



FICC info

GOOD TO KNOW – NOVEMBER 2014



17th F.I.C.C. ASIA-PACIFIC RALLY on the Taipei Hua Zhung Campsite in Taipei/TAIWAN from 9 to 13 October 2014

The 17th Asia-Pacific Rally was held in Taipei at the city's campsite in the green setting of Riverside Park not far from the historical sights.

The Rally started on 9 October with an Asia-Pacific Camping, Caravanning and Motorcaravanning Forum in Aletheia University that was attended by over 200 people.

Topics/themes were: "Why it is important to promote the camping culture in Asia"

(Speaker: Joao Alves Pereira, F.I.C.C. President)

"European standards for RVs " (Speaker: Lars Dahlberg, F.I.C.C. Honorary President)

"From the European viewpoint: How can we work together globally to promote camping activities"

(Question and answer session – Joao Alves Pereira – Lars Dahlberg)

"Autocamping in Japan: past, present and future " (Speaker: Kazuhiro Akase, Vice-President of JAC and F.I.C.C. Honorary Member)

"How one can help the Taiwanese camping industry gain access to international markets"
(Speaker Michael Lin, former Chairman of the Asia-Pacific Commission)

"How Taiwan's current safety standards for camping vehicles compare with international standards" (Speaker: Chin-Wie Chao, Head of Department for Road and Rail Transport, Ministry of Transport and Communication)

"From the Asian viewpoint: How can we work together globally to promote camping activities"
(Question and answer session – Kazuhiro Akase, Hyung-Woo Chang (President of KCCF/Korea), Michael Lin and Chin-Wie Chao)



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FICC info

After the Forum, there was a guided tour of Fort San Domingo (near the university) followed by a half hour boat trip from the historic town of Tamsai back to Taipei.



The traditional opening parade was held despite the rain with Chinese yoyos, the Lion Dance and the famous drums. National Day was duly celebrated and a barrel of beer supplied by Michael Lin contributed to the great party spirit.



On 11 October participants set off for the north-east coast to visit the Gold Museum (many campers had never seen such a wealth of gold and other riches) and then climbed up to look-out point for a view of the sea.

Deputy Mayor Ting was the guest of honour at the Taipei evening and Mr. Chang, Director of the Public Works Department, demonstrated his talents singing and dancing. It was a very successful evening with dinner and cheerful background music and a good time was had by all.

The Closing Ceremony took place on 12 October. The Asia-Pacific flag was handed over to the Koreans who are organising the next rally. Campers and hosts ended the rally by singing Auld Lang Syne together. They said their final farewells and everyone is looking forward to meeting up again at the next rally in Asia.



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Fotos: Johnny Cheng



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65th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY from 2 to 6 APRIL 2015 in SORRENTO/ITALY

Confedercampeggio will be celebrating its 65th Anniversary in 2015 and is marking the event by organising the 65th International F.I.C.C. Youth Rally 2015 on the "Santa Fortunata" campsite in Sorrento on the Amalfi coast under the patronage of the Consiglio dei Ministri della Repubblica Italiana.

Sorrento is easy to get to by car or motorcaravan via the Turin-Milan-Trieste and Rome-Naples-Salerno (A2-A3) motorways. Exit at Castellammare di Stabia. Naples airport is only 35 kms from the rally site and shuttle buses will operate from Naples airport and from Sorrento train station to the rally site on the day of arrival and departure.

The town of Sorrento is only a 15-minute bus ride from the rally site. The campsite has everything one needs plus a private beach, a swimming pool, restaurants, a small shop and mobile homes and bungalows for rent. The organisers are planning excursions to the Amalfi coast.

Rally programme:

2 April - Arrival and town visit individually by public bus (€1.30 per journey)

6 pm – Opening ceremony, followed by a welcome drink provided by Confedercampeggio

8.30 pm – Dinner (individual arrangements) in the campsite restaurant (see

www.65thyouthrally.eu)

3 April – 07.30 am Sports programme (information at the reception desk)

Optional alternative: boat trip to Capri (weather permitting) – Length of crossing 45 minutes with lunch and opportunity for shopping

6.00 pm - Return to campsite

9.00 pm - Free evening in Sorrento: traditional religious and folklore processions (most of the city is closed to traffic).

4 April – Sports programme

10.30 am Optional alternative: bus trip to Positano (the bus stops on the outskirts of the town – town visit on foot)

1 pm – Lunch (individual arrangements)

4 pm - Return to campsite – sports programme

9.30 pm - Disco until midnight in Hall B

5 April – Free day

Various excursions, hikes and tours will be proposed (further details and tickets in the information package)



FICC info

Morning: Mass in the church about 300m from the campsite

11 am – Delegates' meeting

1 pm – Lunch (individual arrangements)

11 pm – Farewell evening with presentation of prizes, tarantella dance and fireworks

6 April - Entertainment programme and/or sports

Optional alternative: excursion to Pompei – Vesuvius, minimum 30 participants.

