

Pensioners' Newsletter – August 2020

News from the South

Hi Everyone:

I hope you are all keeping safe during these strange times. I have never done as much work in the garden as I have during the past few months and it's costing me a small fortune on new plants, not to mention an aching back! Still, if they and I survive I will be able to enjoy them next year. I also hope that members will be able to enjoy taking part in the VPA trips next year as, unfortunately, when the Committee reviewed the last remaining trips for this year we decided that, given the current situation regarding Covid-19, there was no way we could ensure your safety. The decision was therefore made to cancel these remaining trips and we are in the process of returning all monies to members who had booked to take part. Sorry but your safety must remain our priority.

On a far more positive note we are pleased to advise you that Vauxhall has introduced a new Partners Programme and has decided that pensioners will benefit from the highest level of discount along with employees. This results in a significant saving on a variety of models as you can see from the document attached to this Newsletter and on the VPA and 25 Year Club Facebook pages. Here you will also find details of how you can benefit from this offer. If you require more information please do not call the VPA, but use the contact details provided. Please keep safe.

John Boast

News from the North

Hi All:

Well here we are nearly in August and very little has changed on the virus front. I really did not think we would be staring autumn in the face and still be in the same boat. So many things have changed I no longer know what normal is and am sure I am not alone there. I am still thankful for technology and we did venture to visit our family - just what we needed - some normality. It's just a pity we cannot get to see our new grandson and have to rely on seeing him on FaceTime. We were getting hopeful that we would be able to fly in the autumn, but that now seems unlikely. On the plus side we are all well as I trust you are. Things with the social club have moved on a little. The Committee have worked hard to try and arrange some trips while keeping within the rules. There are two trips booked for August just allowing 22 people on each coach. August 3 trip

is to Kirby Lonsdale and August 18 to Ludlow and both these trips leave the club at 9:00 am.

After August there are several trips in the pipeline but won't be made definite until we know how the rules are changing.

Unfortunately, the November trip to Norfolk has been cancelled, but we have managed to rearrange the spring holiday to Newquay for the same time next year. We go on Monday April 5 for five days and the hotel and trips are the same and the price will be around £200 pp. There are still a few rooms left so if you wish to go and I have not been able to contact you please ring me on 0151 6088701. Alfa seem confident that coach holidays are going ahead.

As to social nights I have as yet no idea when the Club will re-open, but be assured we will let you know when it does.

Well I said last time I may have better news this time, but it looks as if we may have to be patient a little longer so until then stay safe. Bye for now.

Dave Williams

Coronavirus and Trips

Given the uncertainty surrounding all social events due to the coronavirus pandemic it has been decided to cancel the remainder of the trips planned for 2020.

All monies paid out by members will be refunded and hopefully in early 2021 we shall be providing details of next year's trips.

Coronavirus Scams

We are aware of a scam involving the Government's Track and Trace service. A message or phone call claiming to be from the NHS test and trace service informs somebody they have come into contact with coronavirus and need to self-isolate and take a test. The scammers ask them to confirm their address so a testing kit can be sent to them. Bank card details are then requested - purportedly to cover the cost of the testing kit.

In a genuine call, contact tracers will never:

- ask you to dial a premium rate number (e.g. 09 or 087)
- ask you to make any form of payment
- ask for any details about your bank account
- ask for your social media identities or login details, or those of your contacts
- ask you for any passwords or PIN codes, or ask you to set up any passwords or PIN codes over the phone

- ask you to purchase a product, including a test
 - ask you to download any software to your device or ask you to hand over control of your PC, smartphone or tablet
 - ask you to access any website that does not belong to the Government or NHS.
- Anyone receiving a call they suspect is not genuine should report the call to Action Fraud.

August Quiz

The theme this time is adverts:

- 1 Carol Vorderman was sacked from Tomorrow's World for advertising what?
- 2 Which credit card did Rowan Atkinson publicise by not having one?
- 3 Who played the jilted lover in the 80s VW commercial?
- 4 Which pensioner advertised British Gas with her 'son' Malcolm?
- 5 Which Blankety Blank presenter advertised Polly Peck tights?
- 6 Who advertised Cinzano with Leonard Rossiter?
- 7 Which soap powder did Shane Ritchie promote in his doorstep raids?
- 8 Lynda Bellinham was famous for advertising what?
- 9 Which supermarket did John Cleese promote in a loud checked suit?
- 10 Which company had the slogan "it's good to talk"?
- 11 What brand of coffee did Gareth Hunt and Diane Keen enjoy?
- 12 Which star of Friends used L'Oreal "because I'm worth it"?
- 13 Which song accompanied Ian McCaskill's BT advert?
- 14 Which margarine did Victor Medrew encourage us to eat?
- 15 Who cried when his Walker Crisps were taken from him?
- 16 Which fast food chain did soccer stars Waddle, Southgate and Pearce promote?
- 17 Which breakfast cereal was Jackie Charlton seen eating with his grandson?
- 18 Which soap star appeared in a BT ad digging his allotment?
- 19 Bruce Forsyth dressed as a judge to advertise what type of product?
- 20 Which supermarket did Michael Barrymore advertise in the autumn of 1998?

