



### **Hello again all raiders**

The last few weeks have been very busy. There have been changes and news daily and here is an overview for you.

Firstly, we have decided not to send any info with normal post, only email, as every team has an email address. Anyway, if you need the information in printed form, let us know. Email saves us a lot of time and effort. When you arrive, you will receive all the needed printed information at the start (or in Vehu).

Secondly, please visit our website regularly. All the previous informations and discussion can be seen and downloaded there. The most important source for you is the members' page (password sssf). For example, in the FAQ section there is some talk about double glazing (with instructions), the future of Raid Laponie, polar lights and other things people have discussed recently. All the infoletters are available in PDF or text format.

We are now 39 2CVs and 79 people. The last changes of co-drivers can be seen in the team list (teams 2, 7 and 16). Welcome! We have sent a letter to the people in the waiting list so that 1 or 2 more teams could now be accepted. It is possible a Croatian and a French team will join us. After knowing the final situation, we will probably make some changes in the team numbering system. Hope this is no problem for you.

Almost everyone has a GSM phone so it is every useful for sending urgent information during the raid - SMS messages are not expensive. Of course, a CB phone is the best for car-to-car communications. Please check that you have given us the number of the GSM phone you will be carrying during the raid. At start we will give each team an updated list. Check your data in the attached PDF participant list. On the webpage, we have not updated everything in detail yet.

We are still waiting for more pictures of the teams for the webpage. You can even send a photo print to Nalle's home address (Ari Karhu, Ramsontie 967, FIN-37350 RAMSOO), if you do not have a scanner.

### **ROUTE NEWS**

There are no big changes. With a separate mail later, you will receive the map and details for the meetingpoint in Helsinki 5.2. A few teams will start from Vaasa and this is still possible if interested.

New tyres and rented tyres will be available in Helsinki unless you have indicated some other location. If needed tyres can be obtained one or two days earlier in Helsinki by contacting Veikko (veikko@neuro.hut.fi). If you need to have your tyres on the rims, which is the case with the new tyres, Veikko will provide information about the most convenient place to make the change which will cost about 50 euros.

Winter tyre change will be possible at a garage near Helsinki (or even in Vaasa). We have now reserved second-hand winter spike tyres on rims for the following teams: 6 Mettendorff, 11 Janssens, 24 Wook, 27 Larson, 28 Braun, 33 Zwier and 37 Schauer. If any other team needs to rent tyres, let us know immediately! Karsten Schreiber still has a set of spike tyres, if someone needs them. 5 sets of new Michelin spike tyres were ordered for the raiders according to the sponsored offer by Michelin Nordic.

We one more time remind that our group is big and flexibility is needed so that we all can find place to sleep every night. Do not forget a good sleeping mattress and sleeping bag. They are already needed in Vehu. Despite the long drive, we hope people could arrive there as early as possible, because there is a lot of program planned for the evening: a great meal, drive training, ajajakous, partying, sauna...

For Jokkmokk Winter Market you can now see this year's program at <http://www.jokkmokksmarknad.com/>. There is also something in English and you can download the calendar PDF. It is also available on our website.

We have been negotiating with Hurtigruten about the fare of our crossing. It has been very confusing and in their last offer the prices had suddenly gone up again, so the numbers we have given you are really estimates. It will be possible to travel without a cabin, but only if you indicated so in the Enquiry Form. No more changes, please.

The ferry arrives in Honningsvåg already 11:45. We are going to continue directly to North Cape this day (no time for shopping in the town) as long as there is some daylight. It is better to try to do is immediately as weather conditions may make it impossible and then we have another day in reserve anyway. The clearing of the closed Nordkapp road will cost us 1500 NOK (Norwegian Crowns) an hour and the estimated time needed is 3-4 hours. We will be followed also by a few cars of another international group (VW beetles and other cars) and we can share the cost per number of participants. With about 100 people, the cost should not be more than 6-7 euros per person. If one wants to visit the Northcape Hall, the entrance is about 22e including the exhibitions and a multimedia show (it's worth seeing).

In Hetta, on the day of arrival, we have been invited by the same VW people for a party at a local restaurant - why not. Anyway, our own Superfinn Party is the next evening. The leader of the VW group is a discjockey so a lot of music will be available and our very own "Frozen Duck Band" is also going to perform.

By the way, the Frozen Duck Band is open to everybody, so if you can produce some sound or even play an instrument, let us know. We actually need a bass player. A small problem is of

course how to transport the equipment, but it does not always have to be anything big.

Many people were interested in a skiing trip in Hetta so if weather allows, this will be arranged. We will have a light lunch outdoors and a few snowscooters will follow so that if you get tired, help is available. Everyone can also try out the scooters - great fun! We will contact our base in Hetta so that we can get skiing equipment for all who needed them.

Finland is not an Alpine country, but if you are interested in downhill skiing and things like that, there are some skicenters available along our route.

Do not forget to bring a small bottle of the most terrible or special tasting spirit of your country for the SuperFinn ceremonies in Hetta.

We have made a reservation of the whole hotel "Vihiluoto" in Oulunsalo. They offered a reasonable price of 35 e per person including dinner and breakfast. The same owner keeps the hotel "Yöpuu" in Kemi so that if someone plans to drive down the Swedish side, it is possible to stay in Yöpuu for the same price. If interested in staying in Kemi, let us know.  
<http://www.hotelliyopuu.com/> <http://www.hotellivihiluoto.fi/>

### **SPONSORS**

There are some news about sponsoring and we are still negotiating for goodies for the whole group with a number of companies. Autobon (the Finnish Importer of Citroen) will sponsor us financially and with some nice prizes. Automeca will give each team at least a 5 liter reserve fuel can (empty) so you can consider, if you need to take any can from home (two 5 l cans in each car is still a good idea). Other sponsors at the moment are Superfinn Ferries and Michelin Nordic. I hope you will be lucky with personal sponsors and perhaps one for the whole group. The sponsorship does not always have to be anything big.

Some press information about our raid has been published in Finnish at: <http://www.pressi.com/fi/release/83813.html>

Attached, please find some information about clothing and driving in winter conditions. These will be downloadable also at our website <http://www.sitruuna.com/raidlaponie/>

### **NOTES**

Documents needed with you: driver's licence, car registration documents and the passport (Norway is not in the EU). Papers of your travel insurance also, if you have one. And do not forget all the info you have printed about Raid Laponie.

If you are carrying special tools or spares for 2CV, please send us a quick note so that we do not take the same things in vain.

Feel free to ask anything, if in doubt.

**See you soon,**

The Raid Laponie Organisation

<http://www.sitruuna.com/raidlaponie/>