

The Rallier

West Warwickshire Centre Newsletter

October 2006

www.westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk

Issue 5/2006

Editor

The 28th. Annual General Meeting took place last weekend and the new Committee had their first meeting the following day. I am delighted to give you details of the various roles that people have agreed to undertake on your behalf. Many of the roles are unchanged from last year but we have been able to enrol three new members to the team. They happen to be all ladies, which is great, but it would be nice if we could have a few more men volunteering their services too – we are beginning to feel a bit outnumbered!

Chairman & Rally Secretary	Jane Clarke
Secretary	Mark Wiltshire
Vice-Chairman & Equipment Officer	Geoff Fulwell
Treasurer & Rallier Editor	Neil Taylor
Social Secretary	Mervyn Richards
Assistant Social Secretary	Sandra Burden
Booklet Secretary	Roy Wiltshire
Plaque Officer & Assistant Equipment Officer	John Burden
Assistant Rally Officer	Margaret Wiltshire
Web Master	Dave Varley
Charity Coordinator	Gail Wiltshire
Junior Liaison Officer	Sam Terry
Regional Delegates	Jane Clarke and Dave Varley
Rally Sub-Committee	Jane Clarke Margaret Wiltshire Sandra Burden Sam Terry Roy Wiltshire
Social Sub-Committee	Mervyn Richards Sandra Burden John Burden Sam Terry Wendy Richards.

Just for the book – Wendy Richards volunteered for the Committee at the AGM but found she was not eligible, because she was not a member in her own right. Mervyn rang the Club the day after the AGM, got her made a Joint Member on his Membership Number and as soon as her official membership is notified to the Secretary, she will be co-opted onto the Committee – probably before you even read this. It is worth

bearing in mind that unless you are a member in your own right, you do not officially have any say in the running of the Centre. Joint Membership is available to any partner or adult off-spring living at the same address as the current member and can be actioned by one simple call to the Club Membership Department.

During the AGM, about 20 Centre families were presented with their Friendship Awards, having completed at least 10 rallies with the Centre during this year. If we missed anyone who thinks they will qualify before the end of the year, please let anyone on the Committee know and we will endeavour to make sure you receive your plaque. Incidentally, because Greenhill and Carsington were cancelled by the land owners, these two rallies would count towards your total if you had booked in for them. Special mention must be made of Viv and Malc Griffin who received their 400 rally attendance plaque, at least 50 of which they had acted as Stewards for – a wonderful achievement.

Also at the AGM, the annual Photographic Competition took place, with First Prize going to Dave Waring for a very interesting shot of a line of Caravans heading for the National but pictured in his wing mirror, Geoff Fulwell took second prize so congratulations to them both.

It has been a wonderful summer this year, apart from a few heavy periods of rain, which have fortunately not had too much of an effect on our activities, other than the cancellation of Carsington earlier in the year. I have recently come back from several days on the Isle of Man, partly as a convalescent period after an operation. We had fantastic weather while we were there – apparently it is almost unheard of to get 10 days of almost continuous sunshine (only two wet half days) in the middle of summer, let alone at this time of the year. I have to say that I have fallen in love with the place – it is a bit like packaging up the Cornish Coast, the West Coast of Scotland and the Yorkshire Moors into one 30 mile by 10 mile package and surrounding it with sea. It really is a beautiful place, with wild fuschias growing in all the hedgerows and very little traffic. There is only one thing wrong with the place – they do not allow caravans! There are motor homes galore – every other house seems to have one on their drive, but towed vans are not to be seen. Anyway, if any of you motor home owners fancy a holiday somewhere different, I can thoroughly recommend the Isle of Man.

Rally Secretary's Report.

The Stewards Meeting went very well with only three rallies yet to be taken. The Centre is obviously very grateful to all those who have put their names forward to steward next year's rallies and would welcome volunteers to take on any of the remaining three, which are

Hoar Park – 30th. March - 1st. April

Lowe Farm, Hunscombe – 13th. – 15th. April

Hill Farm, Pebworth – 22nd. - 24th. June.

