



## NEWSLETTER NO.4 – NEW YEAR, NEW YOU, DON'T MIND IF I DO! JANUARY 2023



The start of the year is a time for reflection, a time to think about what we want to achieve and set some goals for the year. I'm going to make more happy memories in my caravan this year – who's with me? Bring it on 2023!

January is also all about hitting the shops to get those much-needed bargains in the sales. Here's something that was left on the shelf, so you can have him for the rest of the year, for free haha



This is Mike Firmager our Chairman, in a beautiful pink feathered number, raising money for charity. Rather fetching don't you think! I know what I think "my husband (on the left) is enjoying it all a little bit too much"!



## THOUGHTS OF CHAIRMAN MIKE

Well, 2023 is up and running, Happy New Year to you all.

The New caravanning season has started with a, well attended, and good spirited, ROOF and Open Forum at Plaitford Village Hall on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>.

As well as reviewing the Rally Information packs, we are all ready to rally again, many other subjects were discussed. Here is a flavour of what was talked about:

- Communications through the Web and with Rally Officers.
- Youth section Charity for 2023 – CICRA who help children with Crohn's and Colitis.
- January committee meeting took place and in focus published.
- This years (2022/2023) Newsletters and In Focus reports are now uploaded to the Web site in the News section.
- Fire Extinguishers were discussed and the members present agreed we should put 2Kg Extinguishers into the rally kits as these are less than half the size and weight of our original "Big Red Ones".
- New plaque supplier (5 valley signs) is up and running and very good.

From the positivity in the bookings already received for 2023 and the positivity felt, in the atmosphere of the Open Forum, I think the season is off to a very strong start. I can definitely see the first green shoots of recovery and look forward to seeing you all out on the rally field very soon.

**Happy Rallying**

Mike

[chairman@whampshirecc.co.uk](mailto:chairman@whampshirecc.co.uk)

07976 825051



## [WWW.WHAMPSHIRECC.CO.UK](http://WWW.WHAMPSHIRECC.CO.UK)

**THIS IS THE ADDRESS TO OUR WEBSITE WHERE YOU CAN BOOK YOUR RALLIES FOR THE YEAR, KEEP UPDATED ON EVENTS AND WHAT THE COMMITTEE ARE FOCUSING ON**

**NEWS** - Keep an eye on this page on the website, because this is where we will let you know when the focus has been added, and any updates to rallies

If you are logged into the website, as a member, you will be able to go to the Focus and Newsletter pages as well. These are within the News section of the website.

**Focus** - gives you an update on what the centre committee has discussed and will be focusing on (hence the name!)

**Newsletter** – this is where I will share old and new stories, pictures from rallies and anything else you would like to see/read

## **YOUTH SECTION CHAIR PERSON – IMOGEN HUNTLEY**

**Thank you to the Rally Officers and all that attended the New Year Rally, for raising £77 for our charity.**

**Thank you to all that attended the Open Forum and Rally Officers Open Forum, and to Mel Rees for raising £41 for our charity.**

**cicra**  better lives for children with crohns and colitis



## CALENDER PERSON OF THE MONTH

Can't say man or woman these days because someone somewhere that is oversensitive will get offended!



### Mrs January



Name: Marion Alcock Age: 62

Caravanning: For 15 years

Favourite thing to do on a rally: Walking, reading and socialising with friends

Favourite BBQ meal: I never cook on a bbq but if I did, it would be sausages

Favourite type of social: Daytime activities

Favourite tipple: Gin

Rallying is my happy place. I used to rally in my caravan and now I have a motorhome. Buddy and I love going for walks. We particularly enjoyed the beach walk at Wareham.



'THERE'S A STAR MAN WAITING IN THE SKY'  
DAVID BOWIE DOB 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 1947

## I REMEMBER WHEN.....



Photo was taken in 1998 at Gnome World holiday rally in Cornwall (Indian Queens). In the 80's a Volvo was the Tow Car of choice but by the 90's it was Disco time. From Left to Right in the picture:

Steve Dopson from Berkshire Centre, Nigel Palmer with his white discovery, Gil Blatch from Eastleigh (Gil and Sylvie), Mike Hills CB handle "Pathfinder" Gnome World Rally Officer, Dave Huntley CB handle "The Poacher", a young Alan Gray, Vic Pragnell RIP CB Handle "Chocolate Soldier", Alan Port CB handle "Rabble Rouser" – Gnome World Rally Officer, Tony (Lyn Huntley's brother standing by my Discovery - this was Tony's favourite car out of all the Disco's, because it had a top box). My (Chairman Mike's) CB Handle was "Scenic Route". – Gnome World Rally Officer. Scenic route was changed to "Sea Trip Puke" by some friends after a North sea fishing trip.

The cars were assembled for Lyn's brother, Tony, who was presented with a model of a Safari Discovery which he took great delight in showing Dave that it was better than his.

The youth section of the day all had special holiday T Shirts made and the rally is still fondly remembered for many of the activities and outings - "The last bus that went over the cliff", The Dodgy Old fag smoking DJ at the mystery trip pasty supper and The Piskeys (there were a lot of them).

Those were the days!! Great memories from Mike Firmager  
Thank you to Lyn and Dave Huntley for the photo



Left to right: Matt Hills, Stuart Huntley, Emma Firmager, Ryan Pragnell, Matt Huntley, Andrew Port

# I REMEMBER WHEN.....

## Discovery Top Box Tales:

The top box on the car flew open, while driving along the motorway and everyone in the cars behind had to dodge the metal umbrella flying at them, and the beach balls and body boards. It was a bit of a scene!

I also remember when we went out with friends and everyone drove under the barrier to get into the car park, but because the top box was on, we could not fit under the barrier. Most normal people would find somewhere else to park, but not Mike. What did he do....got all his mates/children to stand on the side steps of the car, to weight the car down, so he could fit under the barrier. The children loved the funny adventure.



Isn't it funny, how a rally plaque can fill us with so much joy and so many memories. These are rally plaques from 1998 and 1999. Thank you to Alan Port for sharing these.



February 2023

- What rallies take your fancy in 2023? See our website - [www.whampshirecc.co.uk](http://www.whampshirecc.co.uk)
- Updates on the website, through the 'News' section
- Be My Valentine at Burgate School

## GUESS THE SITE

What rally were these photos taken at?



A.



B.



C.



D.

# RALLYING FUN AT THE NEW YEAR RALLY

## New Year at Swanmore

A wonderful time was had by all at the New Year rally at Swanmore School. The rally officers worked hard the entire time to keep us entertained. We went on a pub walk (the rain won't stop us), we also enjoyed morning tea and coffee and a natter and checked our bingo numbers. We played golf and decorated our tables. We were entertained by the lovely Laura, who was helped out by the gorgeous Clara and Ella. Reverent Toon entertained us as well as Ian Harley on New Years Eve. We really saw in the new year with a bang. Thank you for our jacket potatoes, cheese and crackers as well as some wine to wash it all down. The holiday was topped off with Kim's quiz as well as raising money for the Youth Section charity. Thank you to everyone that organized it as well as those that went and took part in the fun.











## Answers

Guess the site

A. Wareham B. Carrington C. Orchard Farm D. Bamptons

*Thank You, from your editor Emma Elsey*