

# THE RALLIER

the newsletter of the West Warwickshire Centre Caravan Club

## Sad News

Members will be very sorry to hear of the sad death of John Burnett at the end of July. John had been very bravely battling Prostate Cancer for many years, but still loved to come out in his “truck” as often as he could. He really enjoyed his rally attendances and could always be relied upon for some good stories. He was a true gentleman, who accepted help graciously when needed, but always did his utmost to avoid putting on others when out on the rally field. We last saw him at the Sunday Lunch arranged at the start of the year, when he was his usual cheerful self, delighted to be amongst friends for the day. He will be very much missed by all who knew him.

Our sympathies go out to his family and friends.



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### THE EDITOR SAYS.....

What a year! We got soaked and cold, nearly blown away, then roasted and now soaked again! I love the hot weather but even I was quite grateful when the weather broke at the end of July and gave us a few days respite, and some much needed rain. Despite (or maybe because of) the weather, we have had some great rallies in the last couple of months. Lickhill, Hill Farm, Catton, Radway and Newlands were all successful (mind you, a bit more about Pebworth later) and we are off to Barton Marina at the start of August. Rallies have been slightly better attended this year, whether that is a sign of better weather or a slightly improving economic climate I don't know, but long may it continue.

However, rallies, and even the Centre itself, will not continue without people to run them. The take-up of rallies from the web-site has been quite good so far and I hope to include a copy of where we stand as part of this Newsletter. At the time of writing, I think about half of next year's rallies had been taken, so hopefully a look at the list will spur you to taking one on if you have not already done so. The other area needing your support is the Committee.

Both Jan, our Social Secretary, and Gail our Charity Co-ordinator will be retiring from the Committee at the AGM. They have both done a fantastic job on the Committee and both intend to continue their support behind the scenes.

However, we do need to replace them and have several vacancies which need filling. These need not be for specific posts but as general members to help spread the workload across a few more families. Please give it some thought and join the team to see how you get on. I am certain anyone joining the Committee will enjoy their participation – after all, it is very true that the more you put into something, the more you can get out of it. If you have any concerns about the level of commitment being too heavy, have a word with anyone on the Committee and I am sure they will put your mind at rest. The roles of Secretary, Rally Secretary and Treasurer do involve a considerable amount of work but most of the other jobs need not take up too much of your time. Nominations for Committee positions need to be with Mark, our Secretary by 20<sup>th</sup> September. Nominations must be seconded and agreed with the nominee before submission.

I hope that as many of you as possible will attend the AGM meeting, even if you are not able to make it out for the whole weekend. It is a bit soul destroying to see a minimal turn-out and a good attendance at least shows that members are still interested in keeping the Centre alive.

*Neil Taylor*



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## Charity Notice

Our book and card sales will be available at most rallies. If you have collected any books over the winter and are willing to donate them to Gail for recycling, I am sure she would be most grateful. These book and card sales have been a mainstay of our fund-raising efforts for several years and provide a useful way of topping up your library for very little expense.

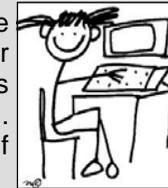


## Centre Web-Site.

You can log on at: -

[www.westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk](http://www.westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk) Why not include the site on your "favourites" list so that you can check it easily and quickly when logging on for any other reason? Also, if you need to communicate anything to a lot of members in a hurry, get in touch with our Web Master, Dave Varley and he will endeavour to get it onto the Centre Web-site for you. For details, see early pages of Rally Book. Please check this site regularly as it is the only way we can communicate cancellations, changes etc. to (nearly) all our members.

Right now you can see the list of rallies booked for next year and which ones have already been taken. Please check and see if you can fill any of the gaps



## Centre Membership

The Club have informed us that they have ironed out most of the problems associated with registering for Centre membership at the annual renewal point. However, it is important that you remember to re-register with the Centre every year. Despite a lot of pressure from Centres, the Club has thus far refused to allow automatic renewal every year. We need a good level of membership to support the Grant we receive from the Club and we can only do this if members complete their Centre Registration each year.