Anyone willing to take on any of these rallies, please contact me or any Committee member by phone or e-mail (See Rally Book for details)

Jane Clarke

Rally Report

Blue Lias – 7th. – 9th. July.

Blue Lias was a new venue for the Centre and it was certainly our first visit, but with visitors making up half the 24 vans attending, there were many who knew its secrets. Friday evening saw the usual tea and coffee reception but with the stewards having erected the Centre pavilion, the drink got a little stronger and friendly rivalry developed between our visitors from East Warwickshire and ourselves.

The stewards had an early start on Saturday morning, providing us with a breakfast of baps, batches, rolls – call them what you like – filled with sausages or bacon. This started the day well as we had a choice of a ramble with a pub lunch or a visit to the Birdingbury Festival 5 minutes drive away. We had an excellent day at the latte, parking our car in a field for a very modest fee, we were given a programme and walked along the main street which had been closed to traffic. Stalls had been erected along the way in aid of a variety of charities and the village hall had been turned into a very welcome tea room. Eventually we arrived in a field with displays of old cars, motor cycles, tractors, army vehicles, traction engines etc. Music, both live and old organ style surrounded us as we explored the fairground with its big wheel. The need for refreshment loomed and they had not forgotten to provide a beer tent where we could also rest our weary legs and chat with others we met from the rally.

On Saturday evening the East-West Warwickshire rivalry continued with a dead heat between two teams in the Quiz. As a decider the stewards asked them to

dance and I think Jackie and Sue with their impression of the French Car with the famous rear clinched it for us.

With all the attractions I nearly forgot that we were in the grounds of a very nice pub. I'm sure that we shall be back.

Ray Wiltshire.

Upper Brailles – 8th. – 10th. September. **The 3 R's Rally**

Wall to wall sunshine all weekend – what more could we ask for on a relaxing weekend, although a few renegades turned it into a 4 R's rally by insisting on a ramble on Saturday.

Not sure if they were all so keen after the sixteenth stile though, but a good time was had by all, including visits to Banbury and the Gate Inn.

We were a small select group which included two visitors from East Warwickshire, Ailsa Craft and Maria & Jeff Smith and two past West Warks ralliers, Margaret & Norman Wilkinson, now living in Beer (lucky things) who we last saw over 25 years ago, plus Pam & Eric Turner from Neath, who we have seen more recently and who were stalwarts of the New Year rallies we ran in the nineties. Also, there was a first time rallier – at least it was his first West Warks rally with his own caravan. There may be a few members who remember Sally & John East who rallied during the seventies and eighties with their four sons. It was Tom who joined us with Sylvia and daughter Chloe – hope to see more of them at future rallies.

The competition winners made it a clean sweep for East Warks with Maria & Jeff winning and Ailsa as runner-up. For once no-one was in a hurry to leave and most stayed until late afternoon, with the last two vans off at ten to five! Amazing what a bit of good weather will do.

Viv & Malcolm Griffin.

Future Rallies

Only two to go now – Halloween at Hanbury and the Winter Social/Rally at Henley High School. By the time you read this I expect you will actually be at Hanbury unless you have remembered to check our Club web-site, where I hope to get this edition posted by the middle of the month.

There will be social at the Halloween Rally, with an obvious theme and the Stewards would appreciate it if

as many as possible could dress up to help the spirit of the event. There will be a pumpkin lantern competition for all to enter, so don't forget to raid your local supermarket a few days before the rally to provide yourselves with the necessary large vegetable.

