



West Hampshire Centre The Horses Mouth



The regular Newsletter for the West Hampshire Centre of the Caravan Club

Winter Edition

Issue 33, January 2017



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Editors welcome

Welcome to the latest resurrection of The Horses Mouth, the newsletter of the West Hampshire Caravan Centre. I was elected to the Committee at the last AGM and offered to take on the production of the newsletter.

I have covered a couple of Rally's in this edition and to all those Rally Officers I've not mentioned, please accept my apologies.

I cannot do it alone and this is where you come in, could you please help by sending in reports of rally's that you have run or attended, your photos would also be much appreciated.

The plan is to publish the Newsletter quarterly on the Centres website, please feel free to contact me if you would prefer a paper version. The next copy deadline will be the 30th of April.

If there is anything you would like adding to the next Horses Mouth, please send it to. mike@whampshirecc.co.uk



Paul's Pitch

Welcome everyone, oh what a year we've had. I share with you as I reflect back... With a very slow start, to "our" rallying season – Mary Hare for Easter was our first rally of 2016, and then we had the Romsey caravan show where I celebrated my 50th birthday with family and friends. I recall specifically, assisting our friends at "Winchester caravans" to get their caravan's back to their premises at Colden common, due to sudden forecast changes, and impending bad weather, that was just one highlight, for me!



We were lucky enough to go to the Avon's 40th Birthday celebrations, where we and other WH members were entertained over several nights, with particular enjoyment by Elvis!!

Little Metlands Youth section rally, was a great event, where we tried out our jousting skills and created fancy dress outfits, from up-cycled clothing- some improvements were seen! Then we attended Jane's popular quiz, at one of Helen's favourite site's - Orchard farm, with her other being, Doghouse farm, where we gathered together to create a street party, celebrating the Queens 90th birthday. During this rally, I received a call, to inform us of the safe and wonderful arrival of my second Grandson, Archie.

Ramley farm and Manor farm were next on our list, both very nice small venues, creating very friendly atmospheres. A first for us, a visit to Hayling Island, a very memorable rally, as we wore the dog out, on a bike ride/pub crawl, with Amber becoming a "rucksack" for the final leg of the ride back to the rally field!

Then, for one of the biggest adventures of my life, with a caravan on tow as we toured through Europe, down to Italy to spend two weeks on the beach. Our journey encountered, travelling through Switzerland, climbing mountains, with the van on the back creating memories that stand out for me, and will probably never fade. We travelled through 7 countries and clocked up over 2500 miles, in our outfit, and it easy to carry out this tour, with Europe easy to explore, being well set up for caravans and motorhomes. We created plenty of wonderful memories that will stay with us, for a lifetime.

With 2 days at home, from our big adventure, there was no time, to stop, for next we were hitching up, and rolling down to Bournemouth air show, to practice for the Wessex. Then on to the Wessex itself, dressing up as a tart, not too easy for me, as it was for some, of my male friend's!! Everyone's efforts were rewarded, people tried their skills at new games or events. I recall some ladies being out of their comfort zone, to support our centre, as well, as some men, carrying out sports from their teens. All for fun, and being part of a team, which in turn resulted in us, returning home with all 4 cups again.

After this, as the children returned to school, so did West Hants, as we went to "Back to school at Orchard farm" where school dinners, naughty pupils and assembly were all part of the curriculum. Youth section rally at Oliver's Battery kept us completely entertained, with lots to do, from games on the field to horse racing, leaving us all shattered. Brocklands farm was lovely, in the countryside, with a great walk to a local public house, with a cocktail party in the evening.



AGM, was scary for me and you, as I became your Chairman. The Centre is very important to me and its future, for as many of you know, I have grown-up in it and is my second family.

Beautiful Breamore was beautiful, Hill cottage was cool, Scare'em at Wareham was mad, scary, funny and very tiring. Christmas market Rally was great, complete with a grotto on the field, and the special man, Santa, paid a visit to the "good children". Cracker of Christmas 14, we were lucky to take flag pole at this rally, meeting the ralliers who had enjoyed a WH Christmas and all the details and food at this rally. And then to finish the year and season, it seemed fitting, as we were finishing the season at Mary Hare School, where we had started the season. Here we celebrated both New Year, and also our 4th Wedding anniversary, reflecting back to our wedding, which was also held at a New Year rally. The rally itself, was a very enjoyable one, with lots of lovely food, good friendly company, to welcome the New Year, amongst friends.

As I've already said what a year it's been for us, we have truly had an amazing year, and are already feeling very excited for the forthcoming season, where amongst many other great events, we will celebrate during the year, our success, at having delivered 3500 rallies. We have a very exciting programme and hope you will join us, to share in the centre's success and achievements, all forming memories and history for our centre.

We wish you all a Very Happy New Year, and look forward to seeing you on forthcoming rallies in 2017 with West Hampshire Caravan Club.

