mile marathon took the couple two weeks to complete.



## Design & Drive 2011 Awards

HIGHCLERE CASTLE, perhaps better known as TV's Downton Abbey, hosted The Caravan Club's 2011 Motor Caravan Design & Drive Awards on 19 May. Pictured with their awards are (from left to right): Rex Kneebone, Murvi (Morello won the 'Van Conversions over £40,000' class); Alan Buckwell, Marquis and Rob Quine, Elddis (the Elddis Majestic 145, a special-edition Marquis model, won the 'Coachbuilds up to £43,000' class);

Richard Bentley, Bentley Motorhomes (the Indigo was 'Coachbuilds £43,000-£54,000' and Overall winner); Andy Craggs, Brownhills (the imported Hymer Star Edition 514 SL was voted top 'A-Class'); Club Chairman Grenville Chamberlain; Darren Lynch, East Neuk Campervans (the Fifer Touring S won gold in the 'Van Conversions up to £40,000' class); Nick Lomas, the Club's Director General; and John Cockburn, Bentley Motorhomes.

## Search for a Lunar online

LUNAR CARAVANS has launched a new, online 'Find a Demonstrator' service to help customers locate display models in their area.

Martin Henderson, Sales and Marketing Director for Lunar, said, "The 'Find a Demonstrator' facility is a valuable addition to our website. We believe both our customers and our retailers will really welcome this new service as it drastically reduces



the legwork of searching for demonstrator models."

To try out the new facility, log onto [lunarcaravans.com](http://lunarcaravans.com).



## Need a little extra help?

THE CARAVAN Club's towing and manoeuvring courses will soon be available to book online. The Club offers training suitable for both caravan and motor caravan owners. To find out more or to book, see [caravanclub.co.uk/practical-advice/general-advice/courses-and-training-aids](http://caravanclub.co.uk/practical-advice/general-advice/courses-and-training-aids) or call 01342 336666.



## Divisional and Regional AGMs

REGIONAL COUNCILS provide a forum to discuss Club issues and solve local and regional problems. The Caravan Club is keen to encourage members to attend their local Regional AGM to share their views. For further details please contact the Divisional or Regional Secretary as listed on p686 of the *Sites Directory & Handbook 2011/12* or visit the Club website 'Local Groups', 'Centre Contacts'.

### Region 1 – Irish Division

9 April 2012 at 11am, Ashfield Boys School, Holywood Road, Belfast

### Region 2 – Scottish Division

8 October 2011 at 2pm, Alloa Town Hall, Marshall, Clackmannanshire (please note this is a change of venue)

### Region 3 – Northern Region

27 November 2011 at 11am, Mayfair Centre, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool, County Durham

### Region 4 – Central Region

27 November 2011 at 2.30pm, Peak Park Gateway, Osmaston, Derbyshire

### Region 5 – South East Region

13 November 2011 at 2.30pm, The Midhurst Rother College, Easebourne, Midhurst, West Sussex

### Region 6 – Welsh Division

15 October 2011 at 11am, Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells, Powys

### Region 7 – West Central Region

13 November 2011 at 10.30am, Tilstock Village Hall, Tilstock, Shropshire

### Region 8 – South West Region

12 November 2011 at 2pm, Hoburne Cotswold Holiday Park, South Cerney, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

### Region 9 – Anglia Region

20 November 2011 at 11am, Seacroft Caravan Club Site, Cromer, Norfolk

### Region 10 – Northern Home Counties Region

19 November 2011 at 3pm, Wheatley Park School, Holton, Oxford, Oxfordshire

Updated May 2011

## Milenco step

IN THE May 2011 issue of *The Caravan Club Magazine*, our Buy Comparison article on portable steps featured incorrect information regarding the Milenco Alloy/Rubber Double Step. Milenco says the step in fact "far exceeds the physical requirements" of BS EN 1645 and has a maximum load "in excess of 200kg" (not 150kg as we stated). We apologise for this error and any inconvenience caused.

# TOM TENT

A TRAGIC accident took place at the Club's Grafham Water site in April, following which four-year-old Tom Tent died. Tom was cycling away from a grassed area onto the site road where he collided with the rear quarter of a motor caravan coming onto the site.

Tom's funeral took place on Tuesday 10 May and a number of Caravan Club staff members and the Chairman attended to pay our respects. At the time of

writing, a cause of death has not been identified.

The thoughts of everyone at the Club are with Tom's family and friends at this very difficult time.