There will be social at Henley, to which all are invited, but please remember to let the Stewards, Margaret & Roy Wiltshire know if you are planning to attend the Social but are not coming to the actual rally. They cannot possibly plan for the event unless they know how many will be attending in the evening. During the afternoon, Mary James will be giving a parcel wrapping demonstration, so if you have any special Christmas presents that you want to make even more special, bring them along, with some bits and pieces to wrap them in and Mary will help you make it into something a bit spectacular! Also, Nicola Wiltshire will be running her own cake stall in aid of Children in Need. She did this last year as well and raised a very creditable amount – and they were very nice cakes. Please come along and support her – I am sure she will have a few cakes left for the evening if you are not able to come along in the afternoon.

Charity News.

At the AGM, we were able to present a representative from MacMillan Cancer Relief with a cheque for £1300 – a magnificent amount from a small Centre. Many congratulations to Gail Wiltshire, our Charity Co-ordinator and all her many helpers for such a splendid result. Book and Craft sales will be around at both the last two rallies, so we hope to top up the amount given by a few more pounds before the end of the year.

The members voted at the AGM to donate to a new charity next year – the local Air Ambulance scheme. Plans are already afoot for next year's Charity rally and we will be continuing to raise money through Book and Craft Sales throughout next seasons. So, if you get any unwanted Christmas gifts, hang on to them and donate them to our Stalls at the Charity Rally, along with anything else which will help us raise money for such a good local cause.

Centre Website

I hope as many of you as have access have had a look at our revised web-site. Dave Varley (with help from Dave Waring) has done an excellent job on our behalf. He would still like to compile a list of members who have e mail addresses, so please drop him an e mail with your address. It will make it so much easier and cheaper to contact you if we have this information.

He can be reached at
webmaster@westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk.

Recipe Section

Flapjacks

Preparation 20 mins.

Cooking time 30 mins (*Microwave about 7 mins.*)

This recipe should make about 24 flapjacks.

Ingredients.

100gms. or 4 ozs. Butter
75 gm. or 3 ozs. Golden Syrup.
75 gms. or 3 ozs. Soft brown sugar.
225 gms. or 8 ozs. Rolled oats.

1. Put butter, syrup and sugar into a saucepan and stand over a low heat until melted.

To microwave – put butter, syrup and sugar into a large bowl or jug. Cook for 2 minutes until melted.

2. Stir in oats and mix well.

3. Spread into a greased 20 x 30 cms Swiss Roll tin (8 x 12 inch) and smooth top with a knife.

To microwave – Spread into a greased and base-lined 23 cms (9 inch) round shallow dish and smooth top with a knife.

4. Bake at 180 C. (350 F/Gas Mark 4) for 30 minutes.

To microwave – cook for 4 – 5 minutes, depending on power level of your oven.

5. Leave tin for 5 minutes and then cut into 24 fingers.

To microwave – leave in dish for 5 minutes and then cut into thin wedges,

Remove when cold and store in an airtight container.

Gail Wiltshire.

Future Social events.

You need to start booking up now for our Annual Christmas Party, which will be held at Bentley Heath Community Centre on Saturday 9th. December. See rear page for booking form. This must be in to our Social Secretary by 25th. November.

Also on the back page you will find a booking form for our Skittles Match, to be held at the HAD Social Club in Redditch. This event was an enormous success at the start of this year, so book now for your place in 2007 on January 20th, starting at 7.00pm. All bookings must be in by 13th. January 2007.

There will probably be a ramble in late January/early February – details in the New Year edition of the Rallier or keep an eye on the website.

Members' Adverts.

Land Rover Discovery Tow Bar (Adjustable Hitch Height) – Land Rover factory fitted part, complete with 12N and 12S electrics and all instructions for a post '99 caravan.

Bargain at £125.

Eurovent awning to fit Award Brightstar or similar van (awning length 8.75 metre) Excellent condition, 4 zip out panels, polyester 10 cate fabric and no tears or rips. Best offer over £100 secures, available to borrow on trial if required.

Contact: for both of the above items

Neil Taylor, 0121 707 6981 or 07721 426001 or e-mail neil.kay@virgin.net

I've just been contacted by a non-member who wants to sell a brand new Eurovent awning, complete with additional sleeping compartment for £300. It has never been out of its box and was bought to fit a Bailey Pageant. If anyone is interested, let me know and I will get a contact number for you.

