



CHAIRMANS NEWS. APRIL 2010.

Well here we are in April. What a year so far. Snow, cold, and then shed loads of rain to dampen our fun. So much so the Easter rally had to be cancelled due to the field being under water. My sincere thanks go to Margaret, Jane and the two John's for all their work leading up to the rally organizing everything for our benefit. All to no avail. It is such a shame as 30 outfits were booked in only to be disappointed.

As I look out of the window the sun is shining. Let's hope it continues so we can get out and enjoy our caravanning.

NEWS of MEMBERS.

I have only just found out that Julie Suckling was taken ill recently and as a result has to have surgery later this month. I wish her well and hope she recovers quickly. Good Luck Julie

It is such a shame that Easter had to be cancelled as one of our much loved members was due to celebrate their 60th Wedding anniversary there. So to Betty and Fred Whitehead a sincere if belated congratulations to you both. A wonderful milestone. We wish you many many more anniversaries together.

THE FUTURE OF THE CENTRE?

The future of the centre is in grave danger. We cannot legally run without a centre Secretary. I have put an appeal in my last 3 newsletters for someone to take on the role after the next AGM. We have split some of the jobs the secretary did in the past so the job is not as time consuming as it was. If there is anyone who could take this job please contact me as soon as possible. We cannot leave it till the AGM without a volunteer. It would mean having the meeting and then disbanding the centre at the same time. Teresa would be only too pleased to talk to anyone who thinks they can help and to explain fully what is involved.

At this moment in time the committee is in full discussion as to what happens next if we are left in this position.

We will also need more committee and a Vice Chairman to continue trading.

Please please if you want us to survive be in touch asap.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS and RALLIES.

23rd-25th April Butcherland Farm. Competitions Weekend.

Please hurry and book this weekend Mark has worked hard organizing the competitions. Bring your cameras as you must take photos during the weekend for the competition this year. If the ground is bad in our usual field there will be alternative hard standing up near the farmhouse so don't let the weather put you off. But hey the sun will shine. Chris Harden and Beryl and Brian await your forms.

30th April – 3rd May Bow Bridge Marina.

Come on guys please book in early. This is a lovely site on the edge of the river at Wateringbury. It is an easy journey as well. We need your company for the weekend. We will be putting on a get together on the rally field. There are beautiful walks and lots to do in the area.

Bookings on normal booking forms to Ken and myself or Tim and Cheryl Howlett. We await your forms.

7th-9th May Dean House Farm Newdigate.

Having lost their rally at Easter your rally officers are keen to run this rally. Fisherman will know this site so get out your rods and come along for the weekend.

Bookings to John & Jane Parker and Margaret & John Mckeown as per the rally book.

14th-17th May Slinfold.

This ever popular site will fill up quickly so don't delay limit of 15 vans.

Those cyclists can dust off their bikes and ride the South Downs link all the way to the coast if they want. The less energetic can shop in nearby Horsham.

Corrine and Kevin Clark & Lin & Andy Clark await your forms.

21st-23rd May Brighthams Farm NEW SITE

Ken & I and Tim & Cheryl await your forms.

This new site is just outside Partridge Green with lovely views over the countryside for a relaxing weekend.

28th-31st May Aldingbourne F.C. NEW SITE.

Terry & Carol Bolton will be pleased to see you there for this Spring Bank Holiday. There is a clubhouse on site and various activities we may be able to participate in. This is a great location to explore near to the coast and nearby Arundel.

PAST RALLIES or EVENTS.

Charity Race Night.

Well the rain did not dampen this event as we were on hand standing at Holy Trinity School. Some 18 outfits attended and more people came along for the race night itself.

On Saturday afternoon we were treated to Bingo and Tea and Cakes.

Then on the evening the now famous race night took place. 10 races 10 winners and lots of money changing hands at the tote. Fish and Chips to feed us, Irish coffee and a Bar to quench our thirst went to make it a great night out.

I hope the proceeds of the weekend have kicked off the Charity appeal well. No doubt Margaret has kept the figures close to her chest so she can surprise Carol in due course.

It was my great pleasure to present their well earned rally officers plaques to Brian & Jean Francis & Graham & Carol Poulton at Flagpole on the Sunday. I am sure they all went home and had a good rest. Well done to all those involved in any way.

Charity Film Show and Forum

The forum took place on Saturday afternoon and was well attended. The main subject was “where is the centre going “? Many people spoke with reasons why there are low attendances at rallies and lack of support in the form of volunteers for committee etc, but still no-one came forward. The reasons given were pressure of work cost of fuel etc. The discussions went round and round to no avail. The format of the handbook was also discussed. All points raised are currently being discussed by the committee. Watch this space.

Then in the evening we were treated to a brilliant Film Show of past events. It seemed such a shame to see all the fun we used to have on film when hours earlier we were discussing how we survive as a centre. That said it was a brilliant evening courtesy of many many hours of editing by Graham Poulton. I thanked him at the end of the evening and he got a standing ovation. For those who did not come and support this event you missed a great night. Well done to Graham and the charity team.

At Flagpole I presented the first Centre Fellowship awards to Betty & Fred, Margaret, Tim & Cheryl and Fred gave Ken and I ours.

I thanked our rally officers /organizers for their hard work.

ANOTHER APPEAL FOR RALLY OFFICERS>

We still need rally officers for the following rallies.

Alderstead Heath 17th-19th September

3rd-5th December Tillingbourne school

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Please do not let this event go down. Our winter social programme will be lost if this does not happen. Though in the handbook it states Children's Party as well this does not have to be. If you feel you can only cope with the evening party that is fine. Food is also only an option and not compulsory.

NEW YEAR

31st December -2nd January Holy Trinity School

Again if we do not have a New Year rally our winter will be a very very long break. I do not think it is fair to expect the same few teams to keep doing it. You run out of ideas and enthusiasm. Ken and I have been involved in at least 12 New Year rallies so I know how hard it is to think of new ideas for food entertainment etc. It is great fun to do, so try to get a team together and volunteer please.

The format of New Year is not set in stone, so if you could run the event but do not want to put on any food for instance that is fine. The Disco is already booked so no need to look for entertainment for New Years Eve.

If you could organize the Party but do not want to be rally officers that is another option. Please put your heads together and see if there is any way you can help us.

Make no mistake we cannot wait till the last minute for volunteers for these rallies. In fairness to the sites we will cancel them if we do not get anyone to run them in the not too distant future.

Well that's all for this month folks. Please think about those rallies we need help with. If you have any news you would like put in the newsletter I would be only too pleased to oblige.

Take care out there. I hope to see lots of you at Ebernoe just pray for a dry couple of weeks before then to dry out the ground.

Regards,

Ann