Rally-goers depart.

The 66th International F.I.C.C. Youth Rally will be held at Easter 2016 in the Netherlands.

82nd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY on the ISLAND OF PAG/NOVALJA in CROATIA from 27 JUNE to 5 JULY 2015

This rally is being organised on the 4-star "Strasko" campsite on the island of Pag which was singled out by the Deutscher Camping Club as being one of the best campsites on the Adriatic coast.

There are two ways of getting to the island - either by ferry or over the bridge.

The campsite is 57 hectares and has 1,500 pitches, 900 of which are over 140 sq.m.

All pitches have water, electricity, TV and internet connections. 200 caravans are available for rent and there are 13 sanitary blocks with washing machines and dryers.

Children are welcome and the campsite has activity programmes for all age groups.

The nearest town is Novalja and a regular bus service operates to and from the campsite.

The campsite is in a green setting and has its own private 2 km long beach.

More information in our next edition.

<http://www.ficcrally2015.hr/>

83rd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2015 in SOUTH KOREA

This is the third International F.I.C.C. Rally to be held in South Korea and will take place from 30 July to 9 August 2015.

The venue is Wanju Camping Park in Wanju.

More information will be given in our next edition.

<http://www.camp.wanju.go.kr>



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84th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY to be held in Portugal in 2016

The 2013 General Assembly in Slawa/Poland awarded the 84th International F.I.C.C. Rally to Portugal. Federacao de Campismo e Montanhismo de Portugal (FCMP) has already organised three successful and well-attended rallies: Santo Andre in 1975, Ericeira in 1985 and most recently Aljezur in 1995.

Preliminary information under www.ficc2016.com

85th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. Rally will be held in Turkey in the last week of May 2017.

86th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY will be held in Jhinshan/Taiwan from 30 September to 9 October 2017.

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic delays in the Karawanks tunnel between Austria and Slovenia

Traffic delays are expected in the Karawanks tunnel until the middle of December 2014 due to maintenance work being carried out on the tunnel's road and ventilation system by the Slovenian motorway operator Dars and the Austrian motorway operator Asfinag. The second phase of upgrading the tunnel will cause traffic delays on the A11. Motorists must reckon on 30 minute delays in both directions during the day. The tunnel is closed at night between 11 pm and 4.30 am. Travelling towards Slovenia there is a long diversion in place via Graz, A2 southbound motorway, A9 Phyrn motorway via Udine/Italy. Private cars can avoid the roadworks by taking the Loibl Pass or the Wurzen Pass.

Source: Kampeertoerist (B)

Diesel for cold weather

From 15 November so-called winter diesel will be available at the pumps. It contains additives that limit the formation of paraffin crystals that would otherwise block the fuel filter. Drivers of diesel-fuelled vehicles should heed the following advice: Fill up with winter diesel well before the winter cold sets in. That way there will be hardly any summer or transitional diesel left in the tank. Always follow the instructions in the manufacturer's service manual especially regarding the interval between changing fuel filters.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans



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Watch out!

If you see someone sticking a note on the windscreen of your car, caravan or motorcaravan, then lock all the doors immediately, rev up and drive off - you can look at the note later. In fact this is car thieves' latest trick: they are just waiting for you to get out of your vehicle to retrieve the note, before jumping in themselves and driving off.

CAMPING/CARAVANNING/MOTORCARAVANNING

Camping in the garden

A hundred years after camping started to be popular, a new trend has emerged: camping in private gardens.

The idea is that garden owners offer their garden space to campers for a tiny rent or even free of charge. There is a wide choice now from the tiniest inner city garden to an estate with several hectares of land.

Garden owners make their garden space available for a maximum of 28 days a year and two consecutive weeks at most. There are some 850 garden owners who have caught on to this idea, 300 in England (where the idea originated), 70 in Germany, 350 elsewhere in Europe and 250 in the rest of the world.

"Sharing" is what motivates these web hosters - lots of people have gardens so why not share them with others? It is also a very nice way of being sociable and getting to know people. Six thousand campers have registered and, since 2011, thousands have made bookings. You book with the "campsite owner" via the website and pay a maximum of €30 a night, or in some cases nothing at all.

Services included are at most a shower and internet connection, maybe a meal here and there. www.gardenforcampers.com, www.freagle.org (here you must also make your own garden available) and www.campinmygarden.com for further information.

Source: Mariska Schok – Seen in Buitenspoor (NTKC-NL)

Alarms for caravans and motorcaravans

People are unable to detect the presence of carbon monoxide (CO) which results from the incomplete burning of gas due to a lack of oxygen. Carbon monoxide blocks the transit of oxygen in one's body so if there is a high concentration of the gas in the air you breathe, you only need a few lungfuls before you lose consciousness and die.