We also extend our thoughts to everyone on site who would have been extremely upset, and to the driver and passenger of the vehicle involved in the accident – the speed of the motor caravan involved in the accident was not an issue.



The Club would like to thank the sites staff and members on site who provided a great deal of welcome support to those involved in such difficult circumstances.



## West Central golf winners

ALAN WHITTINGHAM and Rita Smith picked up the top prizes in the West Central Region Golf Championship at Brookfield GC near Nantwich in May.

Playing in brilliant sunshine, Alan fended off 22 other players to take the trophy with 37 Stableford points. Rita won the ladies section with 29 points.

Golfers were joined by partners and guests for a three-course evening meal during which prizes were presented by Club Executive Committee member John Page. TWG Hyundai was thanked for its continued sponsorship. Next year's event will take place on 17 May.



In brief

Last month on the News pages we ran a story on the 19th Biennial Southern Centre Rally being held at Appes Court Farm, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey from 26-29 August. Unfortunately, we were supplied with a wrong telephone number. The correct number is 01903 249596. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

## Club site safety

ENSURING MEMBERS and site visitors enjoy safe and happy holidays is very important to everyone at the Club. The Police and the Health and Safety Executive were on site at Grafham Water following the accident (see above). Although the Club has not been asked to carry out any changes or improvements to the site, at times like this it is right and proper that we should review what changes we might make to further improve safety on sites. This is already taking place.

As we enter the busiest part of the season, the Club stresses to members and site users that Club sites are shared spaces between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. Parents or other responsible adults are reminded that they must maintain adequate supervision of children of all ages at all times. Site users have a personal responsibility for their safety and that of others when on site. Users are reminded to adhere to speed limits and one-way systems and follow the principles of road safety at all times.

## Pitch up at the NEC

THE CARAVAN Club is running a temporary campsite during the NCC Motorhome and Caravan Show at Birmingham's NEC in October.

Members will be able to book online or by telephone from 9.30am on Wednesday 20 July. The site will be situated in North Car Parks 9-11 and pitches will be available from Monday 10 to Sunday 16 October inclusive. Fees are £27.50 per night including electric hook-up (maximum 6A).

There will be approximately 400 pitches available, offering fresh water plus black and grey waste disposal. A marquee containing a licensed bar and a mobile caterer will also be on site. Other attractions include free entertainment from

In brief

New car sales in the UK were down 1.7% year-on-year in May to 150,431, the lowest decline of 2011 so far. The Ford Fiesta remains the best-seller, while diesel-powered cars accounted for 52.9% of the market, which shows that fuel efficiency is a major consideration for buyers.



## Moreton's royal occasion

MORETON-IN-MARSH Caravan Club Site hosted a special Royal Wedding party in April to coincide with events at Westminster Abbey.

At 3pm, wardens and more than 200 members raised a toast with some bubbly and enjoyed a piece of 'wedding' cake. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event and chatted to each other throughout the day.

During the week members entered reception via a fresh flower wedding arch and all the trees were decorated with white ribbon bows and blooms.

Well done to Wardens Philip and Lynn Ashford, Mark and Ellie Brearley and Jane and Phil Cleveley for all their hard work.

## Northern get-together

THE NORTHERN Home Counties Region is holding a 'Meet the Members' Weekend at Burford Caravan Club Site (p176, *Sites Directory*) in Oxfordshire from 12 to 14 August.

Regional Council members will be on hand to discuss issues that are important to you and your family.

Those attending will be able to learn how the Club works and find out about social activities and special events.

Free refreshments and information leaflets will be available. For more information, call the Regional Secretary on 07962 202312.



# NEW FOREST FUN

FAMILIES STAYING at the Club's New Forest Centenary Site this August can take part in a series of fun, creative activities inspired by caravanning adventures of the past.

Staff from the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu will be on hand on 2, 9, 16 and 23 August from 3pm to 5pm each day.

Visitors to the museum itself can also join in activities inspired by the Feats of Endurance exhibition. Games, badge making, drawing and creative writing are all part of an exciting programme. These drop-in events will be held from 1-25 August on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from noon until 4pm and are included in the price of the entrance ticket to Beaulieu.

On production of a valid Caravan Club membership card and a Great Days Out Attraction Voucher (downloadable at [caravanclub.co.uk](http://caravanclub.co.uk) or available from reception at the



Club's New Forest Centenary Site), visitors will receive one third off the full admission price for the member and up to three guests (not valid with

any other offer or on event days). To find out more about these activities and the Beaulieu attraction, visit [beaulieu.co.uk](http://beaulieu.co.uk).