June Quiz Answers

- 1 Sale of a house
- 2 The Tower of London
- 3 Money
- 4 Priest

- 5 Double
- 6 Lungs
- 7 Alma Mater
- 8 Epsom Salts
- 9 Office of Fair Trade
- 10 The Party of Wales
- 11 Full Stop
- 12 Greece
- 13 Dancing Queen
- 14 It will die out
- 15 All female
- 16 None
- 17 Apple
- 18 Chicken Pox
- 19 Colon
- 20 Lemon

Upcoming Events in the South – 2020

All trips have been cancelled due to coronavirus pandemic.

2020 Golf Events

We reported in the June Newsletter that Mike Roberts was, restrictions permitting, hoping to arrange an event some time before the end of the year. Although there was the possibility of a match in October the restrictions around the event would have meant a very limited day's activity particularly regarding the social side. Given that this is a key part of the day it has been decided that no events will now take place during the remainder of 2020.

Upcoming Events in the North – 2020

Monday, August 3 – Kirkby Lonsdale

Coach leaves Club at 9:00 am
Numbers on coach limited to 22

Tuesday, August 18 – Ludlow

Coach leaves Club at 9:00 am
Numbers on coach limited to 22

Monday, April 5 2021 – Eliot Hotel, Newquay

5 day holiday

Departure time and car parking details to follow.
Visiting the Eden Project, Bodmin and Padstow.
Approximately £200 pp.

Tea Dances - temporarily on hold

In Memoriam – Luton

Backhouse, Anthony Herbert Richard, Div 032

Died 5.5.2020, Aged 73, Retired 2002

Barber, John Christopher, Division 075

Died 28.5.2020, Aged 82, Retired 1997

Choudhury, Gulam Mohammed, IBC

Died 4.5.2020, Aged 80, Retired 1998

Cockram, Alan Keith, Division 527

Died 13.3.2020, Aged 77, Retired 2008

Collins, Ronald Edward, Division 089
Died 4.6.2020, Aged 93, Retired 1991
Eaton, Anthony John, IBC
Died 31.5.2020, Aged 83, Retired 1999
Ephgrave, Jean, Division 092
Died 17.6.2020, Aged 80, Retired 1995
Essex, David Brian, Division 033
Died 4.12.2019, Aged 77, Retired 2001
Gayle, Osbourne Adolpus, Division 032
Died 18.4.2020, Aged 80, Retired 1999
Harley, Leslie, Division 046
Died 16.4.2020, Aged 71, Retired 2002
Hayward, John Christopher, IBC
Died 7.6.2020, Aged 81, Retired 1994
Kightley, Janet Pauline, Staff
Died 30.3.2020, Aged 81, Retired 1989
Lincoln, Kathleen Lily, Division 074
Died 8.5.2020, Aged 88, Retired 1990
MacDonald, Raymond John, Division 102
Died 6.6.2020, Aged 82, Retired 2002
Perkins, Raymond Melvyn, Division 381
Died 4.6.2020, Aged 72, Retired 2005
Rayner, Michael, Division 082
Died 24.5.2020, Aged 83, Retired 1993
Roach, Patricia, Division 074
Died 18.3.2020, Aged 86, Retired 1993
Seymour, Sydney Ernest Leonard, Division 527
Died 20.5.2020, Aged 88, Retired 1992
Smart, John Henry, IBC
Died 19.5.2020, Aged 83, Retired 1994
Smith, Rupert, Vauxhall
Died 12.6.2020, Aged 98, Retired 1982
Stephens, Neville Patrick, Division 032
Died 5.5.2020, Aged 83, Retired 2001
Tarrant, William Victor, Division 527
Died 9.6.2020, Aged 92, Retired 1993
Tull, Charles William, Division 801
Died 3.5.2020, Aged 90, Retired 1987
Webb, Sylvia Ann, Division 015
Died 25.5.2020, Aged 83, Retired 1994
Whelan, Denis, Division 074
Died 25.3.2020, Aged 82, Retired 2002
Worby, Joseph C., Division 032
Died 24.5.2020, Aged 73, Retired 2001
Wright, Anthony Douglas, Division 525
Died 15.5.2020, Aged 84, Retired 1998
Wright, George John, IBC
Died 23.5.2020, Aged 81, Retired 2000