## Contacting You.

If any of you have email addresses, it would be very useful if you could pass them on to our Secretary, Mark Wiltshire. It would make contacting you so much easier and cheaper than having to use the post and saving cost is something we all want to do. He can be contacted by e mailing

[secretary@westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk](mailto:secretary@westwarwickshirecentre.co.uk) It will obviously be quite a major task loading all these addresses to our Centre records, but it would be a great help to have a database containing this information. We would appreciate your help in contacting him whenever you are able.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

We will gladly publish and adverts from Centre Members who have any caravan related objects they wish to sell. Let me have the details of anything you wish to recycle, either by post or e mail and I will endeavour to get them out on the next Rallier.



## Future Rally Programme

At the time of writing, we are about to head off for Barton Marina, a completely new site for us. I am encouraged to hear that we have 15 units booked in, a very high number considering the reluctance many members show to head north across the A45! Following on in August, we are going back to Hoar Park Craft Centre (plenty to do and ideally placed for a pilgrimage to Jackson's) and then on to the Bowling Green. Arthur and David Hunt have taken this one on, their first rally as Stewards, so I hope they get plenty of support. Unfortunately, we have heard a couple of negative reports about the new owners of the pub so we hope they prove to be wrong and we can enjoy what is a lovely site with great canal walks and what has always been good value meals. We will be spending August Bank Holiday up at Osmaston Polo fields, near Ashbourne. This is a lovely part of the country and ideal for exploring the Derbyshire Dales.

Moving into September, we are going to Edge Hill Country Park (great views and handy for Caravanland and the Wobbly Wheel) and then we have the Junior Rally at Woodbine Farm, near Southam. Please support the youngsters as they gain more experience with their event – after all, they are the future of the Centre and the Club as a whole and without them we will all just gradually crumble away!

Phillip and Eileen Howitt have kindly agreed to run Kineton House Farm from 20-22 September and then many of us will be heading down to Merley Court, near Poole for a weeks stay in beautiful Dorset. This will be followed by (hopefully) a well attended AGM at the beginning of October, when we hope members will take up any rallies still without stewards. However, the Committee have agreed that they will not automatically take up any rallies not yet allocated, so if there is a rally you like the sound of, and it has not got stewards, take it on yourself. You will get all the support you need from the regular ralliers and I promise you will enjoy yourselves. Incidentally, we hope to be able to present a pretty significant cheque to the Air Ambulance scheme at some stage during the AGM – yet another reason for attending!

Finally we have the rally at Heath End Farm to coincide with the last three days of the Caravan Show at the NEC. We hope to attract a good

few visitors for this - £12 for the weekend is a lot less than £30 a night payable at the official site at the NEC itself. Admittedly, the entertainment may not be quite so lavish, but we normally manage to give everyone attending a pretty good time.

**Help us help you!!**  
 We want to raise funds for  
 equipment for the Junior Funds  
 We will fill your aquarolls for a small  
 donation  
 Find us on the rally field  
 THE JUNIOR COMMITTEE

## Photocopying/Printing.

At the moment, we (Samantha Terry and I) are the owners of the lease on a large and elaborate photocopier. In order to pay the lease, we are very keen to take on small printing jobs, which we are usually able to produce far more cheaply than normal commercial outlets. If you want flyers, stationery or multiple copies of any documents, please contact Samantha on **0121 764 5069** (evenings) or via email on

[samanthaterry@virginmedia.com](mailto:samanthaterry@virginmedia.com).

She will be happy to help and give a quote for production costs.

## Rally Plaques.

Please let us know how you feel about our new rally plaques for normal weekends. I did say in the first Rallier this year, how important it is that we cut our costs in order to survive. This is becoming even more important as the interest on our Deposit Account is around £300 less annually than it used to be and this year, for the first time, we have had to pay for our Rally Books to be printed. Overall, we have "lost" over £500 from our account compared to earlier years, so we need to cut our expenditure in order to continue to provide an active Centre for you, our members.

