



NEWSLETTER NO.2 – IT'S ALL ABOUT THE TASH NOVEMBER 2022



Has anyone ever seen Mike Firmager without a moustache! I wonder what his top lip actually looks like! There must have been so much food stored in there over the years, or maybe some creatures, or a teeny tiny baby bird nesting happily. Thank you Mike for the safe place you have given all the animals in all the years of your moustache wearing! For anyone that does not know Mike, he is the Chairman of the West Hampshire Centre.



MOVEMBER®

Raising awareness of men's issues. So if you have seen someone with a spectacular moustache this month, why not say 'thank you' or 'well done' to them, for raising awareness.

We all know that men are not great at talking about their issues, they brush them under the carpet, bury their head in the sand, and only go to the doctor after we have nagged them 3879 times! Congratulations and thank you to those raising awareness and funds.

THOUGHTS OF CHAIRMAN MIKE

Well, hello again, it's good to be back again in the hot seat, so to speak. Our first month with the new team has been busy, but very positive, and preparations for next season have been going ahead at a fast pace.

I am very pleased with the new team, the ladies "Mike's angels" have all been working hard in their new posts and all their efforts are starting to bear fruit already:

- The Rally Book along with the associated advertising has gone to press
- The Rally Program has been up-loaded to the Web ready for December 1st Launch.
- Accounts are healthy.
- Meetings and minutes are up and running with "in focus" circulated.
- Newsletters are being produced and circulated.
- Direct communications are being set up and should be working by the time you read this.
- The youth section has had their first meeting which was well run and very impressive.
- Our new plaque officer is in place ready to receive your orders.
- Our face book page is running, please make sure you keep your West Hants membership up.
- All the engraving has been done, as required from the AGM.

In addition to Mike's Angels, we have a couple of old faces back on the team:

Past it Paul Hopkins is on as regional rep. and Web Liaison so once the Web is running, please contact Paul with any Web requirements.

Alvin Holloway is back on equipment and is getting stuck into sorting the gear for next year. We have been to the lock-up, I thought to put stuff in it, but I ended up with more here for PAT testing. It's all good.

As you can see from all this activity, we are off to a flying start. As BABY would say, "you can't keep West Hampshire in the corner".

We still have some events to enjoy on this year's program, including Christmas and New year celebrations, which I am sure will be fantastic, then bring on 2023 we will be ready and up for it.

Happy Rallying

Mike

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CONGRATULATIONS TO MR AND MRS OLIVER

When you receive a wedding invitation that is actually a rally plaque, you know it's going to be special. The ceremony was wonderful, starting with Lorraine and Zecci beautifully singing 'Make you feel your love' as Ross and Debbie entered the room. The emotion and joy was breath taking, and had us all in tears as we held our partners hands for the renewal of vows. The whole day was fabulous and the food was incredible. The personalized touch to every single part of their wedding was very impressive and must have taken forever to plan. The speeches were so touching as well as hilarious. The drinks were flowing and the dancing continued into the night. Memories were made forever. Congratulations Ross and Debbie, we wish you all the best, today and forever.



OUR 4 LEGGED FRIENDS.....

What a cutie....and the puppies are sweet too! Our babies have a wonderful life don't they. Travelling the country like the prince and princesses that they are, visiting lots of new places. Sniffing, yapping, barking, growling.....as well as playing and cuddling of course. Welcome Hara and Nala, to the best doggy life you could ask for little ones. Amber is training them both very well ***Please all send me pics of your 4 legged friends for future news letters***



BBQ SCRUMPTIOUSNESS

Ralliers come dine with me (through a newsletter!)

What is the best thing you have cooked on your bbq?

Imogen Huntley cooked a fabulous breakfast for 7 people on the BBQ. It was a Sausage and Egg McMuffin (or we could call it a Sausage and Egg Mc Huntley. Sausage patti (flat burger shaped sausage which you can buy from Aldi but is also available in other well known super markets!), fried egg, cheese slice and a toasted muffin. Simple but effective. Great way to start the day.

NO FAIR WEATHER BBQING IN OUR HAPPY CAMPING WORLD



CALENDER PERSON OF THE MONTH

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



Mr November



Name: Stuart Huntley

Age: 41

Caravanning: Since I was 18 months old and with West Hampshire since I was 8, in 1987 (39 and a half years man and boy). I have been a member (as an adult) with my family since 2005.

Favourite thing to do on a rally: Annoy people

Favourite BBQ meal: Steak - rare

Favourite type of social: Party dancing kind of social

Favourite tippie: Dark rum

Stuart once walked around Prague in just a pair of speedos, with some monkey gloves and monkey shoes. He was stopped so many times to be asked to have his photo taken, he got a little taste of what it would be like to be famous.

Recently on a night out in London, Stuart got mistaken for Wayne Rooney, and the entire group of lads were asking to have their photo taken with him.

There is a theme here with these stories. Quick everyone, get Stu's autograph....

The caravans have got newer, but apart from that, not much has changed.....the fun and laughter we have in a random farmers field is still the same

If you have anything for the 'I remember when' section, then we would love to hear it.
Please email me at emma.elsey@whampshirecc.co.uk

I REMEMBER WHEN.....

I remember when a crazy idea was had, that three boats put together would float down the course. Money was raised for the amazing RNLI charity by guessing how long it would take to finish the course (if it would get down there at all).....and IT DID



I REMEMBER WHEN.....