In Memoriam – Ellesmere Port

Batts, George Anthony, Division 638
Died 5.4.2020, Aged 73, Retired 2006
Bebington, John, Division 629
Died 19.4.2020, Aged 86, Retired 1992
Cartwright, Alan Leslie, Division 691
Died 2.5.2020, Aged 87, Retired 1998
Chiocchi, Francis, Division 640
Died 28.3.2020, Aged 70, Retired 2004
Dodd, George Raymond, Division 643
Died 6.5.2020, Aged 92, Retired 1993

Ellis, Norman, Division 638
Died 5.6.2020, Aged 85, Retired 1993
Ellison, John Charles, Division 617
Died 16.4.2020 Aged 77, Retired 2001
Evans, Arthur James, Division 617
Died 14.5.2020, Aged 84, Retired 1992
Evanson, James Albert, Division 663
Died 3.4.2020, Aged 91, Retired 1991
Gracey, Peter Charles, Division 643
Died 14.6.2020, Aged 80, Retired 1998
Greenwood, Ronald, Division 617
Died 2.5.2020, Aged 89, Retired 1991
Georgeson, Peter Edward, Division 638
Died 10.6.2020, Aged 87, Retired 1998
Horney, Francis, Division 640
Died 15.5.2020, Aged 79, Retired 2001
Jones, Keith, Division 642
Died 25.3.2020, Aged 78, Retired 1999
Peek, John Harry, Division 638
Died 4.6.2020, Aged 84, Retired 1989
Sharkey, Douglas, Division 663
Died 1.11.2019, Aged 87, Retired 1998
Taylor, Robert James, Division 642
Died 24.4.2020, Aged 61, Retired 2002
Twidale, Ronald David, Division 642
Died 9.3.2020, Aged 78, Retired 2004
Wells, Madeline, Division 610
Died 25.5.2020, Aged 77, Retired 2000
All information on deceased pensioners is provided by the Pensions Department.

How to Access the Newsletter and 2019 AGM Minutes on the Internet

www.thepensiondepartment.co.uk/vpp/pensioner_pages

Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/VauxhallPensionersAsociation

Useful Telephone and Contact Information VPA South

All contact details for the new VPA office will be announced when these are known. In the meantime please phone 01582 759851.

Vauxhall Pensions Department 01582 282956

Email marion.mcdonald@gm.com

Welfare Fund 07460 171565

Email welfarefund@vm.co.uk

Website www.vauxhallwelfarefund.org

VPA North

Dave Williams 0151 6088701

If you have a story you would like to tell, then please get in touch with Norman McGregor email normanmcgregor3@gmail.com

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Company.

Ending Up With Humour

Given all that we have had to endure over the last four months and the fact that with no more trips, etc. for the rest of the year I thought it might lighten the mood by putting some jokes at the end of this Newsletter. I have had to choose jokes which will not upset the politically correct brigade, that are not vulgar and are, hopefully amusing. Of course, if you have a favourite that you would like to see on these pages please send it in and, if suitable, I promise to publish it. Now more than ever we are dependent on you, our readers and fellow VPA members to support the Newsletter. The best way you can do this is by giving us something to print please.

Police arrested two youths. One was drinking battery acid, the other was eating fireworks. They charged one and let the other off.

Two tv aerials met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony was rubbish, but the reception was brilliant.

I went to the doctor and said "please help me I cannot stop singing The Green Green Grass of Home". He said "it sounds like you have Tom Jones Syndrome". I asked if this was common. He replied "It's not unusual".

A man walks into a bar with a roll of tarmac under his arm and says to the barmaid "pint please and one for the road".

I saw this bloke chatting up a cheetah and thought he's trying to pull a fast one.

My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that.

I went to the doctors the other day and she said "Go to Bournemouth it's great for flu". So I went - and got it.

A three legged dog walks into a saloon bar in the Old Wild West. He slides up to the bar and announces "I'm looking for the man that shot my paw".

Two eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly and decided to light a fire in the craft, which immediately sunk, proving once and for all that you can't have your kayak and heat it.

I went to the local supermarket the other day to complain about a jar of lumpy vinegar. The cashier looked at me with scorn and said "those are pickled onions".

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing recent tournament victories. After some time the manager came out of his office and asked them to disperse.

"But why?" they asked. "Because" he replied "I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer".



Vauxhall would like to thank you for the role you have played in the company's success over many years of service.

In recognition of this we are delighted to be able to offer you an extra *£1,000 discount via the Vauxhall Partners scheme. Exclusively available to Vauxhall pensioners and employees this discount is available on all new Vauxhall cars and vans and is in addition to all national offers.

You can even share this fantastic offer with up to three family and friends per year.

To register for your exclusive discount, view offers and nominate family and friends by visiting www.vauxhallpartners.co.uk or pop down to your local Vauxhall Retailer.

From us to you ...to your family, your friends and your favourites!

**The £1,000 saving is available on new car & van orders placed until 5th October 2020 and is offered to customers buying in cash or via a Vauxhall Finance Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) or Conditional Sale (CS) agreement.*