**ISLE OF WIGHT GROUP 23**

10-13 August, Cowes Week and the Fireworks Rally at Kingsclere eleven vans settled in including two from mainland, with hosts Richard and Julia. After erecting the rally tent time for a swim or a soak in the hot tub. Friday night some watched Red Arrows display from Kingsclere and played bingo in the tent, while others walked down to the Esplanade for the firework display. We had a mini-tornado through the site, it blew the rally tent hard but it stood, unlike Steve’s which finished in the hedge.

Saturday saw members walk or swim, in the evening some went to the Woodvale for a meal. Sunday morning coffee included a raffle , we welcomed Chris as new member and were pleased to see Fred. Several vans stayed an extra night.

17-19 August at the Fighting Cocks, saw 7 vans arrive, 2 from Lancashire Group. Erecting the rally tent was a relatively simple task under Steve’s guidance. Afternoon tea and cake were served, to catch up and confirm the plans for the weekend. Our resident BBQ expert Edwin cooked for those that required, and we met in the tent for dinner. Once the tables were cleared we had a couple of games of Bingo, followed by rather difficult quizzes!

After Saturday morning coffee our visitors walked a short distance to visit the Garlic Festival, whilst others went over to check out Thompson's Garden Centre and of course visit the cafe. Saturday afternoon visitors Mel and Sandra, and Jim and Carole introduced us to a game of Kings. This as you might guess brought out a lot of banter, a serious game though as Carole got out the rule book. The outcome was the men got lucky and won - say no more! On Saturday evening Keith and Margaret joined us, and we all enjoyed a meal in the pub, followed by more bingo and quizzes in the rally tent, once again thanks to Steve.

Sunday morning after coffee and a raffle some went to the pub for lunch before heading for home. A good fun weekend.

24-27 August, Bank Holiday weekend, eight units met at Adgestone including the two from the north we met at the Fighting Cocks. Friday started with time to set up and have a cup of tea with the hosts, followed by meeting in the tent for games and chat.

Saturday was a lovely day so we had coffee with the hosts, followed by a gentle walk to Peddlers café, a local establishment well worth a visit for lunch. In the afternoon we were introduced to a new game by our northern visitors called pie rolling. The men again beat the ladies at Kings.

Sunday was wet and windy day spent huddled in our vans, until Monday and time to leave.

Upcoming rallies: 14–16 September at the Fighting Cocks, Hale Common, Sandown PO30 3AR. Starts: 12pm. 5–7 October at Appuldurcombe Gardens Holiday Park, Appuldurcombe Road, Wroxall PO38 3EP. Starts: 12pm.