

# ***THE RALLIER***

West Warwickshire Centre Caravan Club

Newsletter

May 2016



NEIL TAYLOR.

*Neil has had to resign from his duties on the Committee as Treasurer and his stewarding duties on rallies.*

*He asked me to tell you that he was very recently diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer which has also spread to his liver, he has been told by his Consultant it is excisable and is waiting for an appointment to see the Consultant again and be advised of his treatment. He is very positive and will be keeping in touch with us via Bob and Mark. We wish him every success in his treatment and look forward to when he will be joining us again on the rally field*

*Gail Wiltshire will be taking over as Treasurer in the interim period with her father's help (he has been helping Neil with the accounts for a number of years) until the October AGM. We will need to elect a new Treasurer at that time. I have been asked to produce the Rallier, Neil will be a hard act to follow.*

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## **EASTER- LOW GATE FARM, FLEET. SPALDING – 25<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2016.**

14 Outfits attended. It was a bit wet underfoot but we sat in sunshine waiting for the first vans to arrive. A welcome of Coffee and biscuits was held in Jan and Dave's awning where members and visitors were introduced including new members to the Centre, Cathy and Barry Tibbles.

Saturday dawned dry, all ralliers' were invited Saturday lunch time for drinks, nibbles and cake to celebrate Roy's 80th birthday. Many thanks to you all who attended our thanks also to Jan and Dave for the loan of their awning.

Saturday evening there was an excellent meal and deserts to die for served in the Barn together with entertainment all organised by the Owners of the site at a small charge of £12. per person. It was a 100% participation from our Centre Rally who joined other Caravans on the site. A very good night was had by all.

Sunday dawned very windy but bright and cold. It was very distressing to hear Norman Guest had suffered a slight stroke. An ambulance was called for and two arrived. He was taken to Kings Lynn Hospital for assessment and treatment, and was kept there for a few days.

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During Sunday night the wind got stronger and storm Kate hit us. The wind pushed Sheila's porch onto the van and she was unable to get out until it was pulled off. (Norman missed all the excitement). Our visitors from Yorkshire had their awning destroyed and he had to climb out of a window. Bob's awning also collapsed and poles were damaged..

Everyone was out trying to help people, our porch was pulled off the awning rail causing damage to the rail. Thank God no one was hurt. Surprisingly some awnings survived.

We hired the barn one evening and had a noggin and natter which was attended by all. Flag was taken in the barn where again we were supplied with beautiful cakes. On the last Friday evening everyone on the rally went to a local Farm Café for a meal which was great. Thanks to Jan & Dave.

The weather had not been great but the atmosphere was marvellous. Many thanks to Gail, Mark, Jan and Dave, and of course Roy.

M.W

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**LICKHILL MANOR CP. – 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April. 10 Outfits attended.**

What can I say about Lickhill Manor. The rally was very ably Stewarded by Sheila and Norman (very pleased to see how he was recovering) plus Maureen and Brian. The weather I think could not have been worse it rained for hours. They got nearly everyone in Ok. We arrived and got stuck Roy was not a happy bunny. Fortunately a warden was on hand to get us in. It was the first time Roy had had his car towed in over 45 years caravanning (Caravan yes but not car) The rain stopped for coffee then started again. Saturday most people went into Stourport but the weather was not good. Sunday dawned fair and bright and we were able to sit out and have coffee round the flag. Thanks to Sheila and Norman also Maureen and Brian for a great but wet Rally.

M.W

**CENTRE CHARITY**

**Warwickshire &  
Northamptonshire  
Air Ambulance**

Our books and card sales will be available at most rallies, always worth a browse. Charity co-ordinator .

Gail Wiltshire

**CENTRE WEB-SITE**

Don't forget our Centre Web- Site where you will find all the most up to date information on rallies etc. Please check regularly as its the fastest means of communication for any changes.

Web Master - Dave Varley.  
[www.westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk](http://www.westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk)

## 1500<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY RALLY/ SHAKESPEARE'S CELEBRATION – STRATFORD RACE-COURSE – 22<sup>ND</sup>-24<sup>TH</sup> April 2016 - 22 Outfits

This double celebration weekend was a very busy but hopefully enjoyable time for everyone. It didn't go off to plan as Bob Munnoch, Centre Chairman, had to withdraw from the rally as Brenda had just undergone a knee operation. This meant that Roy Wiltshire ably assisted by Margaret took over the main running and setting up of the rally at short notice.