David Llewellyn has asked me to include his caravan for sale, as they are not getting enough use out of it at present. Outline details as follows, but there are a lot of extras with which the van has been upgraded so contact David for more detail if you are interested.

SWIFT UTOPIA 530 – 2005.

This is a late 2005 build, upgraded considerably as a Broad Lane special, including a Carver motor mover and many of the 2006 features. It has had its annual service and has the balance of its manufacturers warranty still valid.

Price around £11,495. Contact David on 0121 780 6043, 07919 693272 or at dlle@iface.co.uk

Page Filler

Flagpole

Patrick and Seamus (Dublin piping engineers) were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up.

A woman walked by and asked what they were doing. We're supposed to find the height of the flagpole," said Patrick "but we don't have a ladder."

The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a few bolts, and laid the pole down. Then she took a tape measure from her pocket, took a measurement, announced, "5 metres," and walked away.

Seamus shook his head and laughed. "Ain't that just like a blonde! We ask for the height and she gives us the length!"

Don't Mess with Grandma

An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and upon returning to her car, found four males in the act of leaving with her vehicle.

She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun, proceeding to scream at the top of her voice "I have a gun, and I know how to use it! Get out of the car!"

The four men didn't wait for a second invitation. They got out and ran like mad. The lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her bags into the back of the car and got into the driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not get her keys into the ignition. She tried time and again and then it dawned on her why. A few minutes later, she found her own car parked four or five spaces further down. She loaded her bags into her own car and drove to the nearest Police Station.

The Sergeant to whom she told the story couldn't stop laughing. He pointed to the other end of the counter, where four pale men were reporting a car-jacking by a mad, elderly woman, described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair and carrying a large handgun.

If you're going to have a Senior Moment, make it a memorable one!

Birth Control in Liverpool.....

After having their 11th child, a Liverpool couple decided that was enough.

As the social wouldn't buy them a bigger bed and they weren't strong enough to nick one, the husband went to his doctor and told him that he and his wife didn't want to have any more children.

The doctor told him there was a procedure called a vasectomy that would fix the problem but it was expensive. A less costly alternative was to go home, get a firework, light it, put it in a beer can, then hold the can up to his ear and count to 10.

The Scouser said to the doctor, "I may not be the smartest guy in the world, but I don't see how putting a firework in a beer can next to my ear is going to help me."

"Trust me, it will do the job", said the doctor. So the man went home, lit a banger and put it in a beer can. He held the can up to his ear and began to count:

"1, 2, 3, 4, 5,".....at which point he paused and placed the beer can between his legs so he could continue counting on his other hand..

*(This procedure also works in Birmingham, parts of Essex, Sunderland, Leicester, Aberdeen and anywhere in Wales or Ireland.....)

Why parents drink.

A boss wondered why one of his most valued employees had not phoned in sick one day.

Having an urgent problem with one of the main computers, he dialled the employee's mobile phone number and was greeted with a child's whisper.

"Hello."

"Is your daddy home?" he asked.

"Yes," whispered the small voice.

"May I talk with him?"

The child whispered, "No."

Surprised and wanting to talk with an adult, the boss asked, "Is your Mummy there?"

"Yes," whispered the small voice.

"May I talk with her?"

Again the small voice whispered, "No."

Hoping there was somebody with whom he could leave a message, the boss asked, "Is anybody else there?"

"Yes," whispered the child, "a policeman"

Wondering what a cop would be doing at his employee's home, the boss asked,

"May I speak with the policeman?"

"No, he's busy", whispered the child.

"Busy doing what?"

"Talking to Daddy and Mummy and the Fireman," the whisper answered.

Growing more worried as he heard what sounded like a helicopter through the earpiece on the phone, the boss asked, "What is that noise?"

"A helicopter." answered the whispering voice.

