



Summer is on its way...



EDITION 2—APRIL 2013

THE RALLIER

the newsletter of the West Warwickshire Centre Caravan Club

THE EDITOR SAYS.....

Before I say anything else, we have a big apology to make! Somehow, and none of us can understand how it happened, the wrong directions are in the Rally Book for the rally at Fillongley Village Hall at the end of April. Please ignore the directions in the book. Use instead ; from the centre of Meriden, take the B4102 towards Nuneaton. After 4.5 miles, at the cross-roads in the centre of Fillongley, turn right on B4098 towards Coventry. Site on right in half a mile. (Incidentally, the post code in the book, CV7 8EQ, is correct, so if you are using Sat. Nav. you will turn up at the right place!)

The season actually started a couple of weeks ago for some of us. Our Social Secretary, Jan Hawksford, contacted most of the members who

have rallied with us over the last year or so and invited them to a Sunday lunch at a pub in Wythall. Well over 30 attended and it was a lovely opportunity to meet old friends and catch up with what we had all been doing over the winter. (I wish we could see as many out on a rally!)

I am writing this at the end of February, with a week to go before the first rally at Greenhill Park. Although a lot of local fields have looked water-logged in recent weeks, the owner assures me that the field at Greenhill is in pretty good condition. I don't know how many are coming yet, as I have only three firm bookings, but I hope that a few more will book in before we go.

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Even the birds love caravanning!

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I will try to include a rally report later in this edition, which I am planning to have out for Easter.

We got the Rally Books a little earlier than usual this year, by a few days, so I am hoping you will have had a chance to look through and decide when you will be able to come out and join us. Please do try to book in for rallies in good time, it makes it so much easier for the stewards if they know how many are coming at least a week in advance, and enables them to make plans to give you the best possible time for the weekend.

Neil Taylor



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 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.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Centre Membership

In the copy of the Rallier we sent out with the Rally Books, there was information about renewing Centre membership. There can be problems when renewing by Credit or Debit card unless you act promptly to confirm your Centre membership well before your annual expiry date is past. Please make sure that you renew your Centre membership with as much promptness as possible – we need to maintain our membership level to keep our Grant from the Club at a sufficient level to enable us to

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.



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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.

One thing deserves special mention. Young Shaun Wiltshire decided to have another clear-out of his toy cupboard and donated £10 of his proceeds to the Charity Fund. Well done Shaun, an example to us all.



**WARWICKSHIRE
 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
 AIR AMBULANCE**

Future Rally Programme

By the time you get this, it will be Easter, so I can only go through the rallies coming up for the next couple of months. (I hope to get another Rallier out sometime in June) The rally at Riverside for Shakespeare's Birthday celebrations is always good, as there will be so much going on in Stratford, and Margaret and Roy always run excellent rallies. Fillongley Village Hall is a venue not used for a long time, and now that, I hope, you have the right directions, I would encourage as many of you as possible to attend. It is very handy for Jackson's, in case you had not noticed!

The Beer Festival at Long Itchington has established itself as a firm favourite, although this will only be the third time we have attended. Last year was great, even though most of the field was under water. The atmosphere in the village was terrific and all the pubs lay on lots of interesting guest beers and ciders, a huge variety of food and varied entertainment. I hope if I have encouraged you to attend, it is not now too late to get a booking, as numbers will be limited.

I hope that as many of you as possible will make the effort to come to the Three Centres rally at Bickenhill. We are hosting the event this year, and it is embarrassing if we are the least represented Centre attending! The theme this year will be based on the Airport and flying generally, so put on your thinking caps to join in with the theme. If you are a plane spotter, you could not be in a better position!

At the end of May we move on to Barncroft Nurseries at Shrewsbury for the weekend, and then those of us who can will go on to Tyn Rhos in Snowdonia. We used this site for the first time last year and it was lovely. It is in an ideal position for exploring North Wales and the surrounding countryside is spectacular.



In early June we are back locally at Snitterfield Fruit Farm, another new venue. I am running this one, not sure what we will be doing yet, but as the book says – there will be wine! From there we move on to Lickhill Manor, by the river just outside Stourport. This is another well-liked site, with easy walks along the river and into the town, and the weather should be good by then, so there should be plenty to enjoy.

Future Rally Programme cont..

Hill Farm at Pebworth follows. This is a lovely quiet site with plenty to explore in the local area. We do not have stewards at present, but I will take slips and one way or another it

will go ahead. Curry will be back on at Catton Hall at the start of July. Please get your bookings in well in advance to give me a chance to make sure I have catering levels correct. I am afraid the following weekend, you will have to put up with me again. I think this will be my 10th. Damson Delight rally, when I will provide a full meal for everyone, based around a damson theme, with all takings going to our Charity, the Air Ambulance. Needless to say, there will be Damson wine aplenty to wash things down. However, a word of warning, the damson crop last year was virtually non-existent, so no wine is being made this year. Next year could be a bit dry, as I am down to my last hundred bottles or so!



Centre Web-Site.

You can log on at -

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.



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.

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.

Subject: ZEN... FOR THOSE WHO TAKE LIFE TOO SERIOUSLY

- EAGLES MAY SOAR, BUT WEASELS DO NOT GET SUCKED INTO JET ENGINES.
- WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU GET SCARED HALF TO DEATH TWICE?
- I USED TO HAVE AN OPEN MIND, BUT MY BRAINS KEPT FALLING OUT.
- I COULDN'T REPAIR YOUR BRAKES, SO I MADE YOUR HORN LOUDER.
- WHY DO PSYCHICS HAVE TO ASK YOU FOR YOUR NAME?
- INSIDE EVERY OLDER PERSON IS A YOUNGER PERSON WONDERING WHAT HAPPENED.
- JUST REMEMBER--IF THE WORLD DID NOT SUCK, WE WOULD ALL FALL OFF.
- LIGHT TRAVELS FASTER THAN SOUND, WHICH IS WHY SOME PEOPLE APPEAR BRIGHT UNTIL YOU HEAR THEM SPEAK.