## SHOW TIME

### JULY

**15-17 – KNUTSFORD\***: The Northern Motorcaravan Show, Cheshire Showground, Clay House Farm, Flittogate Lane, Tabley, Knutsford, Cheshire (Warners Group, call 01778 391105 or see [outandaboutlive.co.uk/exhibitions](http://outandaboutlive.co.uk/exhibitions))

### AUGUST

**19-21 – MALVERN\***: The Western Motorhome Show, Three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcestershire (Warners Group, call 01778 391105 or see [outandaboutlive.co.uk/exhibitions](http://outandaboutlive.co.uk/exhibitions))

### SEPTEMBER

**3-4 – HULL**: The Caravan Extravaganza, The Lawns, Cottingham, Nr Hull (call 01276 686654 or see [lawnsandbeaulieushows.com](http://lawnsandbeaulieushows.com))

**9-11 – SHEPTON MALLET\***: The Motorhome Show, Royal Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset (Stone Leisure, call 020 8302 6150 or see [stoneleisure.com](http://stoneleisure.com))

**23-25 – LINCOLN\***: The Motorhome Show, Lincolnshire Showground, Lincolnshire (Warners Group, call 01778 391105 or see [outandaboutlive.co.uk/exhibitions](http://outandaboutlive.co.uk/exhibitions))

**23-25 – NEW FOREST**: The Caravan & Motorhome Show, New Forest Showground (Appletree Exhibitions, call 01395 277002 or see [appletree-exhibitions.co.uk](http://appletree-exhibitions.co.uk))

**Note: details subject to change – please telephone event organisers in advance for up-to-date information. \*Indicates shows at which the Club has a stand.**

## Marquis launches Devon Leisure Show

MARQUIS MOTORHOMES is hosting the Devon Leisure Show at its showground in Lee Mill, Ivybridge from 1-3 July.

This new event will showcase a large selection of new and pre-owned motor caravans. On display will be 2011 models from top UK manufacturers, including exclusive

special editions such as the Mercedes-Benz and Peugeot County ranges.

Test drives and product demonstrations will be available, while complimentary refreshments will be provided throughout the weekend. For more information, call 01752 892 977 or visit [marquis-motorhomes.co.uk/devonleisure](http://marquis-motorhomes.co.uk/devonleisure).



## FACTFILE: TOP 10 CLUB SITES FOR...

### Golf

If you're an avid golfer or simply hoping to improve your game, here are 10 Club sites located close to a decent golf course...

1

**Club site:** The Invercauld, Braemar  
**Golf:** Braemar Golf Club  
**Info:** Braemar is the highest 18-hole course in Britain and the greens are among the finest in the area  
**Contact:** 01339 741618, [braemargolfclub.co.uk](http://braemargolfclub.co.uk)



2

**Club site:** Lochside, Forfar  
**Golf:** Forfar Golf Club  
**Info:** beautifully presented and maintained, set against a backdrop of the Angus glens  
**Contact:** 01307 463773, [forfargolfclub.co.uk](http://forfargolfclub.co.uk)

3

**Club site:** Five Acres, Chard, Somerset  
**Golf:** Windwhistle Golf Club  
**Info:** 18-hole course with excellent views plus a driving range facility  
**Contact:** 01460 30231, [windwhistlegolfclub.co.uk](http://windwhistlegolfclub.co.uk)

4

**Club site:** Fakenham Racecourse, Fakenham, Norfolk  
**Golf:** Fakenham Golf Club  
**Info:** on the site of Fakenham Racecourse – a pleasant,

9-hole, parkland course  
**Contact:** 01328 855678, [fakenhamgolfclub.co.uk](http://fakenhamgolfclub.co.uk)



Lochside, Forfar

5

**Club site:** Blackshaw Moor, Leek, Staffordshire  
**Golf:** Westwood Golf Club  
**Info:** located on both sides of the River Churnet, offering a range of challenges for experienced and novice players alike  
**Contact:** 01538 398385, [westwoodgolfclubleek.co.uk](http://westwoodgolfclubleek.co.uk)

6

**Club site:** Rutland, Oakham, Rutland  
**Golf:** Greetham Valley Golf Club

**Info:** carefully developed from undulating farmland to create three diverse and interesting courses  
**Contact:** 01780 460444, [greethamvalley.co.uk](http://greethamvalley.co.uk)