It had been decided at Committee not to put anything on during the day on Saturday as Stratford was hosting its own celebrations with parades and entertainment laid on for all the family in what turned out to be lovely weather.

So Friday night saw us all together in a room on the racecourse having Soup and a Roll or Tea or Coffee.

Saturday evening we had a lovely buffet supplied by Margaret Hughes and her team. A lovely Celebration Cake had been made by Margaret and was on display and later cut for everyone to have a piece with Coffee at Flag on Sunday. Entertainment on Saturday night consisted of team quizzes and music sorted by Nicola who had come from Worcester University especially for the night. Thanks to her, there is a video of me dancing with Margaret Hughes and threats for it to appear later in the year on my birthday !!

The teams came up with some good Shakespearian names. The winners were "Ann Hathaway's Friends" with a total of 38 points. The team chosen for the best name was "The Pucking Useless Team". It's not every rally where we have fireworks to finish a Saturday night get together and that's what happened as Stratford Celebrated the Bard it was a fitting end to a lovely evening and thanks to all who helped or took part.

This rally was a lot of hard work for many of the committee. Their vans looked like bomb sites with extra equipment/food prep needed for the rally, but hopefully all this hard work paid off and I for one think it was a great success. Although I think it's a good job it's a while before West Warwick's have their next celebration

Gail Wiltshire

*It was good to see Sheila on a rally just 3 days after her operation, together with Norman who is getting on so well after his stroke. Also Phillip and Eileen who have been with the Centre from its beginning and now find rallying not that easy.*

*My good wishes to them.*

## **MARTON ROAD – LONG ITCHINGTON BEER FESTIVAL – 29th April – 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

To arrive at a Rally just after opening time and find part of it looked like a ploughed field is fortunately unusual, but that was the scene on our 5<sup>th</sup> visit to Marton Road. Solo Cars and 4x4's were all getting stuck. Dave and Ally in a two day old car sank axle deep with the caravan trying to sink down and join the ancient artefacts, it took 2 4x4's to get them out. They have photographs to prove it. The onus on our Stewards was considerable.

Jon, Glen and Jan had the dilemma of considering cancelling, in the event they did a great job in getting us sited. Having 21 vans arrive out of 24 booked. It would appear that the site had recently had an Archaeological dig and a heavy rain storm prior to the rally made the problem worse. That storm had turned the Stewards pitches into a pond, Jan and Dave had a few ducks trying it out.

Enough of the rain and mud, we had arrived for a beer festival. After coffee and Bread Pudding served at the Stewards Van, a few of us set off to taste the delights of the Beer Festival. It was dry and warm in the Harvester and after a few pints of good beer all the rally problems were forgotten. Saturday morning started bright and Dave took us on a ramble along the canal and an old railway track, it was very pleasant, of course it was a round walk and Dave did not get us lost so we arrived at the Green Man just as the pub opened. After a few more pints and some lovely roast pork rolls or chips we wandered back to our vans for a rest.

It was down to the village Saturday night but it was very cold and the pubs were busy. Most people went back to their vans. Dave Varley decided he wanted music so we tried all 6 pubs in the village and with nothing to his taste or ours we managed to get a seat in the Harvester for a quiet drink.

Sunday lunch found us at The Harvester eating our Water Buffalo Burgers washed down with another good ale, and much reminiscing. We could not linger or we would have been late for our lovely cream tea provided as usual by Glen & Jon assisted by Jan and Dave and followed by Flag.. I hope Debbie & Gary Smith and family enjoyed their first rally and look forward to seeing them again on the rally field.

Sadly Monday it was all over but after a difficult start it had been a great weekend and our sincere thanks must go to Glen and Jon ably assisted by Jan & Dave.

R.W

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### **The next Rallier will be out for the August BH.**

Please let me have your rally reports and promotions for future rallies.

My email address is: [booklet-sec@westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk](mailto:booklet-sec@westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk)

Please let me have your thoughts on what you would like in the Newsletter, after all it is your Newsletter.

*Margaret Wiltshire*

Editor