## A PRAYER FOR THE DAY

**Dear Lord,**

**So far today I am doing all right. I have not lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, or selfish. I have not whined, bitched or eaten any chocolate.**

**However, I'm going to get out of bed in a few minutes and I will need a lot more help!**

**Amen.**

**A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."**

## Rally Report

### **Hill Farm – Pebworth, 21-23 June.**

This is the one where it all happened! I arrived on site in good time, only to find that while I was hitching up on my drive, I must have put my motor mover control down on my rear bumper and not away in its proper place. Needless to say, after a 25 mile journey it was no longer present. A panic phone call to my son to check the immediate area proved to be fruitless, so a hefty bill for £150 to get a replacement was less than welcome. Despite this, we put up the event tent and prepared for a nice weekend. We had not allowed for the wind – it increased to the point when we had to whip off the canvas to avoid damage and then to take the poles down which were flexing with the gales. We still had a pretty good time, enjoying tea and cake with Debbie and Graham Hill who were co-stewarding their first rally, with Rita and Peter Hoult.

At Flag, disaster 2 struck. As Margaret and Barry Hughes were leaving their van, a gust of wind caught the door and as it slammed shut, the locking lever shot up. Needless to say, spare keys and car keys were all locked in the van! Everyone tried their keys in the lock to no avail. All windows were tried to gain entry, we even considered trying to get in through the sky light but even this had been battened down against the wind. Eventually, Graham pushed hard against the door to hold it against the jam and by thumping the release handle, eventually got it to spring back to the unlocked position.

Disaster 3 next – I needed to get away in good time, so headed off. The ruts on the driveway were quite deep and my motor mover cross bar hit the centre of the driveway and shoved the mover into my tyre. Luckily, I had been aware that the clearance was minimal and was travelling very slowly with Sue and Graham keeping a watch for me. Luckily, I was able to use a mallet to knock the roller back from the tyre and get home. The rally was enjoyable but I can't remember ever having quite so many dramas in one weekend.

Neil

### FOR SALE:

FULL SIZE DOREMA AWNING 890 APPROX 'A' MEASUREMENT. BURGUNDY/GREY WITH FULLY REMOVABLE PANELS. £75.00

ALSO SUNNCAMP SMALL PORCH AWNING NAVY £20.

£10 FROM SALE TO GO TO CENTRE CHARITY. Contact Margaret Hughes

## **Rally Report**

### **Whitehouse Farm Radway, 12-16 July**

Last year we went to the Radway site and the grass was “as high as an elephant's eye”, no change this year then. Mrs. Cook had assured Neil that all was ready for us, but she is very elderly now, housebound, and probably thought it was. However, it was dry and the views are out of this world and it is quiet, apart from occasional aircraft passing over.

The weather was fantastic, just to sit there all weekend with a book and a cool beer was ideal. Last year we climbed up to the Castle pub on Edge Hill for some “Hooky”, but this time it was too hot. We barbecued every evening and ate outside except for the highlight of the weekend when Neil and Sue put on a feast Saturday evening (with a little help from others). It really was delicious, washed down with a bottle of Damson wine on each table, followed with a tot of Damson Gin – good job we didn't have far to go back to our vans. The meal was free with voluntary contributions invited, which raised the fantastic sum of £73 to go to our chosen charity, the Air Ambulance.

We do hope that we will be able to come to this site again in the future, but with the owner's advancing years, this sadly may not be possible, but who knows? It would be a shame because it is in a lovely position and it is local.

Many thanks to Neil and Sue for putting on such an enjoyable rally.