7

**Club site:** Gowerton, Swansea  
**Golf:** Gowerton Golf Range  
**Info:** short but challenging 9-hole course with strategically-positioned bunkers and ponds  
**Contact:** 01792 875188, [gowertongolfrange.co.uk](http://gowertongolfrange.co.uk)

8

**Club site:** Skegness Sands, Skegness, Lincolnshire  
**Golf:** Addlethorpe Golf Club  
**Info:** set in 140 acres of landscaped grounds – an 18-hole course featuring a long carry over water.  
**Contact:** 01754 871020, [addlethorpegolfclub.co.uk](http://addlethorpegolfclub.co.uk)

9

**Club site:** Hunter's Moon, Wareham, Dorset  
**Golf:** The Dorset Golf & Country Club  
**Info:** 27 holes of the most challenging golf in the county  
**Contact:** 01929 473915, [dorsetgolfresort.com](http://dorsetgolfresort.com)

10

**Club site:** Southland, Sandown, Isle of Wight  
**Golf:** Shanklin & Sandown Golf Club  
**Info:** recognised for its natural beauty, spectacular views and challenging qualities  
**Contact:** 01983 409904, [ssgolfclub.com](http://ssgolfclub.com)

**Book your pitch online at [caravanclub.co.uk](http://caravanclub.co.uk), by calling our Advance Booking service on 01342 327490 or by calling any of the sites direct.**



Five Acres, Chard

# NEW WHEELS

Clive White reports on the latest car releases



## High-flying Hyundai

PRICES FOR the new Hyundai i40 Tourer, which goes on sale in September, will start from £18,395 OTR with insurance from Group 12E.

It will be available in three trim levels (Active, Style and Premium) with

the choice of three efficient engines, four power outputs and manual or automatic transmission. Hyundai's Blue Drive technologies ensure emissions from 113g/km and claimed fuel consumption of 65.7mpg.

The car comes with a high level of standard equipment, premium features and intuitive technology. Weights and towing details are still to be announced. A saloon version will follow.

### FEEDBACK WANTED

WE WANT your views on the models listed for our Owners' Report features. Just call 01342 336799 (please be ready to quote your membership number) or write, fax or email (see p3) for an appropriate questionnaire and prepaid return envelope. Please specify the vehicle you wish to report on. Closing dates for return are highlighted.

**NOVEMBER:** Compact MPVs – Ford C-Max diesels (pre-2010) v Vauxhall Zafira diesels (2005-2010), by **8 July**.

**DECEMBER:** Fondly-remembered marques – twin-axle four-berths – Abbey Spectrum 540 (2000-09) v Compass Rallye 634 (2004-09), by **8 August**.

**JANUARY 2012:** Medium SUVs – Ford Kuga v Volkswagen Tiguan diesels, by **8 September**.

**1947**  
The year Hyundai was founded – as a construction company



## Orderly Q

THE ORDER book for Audi's new Q3 compact SUV opened in June with deliveries commencing November and prices from £24,560 OTR.

It's the first Audi SUV to offer the efficiency-focused option of a 54.3mpg front-wheel-drive variant.

Four engines will initially be available, all combining direct fuel injection with turbo charging and start-stop: 2.0-litre TFSI petrols of 168 and 209bhp and 2.0-litre TDIs with

138 and 175bhp. Six-speed manual or seven-speed S tronic gearboxes are fitted, the latter now with overrun clutch disengagement to enable fuel-saving 'coasting' if the optional Audi drive select adaptive dynamics system is fitted.

Audi claims an interior roomy enough for five adults, 1,365 litres of luggage capacity (seats folded). There are no details of weights/towing limits as yet.

## Where there's a flywheel...

A LIGHT, cost-efficient and eco-friendly solution that makes a four-cylinder engine feel like a six-cylinder, while reducing fuel consumption by up to 20%, has got to be good.

This autumn, Volvo will be one of the first car makers to test the potential of Flywheel KERS (Kinetic Energy Recovery System) technology on public roads. The system is fitted to the rear axle with

braking energy causing a flywheel to spin at up to 60,000rpm.

The engine driving the front wheels is switched off as braking begins, with energy stored in the flywheel used to accelerate from rest or to power the vehicle at cruising speed. If the energy in the flywheel is combined with the engine's full capacity, it will offer an extra boost of 80hp, and thanks to the swift torque build-up this translates into rapid acceleration.

