

MERLIN WEEK IN BRITTANY 2012

BY CLIVE PINKER

Friday, 8th June

Four Merlins set off from home bound for Portsmouth to meet up at the Toby Inn for an evening meal before departing on the 11-00pm ferry to Le Havre.

Dave & Sharron Cox were first to arrive, then myself and Margaret. We seemed to have lost Dave & Sue Daniels & Ivan Brocklehurst (who we met at the Newbury Services) somewhere in Portsmouth. They arrive after 15mins.

Pete Webb then arrives by taxi, who is going as passenger in Ivan's car.

Saturday

Depart ferry after a very rough crossing, the worst I have been on, and a steady drive down to the gite, arriving mid afternoon.

Settle into the gite which is nice with lots of low beams which I soon find to my costOUCH!!! Took a piece of my head that will make me remember to DUCK!

Then its time to find a supermarket to stock up on food and drinks which we find in the village of Malestroit.

Sunday

A drive to Josselin which has a very nice Chateau standing on the banks of a river, spend the afternoon exploring the charming village.



Monday

A day at the seaside. Today we drove to Damgan which was the nearest place on the coast. Weather not so good - a bit on the dull side but we enjoyed ourselves being by the seaside.



Tuesday

Went further afield today to Carnac to view the famous stones, There were hundreds of them in lines in the fields. Then we went onto La Trinite sur Mer, which has a very nice seafront with a little harbour. Afternoon tea taken here. In the sunshine today so the drive back was with the tops down. BBQ night tonight with Dave Daniels actually trying his hand at it briefly 'til the experts took over, enjoyed by all.



Wednesday

Off to a car museum at Loudec. Weather sunny, so the tops are down for the drive. Apparently the best in France and we all thought it was the best any of us had seen before. It included a full starting grid of F1 cars with sound effects. Finished visit off in the local cider café. Very nice.



Thursday

Weather wet today, so an easy morning was had. Cleared by lunch, so after lunch we had a drive to a local war museum, which turned out quite an interesting afternoon.



Friday

Visit to Rochefort-en-Terre, which was one of the prettiest villages I had ever visited in France with some very charming buildings and shops so a little shopping was done. Sharron found a very bonny hat to wear in the Merlin.



Saturday

Already time to go home!



Clean up gite, say goodbyes to the owners, then on our way to ferry, sunny day so we had our tops down all the way to the ferry.
The crossing was as rough as going , departed ferry said our goodbyes.

Thanks to the three chefs who dished up wonderful food all week long.



Thanks all.
Clive & Margaret

Roll on next year