Who'd be a mum?!?!

Q: Should I have a baby after 35?

A: No, 35 children is enough.

Q: I'm two months pregnant now. When will my baby move?

A: With any luck, right after he finishes university.

Q: What is the most reliable method to determine a baby's sex?

A: Childbirth.

Q: My wife is five months pregnant and so moody that sometimes she's borderline irrational.

A: So what's your question?

Q: My childbirth instructor says it's not pain I'll feel during labour, but pressure. Is she right?

A: Yes, in the same way that a tornado might be called an air current.

Q: When is the best time to get an epidural?

A: Right after you find out you're pregnant.

Q: Is there any reason I have to be in the delivery room while my wife is in labour?

A: Not unless the word "divorce" means anything to you.

Q: Is there anything I should avoid while recovering from childbirth?

A: Yes, pregnancy.

Q: Do I have to have a baby shower?

A: Not if you change the baby's nappy very quickly.

Q: Our baby was born last week. When will my wife begin to feel and act normal again?

A: When the kids are in university.



"SOME OF OUR OLDER MEMBERS JUST WON'T GIVE UP"

THE NEXT RALLIER.

I am hoping to produce the next edition sometime in June. 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.

SELL YOUR STUFF

If you have anything you want to sell, especially if it is caravan related, please let me have the detail; 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 Fund; it would be welcomed.

"OESTROGEN ISSUES"

10 WAYS TO KNOW IF YOU HAVE "OESTROGEN ISSUES"

1. Everyone around you has an attitude problem.
2. You're adding chocolate to your cheese omelette.
3. The dryer has shrunk every last pair of your jeans.
4. Your husband is suddenly agreeing to everything you say.
5. You're using your mobile phone to dial up every car sticker that says:

"How's my driving-call 0800-".

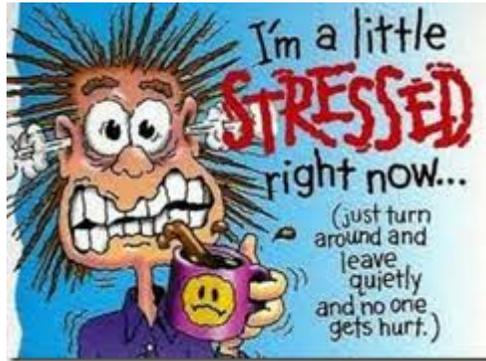
6. Everyone's head looks like an invitation to batting practice.

7. Everyone seems to have just landed here from "outer space".

- 8 You can't believe they don't make a tampon bigger than Super Plus.

- 9 You're sure that everyone is scheming to drive you crazy.

10. The ibuprofen bottle is empty and you bought it yesterday.

**TOP TEN THINGS ONLY WOMEN UNDERSTAND**

10. Cats' facial expressions.
9. The need for the same style of shoes in different colours.
8. Why bean sprouts aren't just weeds.
7. Fat clothes.
- 6 Taking a car trip without trying to beat your best time.
5. The difference between beige, ecru, cream, off-white, and eggshell.
4. Cutting your hair to make it grow.
3. Eyelash curlers.
2. The inaccuracy of every bathroom scale ever made.

AND, the Number One thing only women understand:

OTHER WOMEN

Rally Report, Greenhill Park, 8-10 March 2013

It had not rained for a week, the ground looked dry and then late on 6th. March it began to rain and continued all next day. As fields were already beginning to look very wet, I rang the site owner, who assured me the site would be fine. Despite the continuing rain, I turned up on site at 11.00am on Friday, met the site caretaker who was confident that we would be OK if we kept to the higher end of the site. I towed on, going in a circle to pull up by the hedge and promptly stopped as my van sunk up to its axles! Andy, the caretaker, hitched up his Land Rover, lowered the off-road tyre pressures, and managed to get me moving again. After that, everyone was towed on by Land Rover.

Andy was absolutely brilliant, nothing was too much trouble for him and he helped us all on and off the field (needless to say, there was virtually no let-up in the rain for our whole stay) and even supplied a rush carpet for my awning to reduce the level of the mud. He and his wife Sue joined us for coffee/mulled wine on Friday evening and again for our social on Saturday evening.

The site is lovely and the owners are planning to turn it into a permanent site for rallies with hook-ups and at least 40 pitches. There is a superb hall on site and excellent toilet facilities. They deserve success and if Andy is anything to go by, anyone rallying there will get wonderful treatment.

A final big thank-you from me to everyone on the rally who all mucked in (literally) to help get my awning down without getting it any muddier than it already was after Flag on Sunday morning. Thanks also to my co-steward Sue, who, as usual, quietly and efficiently got on with things while I panicked.

Despite the weather, I think everyone enjoyed the weekend and we are all looking forward to a return visit (when it is a bit drier)

Neil Taylor

KIDZ KORNER



On the Rally Field



Words to find:

aquaroll, awning, deckchairs, fire bucket, flag pole, gas bottle, jockey wheel, step, stewards, waterproofs, wellies.

My Inconclusive Travel Plans for 2013



I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no-one recognises you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work. I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too hot on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, but I go there more often as I get older.

One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age, I need all the stimulation I can get!

I may have been in Continent, but I don't remember what country I was in. It's an age thing. They tell me it is very wet and damp there.

