



CENTRE NEWS



DECEMBER 2011

Welcome to your festive publication centre news, may I start by wishing you all a very merry Christmas and prosperous new year from your committee.

THE CARAVAN CLUB CELEBRATION BALL

To celebrate the Clubs 105th birthday, the Queens Diamond jubilee and the Olympics the Club is holding a celebration ball, at the Grosvenor house hotel in London on Friday 15th June 2012.

The cost will be £85 per person and will be hosted by Sir Ian Botham. Tickets available from 25th January. Full details will be in January edition of the Club magazine.

If you have any favourite rally sites past or present you would like put into the 2013 rally programme please let Andy Clark know as we are now working on the programme.

I am pleased to report that our last 3 rallies at club sites were successful, with very helpful wardens which makes all the difference. My thanks to you hard working wardens.

RALLY OFFICERS NEEDED

We have only four rallies which needs rally officers and they are Loxwood 20th -22nd July, Apps Court Farm 3rd-5th August 2012, Bonfire Rally 2nd – 4th November, New year 30th Dec – 2nd – Jan. .

The bonfire rally is of utmost importance to the centre because if we can not find rally officers by the end of January we will have to hand it over to another centre. This is something we do not want to do but have may no choice if you can help with this or any other rally please contact Andy.

Can anybody help?

Centre member Gary Minchin is looking for temporary storage for his motorhome outside the new emission zone to enable him to continue rallying if you can help please contact him, or you can call me.

As from February the newsletter will be published bi-monthly and there will no longer be a short list. If you would like a copy of the newsletter please send me 6 stamped addressed A5 envelopes along with £4.00 made payable to East Surrey Centre and I will happily send you a copy. Please ensure you put correct postage on all envelopes. The web site will be updated as information or changes occur so please keep a regular check. If you do not reply this will be your last newsletter received by post.

FUTURE RALLIES

NOTE TO RALLY OFFICERS

If you are running a rally in 2012 and would like information regarding your rally to encourage bookings, please let me know in good time and I will endeavour to include it in your centre news, and put on web site. Also if your phone number, or address was wrong in the 2011 handbook and you are running a rally in 2012 please let Andy know A-S-A-P as the handbook is nearly ready for publication.

NEW YEAR

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL

30th DECEMBER – 2nd JANUARY

Bookings to Dave and Julie Suckling

Again a lot of preparation is going into this rally, so why not come along, again bring your family and friends and celebrate the new year in style. Please book in early to assist with catering needs. This is a **bow tie** or **tiarra** optional themed evening and Sunday evening we will be having sing along Grease. We are filling up fast so please book soon to avoid disappointment. You are welcome to come to the party only.

We still have room if you wish to attend the rally or the evening party.

RALLY OFFICERS MEETING January 21st

This meeting will be held at Langshott Infants School, Smallfield Road Horley rh6 9au. 7.30 pm sharp.

Please come along to discuss any points relating to the rally programme or the rallies you are running.

Tea and cakes will be provided.

SOUTHERN CENTRES A-G-M

This will be held at Churchill Primary School on February 18th at 7pm you are all welcome to attend.

THE NATIONAL

This rally is now longer known as the national rally but the National It will be held at Eastnor Castle Ledbury 1st -6th June. Further details will be published via Club magazine.

PAST RALLIES

BROCKHAM BONFIRE RALLY 4TH-6TH NOVEMBER

72 outfits were booked in to the bonfire rally, including 62 visitors. Unfortunately a massive 21 outfits did not turn up but still left us with a very creditable 51 outfits.

We were so fortunate with the weather, all week the forecasters were telling us to have our bonfires on the Friday night as Saturday was going to be wet and the worst day of the weekend. I am pleased to say that the weather was just about perfect with just a spot or two of rain after the rally opened at midday. Saturday the clouds skirted all around Brockham and was virtually dry right through.

The atmosphere was electric, the event being well organized and policed, giving us all a very safe environment. The bonfire and fireworks were if possible even better than last year, the bonfire was built to perfection and I have never seen a structure that is to be destroyed be constructed to such perfection and to an absolutely perfect and uniform shape. The fireworks were brilliant with £50,000 worth (or staggering 4 tons in weight) being let off in approximately 15 minutes.

After the display our hard working Rally Officers were hard at it ensuring that we were supplied with hot dog and a bowl of piping hot soup, they had even erected a huge awning to ensure that we were kept warm (and dry if needed).

Our team were brilliant, The site was well signed (and this year there were very few cow pats in the field), They were busy from midday on the Friday until late at night sitting the outfits with their usual warm welcome.

An exceptional rally, lots of thought and effort from our Rally Officers Margaret & John McKeown with a little help from their grandchildren and Jane & John Parker (both couples it has to be noted came all the way up from Bracklesham Bay to run the rally for us). It was my privilege to thank them for all their hard work over the weekend and present them with their hard earned rally plaques.

Thank you Ken for this report.

SHEEPCOTE VALLEY

We arrived Friday afternoon to find the wardens had kindly agreed to put the rally on an area of grasspitches which were otherwise closed to the public. The ground was very firm and it meant we almost had our own 'private space' where we could be all together. A total of 11 units came with some members who we hadn't seen for some time and one caravan club member who booked on the rally when he found the site was full. Not quite sure what they made of it, but hopefully they enjoyed themselves and with luck may even consider another rally!

Saturday broke with beautiful sunshine which lasted all the weekend and the temperatures were distinctly higher than could be reasonably expected for November. Members did their own thing during the day and in the evening part of the rally went down to the marina to have a meal. Very enjoyable it was to.

At a beautifully sunny flag on Sunday it was my pleasure to thank our rally officers, Chris Harden together with our emergency stand in couple Ann & Ken. Unfortunately Beryl & Brian had been struck down with heavy colds and so had to pull out.

Thanks to all who made a very pleasant weekend possible.

Thank you Tim for this report.

Thank you for reading this newsletter if you have any news you would like to share with everybody please ring me on 01293 786378 or e-mail at davesuckling@hotmail.co.uk.

Merry Christmas from your committee

Dave, Mark, Corrine, Claire, Andy, Teresa.