The first rally Bridget and I with our son Adrian who was 6 years old assisted with, was held in 1980 at **WHITEFIELD ROUGH** Blackfield and Calshot, a site no longer available to us.

The main rally officers were Peter and Diane Cole, we had 36 vans who attended with one visitor from the Berkshire Centre, who attended a lot of West Hants rallies because his son was at a private school in the New Forest area and they could visit him at weekends.

We decided that with the size of the field we could have all the vans in one big circle, the distance between opposite vans being approx. 200 feet, this gave everyone approximately the same distance to walk to attend any social events being held in the circle i.e. communal bar-beques, which were very much in vogue then. Also, this would keep the vans away from the bog in the middle of the field at one end.

One event we put on was a cricket match with tennis balls (so no damage to the vans if hit), but a match with a difference there were three bats i.e. a cricket bat, a baseball bat and Bridget's best frying pan.

Well the most popular choice of weapon for bashing the ball, sorry, I mean batting, was the frying pan and by the end of the match, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, the pan was consigned to the scrap heap. No, we did not claim a new frying pan on Rally Officers expenses.

Another memory was a Safari caravan arriving and whilst being put on their peg the van hit a dip and the sound of expensive crashing crockery was heard inside the van, the owners said "Well that's another new set of Wedgewood required!"

Another memory is of our son Adrian coming back to the van minus his wellies which were still in the middle of the bog. I think he was trying out Billy Connolly's Welly Boot song, which has the lyrics of

"Wellies they are wonderful wellies they are swell,
Cos they keep out the water and they keep in the smell,
but you can always tell when somebody takes off their wellies!

But he found out they don't always come out of a bog on his feet, and we never got them back, so in the future someone will always wonder how a child's pair of smelly welly boots got in the bog, they could be fossilised for centuries, now there's a thought. So! If any of you intrepid explorers out there ever find them, WE DON'T WANT THEM BACK, THANK YOU! This was the first of Adrian's mishaps with his welly boots.

I have forgotten how much the rally cost, but I know that the total profit to the Centre was £4-32.

Bridget and I still enjoy running rallies and hope to do so for a while yet.

Clem Fallows



*It's all groovy baby – it's all positive
Be Kind : Be Brave : Be Honest : Be Creative : Be Humble : Be Thankful
: Be Happy : Be You*



Exciting times ahead for December 2022

- **The new website *Goes live 1st December*** - www.whampshirecc.co.uk
This is where you will be able to book your rallies for the whole year, read these amazing newsletters, keep updated with the focus each month and so much more.
- Childrens Xmas party – your children and grandchildren will be entertained by Professor Potty, enjoy some party food, meet Father Christmas and leave with an amazing gift (38 children booked into this party – West Hants really are all about the children)
- Christmas fun for adults alike, at the Salisbury Xmas party rally
- New Year rally to enjoy time with friends and see in the new year 2023

GUESS THE SITE

What rally were these photos taken at?



Answers

A. Bampton B. Exbury C. Hurn D. Breamore House

RALLYING FUN IN OCTOBER

Policing the Pumpkins

Hello hello hello – what can we say about this rally, other than it was spectacular. The blue skies in the pictures are real, the sun was out and the fun was had. Bacon rolls cooked by Dan, Steve and Nick were delicious. The kids (and bigger kids) really enjoyed making their mini scarecrows and a fun quiz was enjoyed by all in the evening in the hall (a hall with a bar!). 2 teams ended up with the same score, so there was a tie break situation. Stuart Huntley represented one team and Matt Salvidge represented the other. When Steve shouted ‘drop and give me 50’ – both men threw themselves to the floor and started pumping (press up style!) - it was all to play for. The children absolutely loved the location because there is apparatus all around the edge of the field that they played on over the weekend, as well as being able to walk to Royal Victoria Country Park (100 metres away) which has a park, train, café, dog wash, beach and museum.



Orchard Farm

Lovely weekend had by all at Orchard farm. Enjoyment on the organized walk, an evening get together of several quizzes which included a feely round and a picture round of some birds, and who can beat being served bacon rolls at flagpole. The weather could not have been better for October so thank you rally officers for organizing it all.



Woolsbridge Manor Country Farm

Lovely site with access to Moores Valley Country Park (by foot, saving you a lot of money on parking). An enjoyable weekend had by all. The pods were put up for an evening social get together and the alcoholic shots were in full flow, thanks to Mark and Neil.



Parley Glade Halloween

What a lovely weekend at Parley where they had the hall for socials, spacious pitches with EHU, fantastic pumpkin carving, some ghoulish fun on Saturday night with fancy dress. The Corpse Brides prepared and served some lovely homemade pumpkin and vegetable soup. A lot of fun was had doing the time warp during the escape room challenge.



Wareham Forest

Smashing location for a spooktacular family week. We had kids club, coffee morning, beach walks, trick or treating, scary walk in the pitch black with no torches, 4 evening socials with games and quizzes with fun had by all. The children were amazing and did a 'Wareham's Got Talent' show one evening in the hall and the fancy dress was outstanding.

There are a lot more pics and info on the 'holiday rally' newsletter that is also being sent out in November (No.2A!), but here is a little taster of the fun that was had.





Thank you for reading Novembers edition of the West Hampshire newsletter.
I would love to hear your thoughts, so please share with me what you have enjoyed, what you want to see more of and anything I can change.....[feedback is a gift x](#)

Signing out – your newsletter editor, Emma Elsey

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