



NEWSLETTER NO.5 – IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LOVE FEBRUARY 2023



February is the month of Love. What do we love most....., our hobby, our tin box on wheels...that's our one true love



Whatever the shape, whatever the size, this is our love, and they make us smile

THOUGHTS OF CHAIRMAN MIKE

Well, it's the end of February already and Spring is just around the corner.

We have been van-less for nearly a month; our Motorhome is due to land next week. We can't wait, it's been strange and horrible staying home when everybody else is out having fun.

Committee business has been going on as normal and I think we are in a stronger position than last year.

Items that have been dealt with include:

- Big thanks to Emma F (Our treasurer), the 2022 accounts have been to the Auditor and are back with me for signing off. This is a big annual milestone and I am very pleased, good job done!
- Fire Extinguishers are sorted (we have new ones in the rally kits).
- Youth section Charity is doing very well, and we are all delighted at the support they are getting from our members, please keep it up (I'm sure you will).
- February committee meeting took place and in focus published.
- I am hearing great things about the rallies we've missed, so far this year. Hob knobbing with TV stars at Sunnydale Farm with discount tickets to "My Fair Lady" supplied by the 2 Emma's friend, Ian Beale (Adam Woodyatt) who was staying on-site during our stay there. It sounds like you all had a great time at Burgate, as well, and Paul and Shaun the demon Auctioneers were in action again.
- New special plaques are being ordered so you should be able to get your year plaques etc, soon (I hope they fit OK for the mosaics specialists).

It is becoming apparent, that some of our most popular rallies are becoming fully booked very early this year. Our membership numbers are rising, while our pool of active Rally Officers (the life blood of the centre) has diminished slightly. This means there is some pressure on existing events, and we could do with some more Rally Officers joining the team or becoming active again. This would allow us to add more events and increase pitch capacity for us all to enjoy.

Helen our Rally Secretary has a couple of spaces that need filling this year, and we would very much like and appreciate some more names coming forward for next years program. The "more the merrier" is best for us all, if every body does a little we can build on what we have going forwards.

I think that's more than enough from me for now, we are straining at the leash to get back out on the Rally field with West Hant's, so we genuinely hope to see you all soon.

Happy Rallying

Mike

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YOUTH SECTION CHAIR PERSON – IMOGEN HUNTLEY

Thank you to the Rally Officers and all that attended the Valentines Rally, for raising £117 for our charity.

I was aiming to raise £200 this year which we have raised already and it's only February. I can't believe it.

cicra  better lives for children with crohns and colitis



WEST HAMPSHIRE CHARITY 2022

WE ALL RAISED A HUGE £2194.39 FOR AUTISM HAMPSHIRE AND THEY WANTED TO SAY THANK YOU



CALENDER PERSON OF THE MONTH

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



Mr February



Name: Shaun Elsey (my husband, my love)

Age: 53

Caravanning: 14 years

Favourite thing to do on a rally: Sit down and have a drink with friends

Favourite BBQ meal: Stu Huntley's kebab meat (I know what you are all thinking, but I am being serious, Stu boy gets kebab meat from his local butcher and cooks it on his bbq, we have it with salad and pitta's)

Favourite type of social: Good old fashioned fun and games with music thrown in

Favourite tippie: Real Ale, and when the night kicks into gear I enjoy Rum (hello sailor!)

I was down on the beach at Chideock, fishing, and I went to cast my rod out and my hook got caught on my bag behind me, and it snapped my rod straight in half. I've never seen Stu move so quick. He ran back to site, and as I entered the field, I heard Jaws music playing and Paul Hopkins had got the group together, with kids round the paddling pool wish makeshift fishing rods and cardboard fish everywhere. Even one on my flag pole at the front of the van, blowing in the wind. Oh the laughs!

March 2023

- See our website - www.whampshirecc.co.uk - to book your rallies and keep updated with the latest news (Newsletter and Focus)
- 13th March - Youth Section committee meeting – to discuss and plan for their first rally of the year **Little Metlands in April** – this entire weekend is organised by the Youth Section Children
- Spring Time at Shamba Rally (full)

GUESS THE SITE

What rally were these photos taken at?



A.



B.



C.



D.

RALLYING FUN IN JANUARY

Open Forum and Rally Officers Open Forum

This is where you as members can ask questions of the committee and give your feedback. This is also where rally Officers receive their packs which include things like paying in slips, risk assessments, the schedule for the rally kit for each rally.

Discussion points:

- Fire extinguishers
- Rally equipment
- Youth Section charity
- Rally Officers
- Website

Thank you to everyone that attended. Your questions and feedback are invaluable and you all made the day feel very positive. Well done to Mike and his committee for organising the day/agenda and a special thank you to the 3 men in the kitchen (Gary, Stu and Shaun) for serving all the tea, coffee and biscuits.





South West Centres AGM

Paul Hopkins and I attended the South West Centre AGM on behalf of West Hants on 21st January 2023. It was a really productive and positive meeting which included reflections of the last 2 years as well as some thoughts for next years event. This will be held at Cirencester Park again, in their stunning grounds from the 3rd to 9th July 2024. Paul and I were presented with a West Hants shield at the AGM which we are very proud of. So proud we decided to stop off a few times on the way home to take pictures. Needless to say, it took a lot longer to get home than it did to get there.





Sunnydale Farm

What a fantastic start to 2023. Sunnydale is a lovely site with hard standing and electric. This was Emma and Ruben's first rally that they have been rally officers for, and they did an outstanding job. There was rock painting for the children and adults, tea/coffee and cake, a pub walk and an evening caravan quiz. The children were the 'runners' in the quiz and delivered quiz rounds to all the caravans/motorhomes and it ended with a playdough modelling round, where the pictures of the 'models' were sent on the quiz whatsapp group. I will let you judge for yourselves on how good the modelling was (see pics below). It was Ruben's birthday on Sunday and we had pizza from a vending machine (don't knock it until you've tried it) as well as birthday cake and singing at flagpole. The rally officers even managed to get a celebrity on site in their motorhome, Ian Beale from Eastenders, who joined us at flagpole for a group photo and gave us a discount code to see his show at the Mayflower, My Fair Lady, which was a fabulous end to a stunning weekend.











Feedback is a gift....

I would love some feedback on the newsletter, so please share if you enjoy the content, or if you would like to read about anything else.

I would also love to hear some of your stories, from 5 years ago, 10 years ago, 20 years ago, 50 years ago....for the 'I remember when' section.

Please email me - emma.elsey@whampshirecc.co.uk

Answers

Guess the site

A. Sunnydale B. Pylesmead C. Shamba D. Woolsbridge

Thank You, from your editor Emma Elsey