"What is going on there?" demanded the boss, now truly apprehensive.

Again, whispering, the child answered, "The search team just landed the helicopter."

Alarmed, concerned and a little frustrated the boss asked, "What are they searching for?"

Still whispering, the young voice replied with a muffled giggle.

"ME."

Girlie Wisdom.

Men just won't have a clue what we are talking about here!!!

Women over 50 don't have babies because they would put them down and forget where they left them.

One of life's mysteries is how a 2-pound box of chocolates can make a woman gain 5lbs.

My mind not only wanders, it sometimes leaves completely.

The best way to forget your troubles is to wear tight shoes.

The nice part about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you are doing, someone else does.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight because by then, your body and your fat are really good friends.

Just when I was getting used to yesterday, along came today.

Sometimes I think I understand everything, and then I regain consciousness.

I gave up jogging for my health when my thighs kept rubbing together and setting fire to my knickers.

Every 7 minutes of everyday, someone in an aerobics class pulls a hamstring.

Amazing! You hang something in your wardrobe for a while and it shrinks 2 sizes!

Skinny people irritate me! Especially when they say things like..."You know, sometimes I forget to eat!"Now... I've forgotten my address, my mother's maiden name and my keys. But I have never forgotten to eat. You have to be a special kind of stupid to forget to eat.

A friend of mine confused her Valium with her birth control pills...She has 14 kids but doesn't really care.

My body is not all that communicative but I heard from it the other day after I said "Body, how would you like to go to the six o'clock Class of vigorous toning?" Clear as a bell my body said "Listen witch.....do it and die."

The trouble with some women is that they get all excited about nothing and then they marry him.

I read this article that said the typical symptoms of stress are: eating too much; impulse buying and driving too fast. Are they kidding? That's my idea of a perfect day!

I don't know about Girlie Wisdom - without even trying to be politically correct, most of it seems to apply to us men as well!

That's all for now – next Rallier in the New Year so please send me your contributions asap.

Neil Taylor.

West Warwickshire Christmas Party

Date: 9th. December 2006.

Venue: Bentley Heath Community Centre.

Time: 6.30pm. until 10.00pm.

Cost: Adult £6.00, Child £4.00.

There will be a live group performing during the evening and there will be games and fun for adults and children alike. A buffet will be included in the price and Father Christmas will be arriving during the evening with presents for the children.

For more details, contact our Social Secretary, Mervyn Richards, on 01527 457592 or 07879 673353 or by post at
2 Milford Close,
Redditch,
Worcs. B97 5PZ

West Warwickshire Skittles Evening

Date: 20th. January 2007

Venue: HAD Social Club, Cherry Tree Walk, Redditch.

Time: 7.00pm until late.

Cost: Adult £6.00, Child £4.00.

Food will be served during the evening as part of the price for your ticket, and the Club will provide staff to reset the Skittles during the evening.

Food choice is as follows:-

Cod and Chips, Scampi and Chips or Pie and Chips.

For more details, contact our Social Secretary, Mervyn Richards, on 01527 457592 or 07879 673353 or by post at
2 Milford Close,
Redditch,
Worcs. B97 5PZ

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Booking Form – West Warwickshire Christmas Party. This must reach the Social Secretary by 25th. November.

I wish to book for the Christmas Party. My group will consist of Adults @ £6 each and Children, who are aged @ £4 each.
I enclose a cheque made out to WWCCC for

.....
From:-

Name
Address

Tel. No.
.....

.....
Booking Form – West Warwickshire Christmas Party. This must reach the Social Secretary by 13th. January 2007.

I wish to book for the Skittles evening. My group will consist of Adults @ £6 each and Children, who are aged @ £4 each.
I enclose a cheque made out to WWCCC for

.....
Food Choice is:-

Cod & Chips.....for.....people
Scampi & Chipsfor.....people
Pie & Chips.....for.....people

From:-

Name
Address

Tel. No.
.....