



EAST SURREY CENTRE



CHAIRMANS NEWS. January 2010.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year despite the snow and cold weather.

Well here we are at the beginning of a new year. Where did 2009 go? It seems only yesterday we started our big celebration year, and what a year it was.

This year we have a centre Charity to focus on instead. I do hope you will pull out all the stops, get behind the charity committee in any way you can and make it a very successful appeal. Carol will keep you all informed through her newsletter each month of what is going on.

NEWS of MEMBERS.

A few members have been in the wars recently.

Shirley King has now had her new hip and is doing very well and free of pain at last.

Lizzie Howlett unfortunately had to have an emergency operation just before Christmas.

I wish them both a speedy recovery.

I have received news that Gwen Mumford died shortly before Christmas. Gwen has not rallied for many years, but I am sure some of you would have known her. My sympathies are with her family at this sad time.

I have also received news that Reg Quartermain died shortly before Christmas. Reg together with Mabs were East Surrey members. Many of you will remember them.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS and RALLIES.

Rally Officers Meeting

**Saturday 23rd January. at Whitebushes community Hall Masons Bridge Rd. Redhill
Doors open 7.15 for 7.30 start.**

Please come along to collect your rally envelopes and catch up with your friends.

Valentines Rally

12th-14th February Churchill School Westerham

Carol & Geoff Bargery are your rally officers they have a lot planned so please support them. Van space is limited so book early.

12th-14th March

Holy Trinity School Charity Race Night

This is the first big event for the Charity so please complete those forms and send them off to Jean and Brian Francis. The form was in your December newsletter and is also on the web site. In this newsletter you will have the rally booking form.

Margaret Kercher has asked me to remind you to claim your centre fellowship as soon as possible to enable her to get the engraving etc organized in time for Easter. Margaret does a sterling job sorting this out for us so please help her by getting in your forms as soon as possible.

PAST RALLIES.

Christmas party at Tillingbourne School.

A few hardy ralliers arrived on the Friday night to a warm welcome from our rally officers who gave us a glass of Mulled wine to take away the winter chill. Saturday morning saw the rest of the vans arrive, although the numbers were rather low. As the day started fine, a trip to the shops or a brisk walk in the countryside was the order of the day.

The weekend saw Hilary & Brian celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary and they generously supported the party by supplying the disco and some bubbly to drink their health with. A very appetizing meal was prepared and served by the team and then our disco, in the shape of Steve Clayton, got us all up dancing and enjoying ourselves. A thorough good time was had by all, including a lot of family and friends who came along and gave the numbers a boost.

On Sunday it was my pleasure to thank all those who made the weekend such a success by their help and in particular to thank the rally officers for working so hard over several weeks to get everything ready. Thanks go to Carol & Terry with Ann & Ken for getting our Christmas celebrations off to a great start.

Report by Tim Howlett.

NEW YEAR.

Well 37 caravans braved the elements to attend the New Year rally of which 19 were visitors.

The rally started off with a fun evening for those who came on the Wednesday night and I am told they all had a good time. (We could not arrive till Thursday).

Then it was New Years Eve. We all arrived to a beautifully decorated hall, platters of food on our tables and the disco all ready to entertain us. We had a surprise dessert in the form of a chocolate fondue. It was scrummy. The disco was then in full swing and had us all up dancing. It seemed only too short a time before it was ready to bring in the New Year and boot out the old. The party did not stop there and we all carried on celebrating till 1am, by which time we were all exhausted. A great night organized by a great team.

On Friday night we were all entertained with a Mamma Mia sing along movie. It was a really good night to round off a great few days. We were even given popcorn and Hot Dogs as if we haven't all eaten enough over the festive period.

It was my pleasure to thank the team at flagpole for all their hard work. It was much appreciated by us all. They must have been on their knees by then.

So my special thanks go to Teresa & Bob Elkington, Julie & Dave Suckling and last but not least Sarah & Mark Buckingham for a wonderful rally. I hope they will find the energy and enthusiasm to do it all again one day.

Finally a plea for rally officers again.

26th-28th March Bearsted club site,

17th-19th September Alderstead Heath Club site

3rd-5th December Christmas Party Tillingbourne School

31st December-2nd January New Year Holy Trinity School

May I wish you all a Happy, Healthy and prosperous 2010. I hope to see as many of you as possible on our rallies this year. Enjoy your caravanning with East Surrey.

Regards

ANN