Kidde, a world leader in smoke and CO alarms, has come up with the first CO alarm that has a 10 year guarantee. Ten years after you first activate the alarm, a whistling sound will warn you that it is time to change the batteries.

www.proidee.de



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Caravanning still very much in vogue

Registration figures for caravans and motorcaravans published after the Düsseldorf Caravan Salon 2014, the most successful caravan fair of all time, confirmed a predominantly positive trend. In Germany, caravan registrations were well above those of the previous year and these rising figures are proof that people are still keen on traditional caravanning holidays.

Even better, there was an 8.9% increase in motorcaravan registrations. Figures for the year should reach 26,000 which puts Germany way ahead with the best results for motorcaravan registrations in Europe.

In this connection, it is interesting to note that the whole of North America i.e. USA and Canada with a joint population of 350 million, only manages to take up around 40,000 motorcaravans a year at present.

By comparison one sees that enthusiasm for motorcaravanning has surged ahead and is growing all the time in Germany. This is not just because motorcaravans are renowned for their high technical performance and competitive prices, but also because of the quality of the infrastructure at campsites and motorcaravan parks, many of which are located near to major tourist attractions.

Another important factor is the electric bike that has been around for a few years. It is a definite advantage on a caravanning holiday as it offers an environmentally friendly way of exploring further afield and this prospect can even appear attractive to the less sporty caravan fans.

It's always a "plus" spending time in the company of caravanning friends especially if you are somewhere where the sun is shining!

Source: CIVD

Meeting of the F.I.C.C. Motorcaravan Commission on 9 October 2014 in Utrecht/the Netherlands

The Chairman of the Commission, Jose I. Gonzalez and members Les Kendrick, Chris Wells, Gianni Picilli, Gérard Couté and Stan Stolwerk held their recent meeting at the headquarters of the Nederlandse Kampeerauto Clubs in Soesterberg.

The Commission thanked Mr. Stan Stolwerk (NKC) for the excellent arrangements he had made for the meeting.

Topics on the agenda were "Report on the new European driving licence, "Danger of polyplastic windows in motorcaravans", "ECF lobbying regarding the new European B driving licence for motorcaravans", "Review of the interesting work carried out jointly by ECF, NKC and the Motorcaravan Commission over the years", "The 28 technical broadsheets produced by the

Motorcaravan Commission", and "Possible discounts on motorway tolls in Europe for CCI cardholders."

The role of the F.I.C.C. Motorcaravan Commission is important, not only in the EU, but all over Europe including Russia. Many European clubs and federations are very aware of the work it does and some of them are regular users of its technical broadsheets.

The present members of the Motorcaravan Commission will stand down at the end of 2014 and a new group will take over its tasks in 2015 under a new chairman.



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Mr. José I. Gonzalez, who has been chairman of this F.I.C.C. Commission since 2008, has decided to stand down and start a well-deserved retirement.



Presentation of the farewell gift by Les Kendrick and Chris Wells

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

The Camping and Caravanning Club (GB)

TRIUMPH FOR THE NATIONAL FEAST OF LANTERNS 2014

The Camping and Caravanning Club's annual national rally, the National Feast of Lanterns has been announced as a success after it saw thousands of campers pitch up and enjoy a weekend of fun and entertainment!

The event, which was held at Anglesey Agricultural Showground from 28 August to 1 September 2014, was the first in its history to receive support from the Federation Internationale de Camping, Caravanning et Autocaravanning (F.I.C.C.) - and encouraged holidaymakers from across the world to come together and enjoy the popular pastime.

There were plenty for activities to enjoy throughout the four day rally including a traditional themed Mardi Gras parade and lighting-up ceremony plus free entertainment such as a Heliosphere Acrobat, Titan the Robot, performances from the Club Band, falconry displays, dancing horses, maypole dancing, and a host of tribute acts.

And members were also lucky enough to meet the Club's new President, Julia Bradbury who took part in the opening ceremony and cooked up a feast with the Club's Eat Local Ambassador, Ali Ray.

The National Feast of Lanterns is the world's largest annual rally of its kind, catering for all forms of camping. The first rally was held in 1922 and even in its present format, it continues to uphold its traditions.

For more information on the National Feast of Lanterns, visit: www.nfol.co.uk



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The Nordic Meeting will be held from 5 to 11 July 2015 in Söderborg/Denmark near the German border.

Source: Fritidsmagasinet Caravan (S)

FAIRS & EXHIBITIONS

Germany:

Leipzig : 19 to 23 November 2014: 25th Touristik & Caravaning

China:

All in Caravanning (Beijing Exposition Center) from 26 to 28 June 2015, in Beijing

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