*Sylvia & Brian Collins.*

## **SELL YOUR STUFF**

**If you have anything you want to sell, especially if it is caravan related, please let me have the details and I will include them in the next issue of the Rallier. There will be no charge but if you wanted to make a small donation toward Centre Funds, it would be welcomed.**

## The Silly? Bit.

*I've learned...That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.*

*I've learned...That we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.*

*I've learned...That money doesn't buy class.*

*I've learned...That it's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular.*

*I've learned... That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.*

*I've learned...That the Lord didn't do it all in one day.What makes me think I can?*

*I've learned...That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.*

## Kids are Quick!!

**Teacher:** Maria, go to the map and find North America.

**Maria:** Here it is.

**Teacher:** Correct. Now class, who discovered America?

**Class:** Maria.

**Teacher:** John, why are you doing your maths multiplication on the floor?

**John:** You told me to do it without using tables.

**Teacher:** Glen, how do you spell 'crocodile'.

**Glen:** K R O K O D I A L.

**Teacher:** No, that's wrong.

**Glen:** Maybe it's wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

**Teacher:** Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

**Donald:** H I J K L M N O.

**Teacher:** What are you talking about?

**Donald:** Yesterday you said it was H to O.

**Teacher:** George, why do you always get so dirty?

**George:** Well, I'm a lot closed to the ground than you are.

**Teacher:** Millie, give me a sentence starting with "I".

**Millie:** I is..

**Teacher:** No Millie, always say "I am..."

**Millie:** All right, ...I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.

**Teacher:** George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it. Now, Louie, do you know why his father didn't punish him?

**Louie:** Because George still had the axe in his hand.

# KIDZ KORNER



## General Quiz

1. How many years are there in a millennium? \_\_\_\_\_
2. True or false? The horse is the fastest land animal. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The Beatles music band featured how many members? \_\_\_\_\_
4. True or false? Scarlet is a bright red color. \_\_\_\_\_
5. What galaxy is Earth located in? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the first element on the periodic table of elements? \_\_\_\_\_
7. True or false? Mickey Mouse's middle name is Fautleroy. \_\_\_\_\_
8. How many sides does a triangle have? \_\_\_\_\_
9. True or false? Harry Potter's middle name is James. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Bees create what sweet substance? \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 10

1. 1000, 2. False, 3. 4, 4. True, 5. The Milky Way, 6. Hydrogen, 7. False (it is Donald Duck's) 8. 3, 9. True, 10. Honey

Answers

## THE NEXT RALLIER

I am hoping to produce the next edition after the AGM to have it available by the time of the Heath End rally for the NEC show. Hopefully we will also be able to get it onto the website at the same time, so members will be able to see the new committee and the situation with next years rallies. Please let me have your letters, adverts, rally reports, rally publicity, recipes – anything you would like to see communicated to other Centre members. I can receive it by e mail or in writing, but reserve the right to make any amendments I think necessary for legal or ethical reasons. 'Bye for now, and I hope to see plenty of you out on the field in the near future.

## MORE QUICK KIDS!!!!!!

Teacher: Now Simon, tell me honestly, do you say your prayers before eating?

Simon: No Miss, I don't have to, my Mum is a good cook.

Teacher: Clive, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

George: No Sir, it's the same dog.

Teacher: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps talking even when people are no longer interested?

Harold: A Teacher?



# 2014 Rallies

Please take a look at the following rally programme for 2014. If you would like to take on the stewarding of any of the untaken rallies please contact any member of the committee. Phone numbers can be found in the front of your rally book for this year.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>LOCATION AND PROGRAMME</u>	<u>STEWARD</u>
<b><u>MARCH</u></b>		
14—16 March	Sheldon Bosley Hub, Pittway Avenue Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4DQ Motown Tribute evening in Hub £10 extra p/p	Neil Taylor
21—23 March	Monks Barn Farm, Shipston Road Stratford, CV37 8NA Free & Easy	Rita & Peter Hoult
28—30 March	Bowling Green Inn, Shaw Lane, Stoke Prior Bromsgrove, B60 4BH	<b><u>Stewards needed</u></b>
<b><u>APRIL</u></b>		
04—06 April	Red Lion Farm Touring Park, Jolt Lane Haughton, Staffordshire, ST18 9JG Free & Easy	Rita & Peter Hoult
11—13 April	Wilmcote Holding Stables, Aston Cantlow CV37 9XX	Graham & Debbie Hill