Regards Paul Hopkins



Word List

BOOTS	DECEMBER	ICY
CHILLY	FIREPLACE	SCARVES
COCOA	FOG	SNOWBALL
COLD	HOCKEY	WHITE





Youth section updates

Hello all, my name is Zinna Bridgman and I'm 15 years old. I am the Youth Section Chairman for this year. I am very excited to be Chairman, and can't wait to get the whole team involved with our rallies. Excitingly, we have increased the rallies to run this year, which means double the teamwork and planning. With three Youth Section rallies, I really look forward to seeing everyone's faces more often than usual.

I've been a part of West Hampshire Caravan Club for about 2 years and I have enjoyed it so far. Coming to a place that is so different to where I live, is a good feeling and I look forward to going to rallies every weekend.

My team this year is one of the biggest Youth Section we've ever had, apparently. With 13 of us, it brings great opportunities for the younger ones to learn. It's my first year being a part of the Youth Section with a subcommittee.

Unfortunately, a few of us, including myself, will be taking our GCSEs this year and so in May time, Youth Section we'll be very busy. This will give our new subcommittee a chance to show what they have to offer and everyone will be able to get to know the new committee members. I assure you, though, as soon as exams are over, Youth Section will be our first priority again!

We have three rallies running this year, the first of which is our Valentines rally at Copythorn, there will be baking and boogieing at this rally so make sure you grab your apron and your dancing shoes. The next of our rallies is at Little Metlands in Bishops Waltham, this time we will be blasting off into space in our rockets! Get ready for an adventure of a lifetime with the Youth Section. Our third rally will be in September at Oliver Battery, where we will be celebrating our sporting superheroes! Get ready and active for a blast in September.

I look forward to the new year of rallying ahead! See you on the rally field!

Zinna Bridgman



Youth section 2016-2017 (from left to right)

Andrew Kirby, Jerome Baker, Luke Gregory, Adam Collister, Josh Brierley, Jasmine Raven, Zinna Bridgman, Emma Gregory, Emma Collister, Megan Roberts, Eleanor Roberts, Rebecca Kirby and Youth section liaison, Steve Brierley



3,500th Rally

The Caravan Club - West Hampshire Centre proudly presents;

3500th Celebration Rally

Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd July 2017*

Gundry's Caravan Park - West Moors, Ringwood

**Three evenings* of marquee entertainment
Comedy Barn Dance, Abba Tribute, Disco and
Childrens Entertainment**

**Daytime Arena including Archery Workshop
and Sports**

*Sunday night entertainment only included for those staying for additional night on Sunday

Booking Information
Visit: <http://whampshirecc.co.uk> or Email: 3500thRally@whampshirecc.co.uk
S.A.E - Paul Hopkins, 14 Shamblehurst Lane South, Hedge End, Southampton, SO30 2FN

*Extra nights available on the 20th, 23rd and 24th July for additional fees

Only £65 per outfit for the Weekend (Fri-Sun) (including two adults and two children)

By booking this rally online you are showing your intent to come to the 3500th Rally.

After booking you will need to send a deposit along with the following [special booking form](#) to confirm your place on the rally. Until the deposit is received your place will not be confirmed.

We are always pleased to hear of member's news, rallying experiences and any special events being celebrated. If you have something you want to share with other members just send in the details (and ideally an accompanying photograph) and I will be pleased to publish, subject to space

Rally updates

Unfortunately, we have to announce that the planned youth rally to be held at the Wellington Country Park in August had to be cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control- we are seeking another venue.



Celebrations

Congratulations to Emma Francis and Brodie Hopkins on their engagement last month!

Happy birthday to Jen Lyon-Marrian on her upcoming 40th in March!

Rally reports



Scare'am at Wareham

Once again a great rally thanks to the hard work from Paul and Helen Hopkins ably assisted by Emma Elsey and her husband Shaun, when he could be bothered to turn up. The weather was kind to us throughout the week which is always a bonus. There was breakfast club and games from youth section run in the morning in an attempt to let the parents wake up peacefully. The socials were great fun and everybody joined in. On Halloween the awnings were dressed and the children went trick or treating, followed by hot dogs at the Hopkin's van. As it was your editors first rally after being elected to committee, he was lucky enough to present the plaques at flagpole.



New Year at Swanmore



A great week's entertainment including seeing in the new year was enjoyed by all the ralliers who attended the festivities at Swanmore. Rally officers Alivin and Paulina Holloway supported by Nick and Julie Blake and Anne Miller made everyone feel welcome. Even from the beginning of the week the entertainment never allowed you to sit down once, whether it was line dancing or boogieing away the last hours of 2016 everyone lost a bit of Christmas weight!

Bereavements*

It is with sadness that we have to report the passing of the following West Hants members and ex-members in the last few months: Iris Dewey, Irene Bullpit, Ivy Legg and Sophie Lyon-Marrian (born sleeping).

* As aware at copy deadline