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>LOCATION AND PROGRAMME</u>	<u>STEWARD</u>
<b><u>APRIL</u></b>		
18—22 April	Chester Southerly Touring Park, Balderton Lane, Marlston Cum Lache CH4 9LB Bank Holiday Weekend	<b><u>Stewards needed</u></b>
25—27 April	Stratford-on-Avon Racecourse Luddington Road, CV37 9SE Shakespeare's 450th birthday celebrations	Ailsa Craft & Geoff Fulwell
<b><u>MAY</u></b>		
02—06 May	Marton Road Farm, Long Itchington CV47 9PY Beer Festival	Glenn & John Hall
09—11 May	Evesham Sports Club, Blind Lane, Evesham WR11 4LE	<b><u>Stewards needed</u></b>
16—18 May	Upper Brailles Playing Field, Nr Banbury OX15 5AS BBQ Chef of the Year Competition	Bob & Brenda Munnoch
23—27 May	Bourton Rovers FC & Social Club Rissington Road, Bourton on the Water GL54 2EB Spring Bank Holiday—Communal BBQ	Rita & Peter Hoult

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>LOCATION AND PROGRAMME</u>	<u>STEWARD</u>
<b><u>JUNE</u></b>		
06—08 June	Greenhill Park Touring, Salters Lane Bearley, B95 6DN	Arthur & David Hunt
13—15 June		
20—22 June	Weston Farm, Weston-on-Avon, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 8JY	Graham & Debbie Hill
27—29 June	Lickhill Manor Caravan Park, Stourport-on- Severn, Worcestershire, DY13 8RL	Neil Taylor
<b><u>JULY</u></b>		
04—06 July		
11—13 July	Catton Estate, Walton-on-Trent, Staffordshire, DE12 8LN	<b><u>Stewards needed</u></b>
18—20 July	Wilmcote Holding Stables, Aston Cantlow	3 Centres
25—27 July	Town Thorns Care Home, Brinklow Road Easenhall, Rugby, CV23 0JE	Barry & Margaret Hughes with Joyce & Brian Fitter
<b><u>AUGUST</u></b>		
01—03 August		
08—10 August	Hill Farm, Pebworth, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 8AP	Arthur & David Hunt

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>LOCATION AND PROGRAMME</u>	<u>STEWARD</u>
<b><u>AUGUST</u></b>		
15—17 August	Barnstones CP, Great Bourton, Banbury OX17 1QU Fish & Chips available Friday (extra cost)	Rita & Peter Hoult
22—26 August	Stanford Hall Caravan Park, Stanford Road Lutterworth, LE17 6DH August Bank Holiday "Viva Italia"	Bob & Brenda Munnock with Ailsa Craft & Geoff Fulwell
<b><u>SEPTEMBER</u></b>		
05—07 Sept	Binton Social Club, Binton, Stratford-upon- Avon, CV37 9TW	Neil Taylor
13—20 Sept	East Fleet Farm Touring Park, Fleet Lane Chickerell, Weymouth, DT3 4DW Holiday week	<b>Stewards needed</b>
26—28 Sept		
<b><u>OCTOBER</u></b>		
03—05 Oct	AGM	Committee
10 - 12 Oct		
17—19 Oct	Heath End House, Catherine-de-Barnes Lane Solihull, B92 6DJ NEC Caravan Show	Neil Taylor
25 Oct - 01 November	Cofton Country Holidays, Starcross, Nr Dawlish, South Devon, EX6 8RP	<b>Stewards needed</b>