



NEWSLETTER NO.3 – REFLECTIONS DEC 2024



December is the time for hangovers, bad decisions made whilst under the influence, and also a time for a bit of reflection of the year gone by. What an amazing year we have had in 2024.

Here are some of the things that have stood out for me this year;

January - The very first rally in January at SunnyDale, where we had 3 new ralliers. The sun was shining and we enjoyed a lovely walk down to RVCP, and then stopped at a pub on the way back and did tiquila shots (by accident haha) while playing Shut The Box. Loser buys the drinks.

March – Lovely new site where the sun was shining again, at Centenery. Very close to the New Forest Witch town, which was lovely to pay a visit to.

April – Youth Section rally at Little Metlands, with the First Aid training. The whole weekend was excellent.

June – Mum and Dads 50th Wedding anniversary. Celebrations at the Exbury rally were great fun.

August – Youth Section rally at Awbridge, with the Fire Safety talk. Followed by an epic water fight.

August – Dawlish pram race and carnival, when the team won it with their pirate ship.

August – Little Metlands West Hants 60th Celebration rally. The team worked so hard on this rally, and it was enjoyed by so many, and it was a complete success. We were buzzing for days/weeks after this one.

October AGM – In particular the children's AGM, seeing the children up the front, talking on the microphone, honestly makes me well up every time. It's nerve racking, and they do it so well.

December – Childrens Xmas Party, hearing the noise in the room of all the children laughing and enjoying themselves, and then seeing their nervous faces when Santa comes out.

I could mention every rally really. I genuinely feel so lucky and happy to have the life we have.

Thank you all for making another year of amazing memories.

Fire Safety - MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT

1. **We are adopting Whistles as our Primary Alarm signal.**
2. Whistles will be supplied in Rally Kits and placed with the Centre Fire Extinguishers by the Flagpole/Feather Banner.
3. **We strongly recommend / ask that all members carry whistles and have them readily available to use in the event of a fire.**
4. Whistles are inexpensive and readily available from sports shops and on-line.
5. **The Alarm Signal is Sharp Intermittent Blasts on the Whistle.**

The present West Hant's rule is that in the event of discovering a fire we should sound a continuous blast on a car horn.

This has now been considered to be an inappropriate method for raising the alarm for several reasons!

- Most Cars are self-locking and need keys to access
- Most cars require the ignition to be turned on to operate the horn
- Many people are conditioned to ignore car alarms/horns sounding as this is often a false alarm
- Many members now have Motorhomes so sounding the horn when the vehicle is on fire is not practical

We are lucky enough to have experienced Emergency Services Staff in our team now, and recommendations are that we should adopt Whistles as our primary alarm/evacuation signal.



Emergency Survival Whistle

WEST HAMPSHIRE YOUTH SECTION



Thank you to the Youth Section team for a great year. We've helped all ages to enjoy themselves and have raised a lot of money for our charities.

I hope everyone has a great Christmas.

From your Elf Ethan

CHAIRMAN ETHAN WINSTANLEY

YOUTH SECTION COMMITTEE



THOUGHTS OF CHAIRMAN MIKE

I know I wished you all a Very Merry Christmas in last month's newsletter, but I wasn't expecting Emma to squeeze out another Newsletter before the festive break, she does an amazing Job!!

As you will see from all the pictures, the Christmas Parties went very well and were much enjoyed by all who attended. The Young people's party was so well attended that Plaitford Village Hall was bursting at the seams, and it was quite a social gathering for them all and the parents and Grandparents.

It is always great to see Santa arrive, with his sleigh loaded in presents. The faces of the excited young people eagerly opening their gifts when called up to see Santa by the dancing Elves. Very well done and a big thank you to Emma and the team, this is a great tradition for the West Hant's families, and its popularity is a good indication of the health and vibrancy of the centre (Brilliant).

I wish to thank the Committee (they are a great team and a pleasure to serve with) and all the Rally Officers for their work and support during 2024, it's been a very successful season, and I look forward to working with you all in 2025 (That's less than 2 weeks away).

Fire Alarm "Sounding Blasts on a Whistle!"

Whistles are being added to the Rally Kits, but we are **asking** and strongly recommending **that you all carry Whistles in your outfits** and make sure they are readily available if needed!

As this WILL definitely be the last Newsletter before Christmas, I would like once again to offer you my seasonal greetings and wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year.

Happy Rallying – Mike (and Pauline)

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Make up your own caption.....

A fun addition to the Newsletter.

Here is a picture and now you can enjoy a little joke to yourself about captions you would add to it.



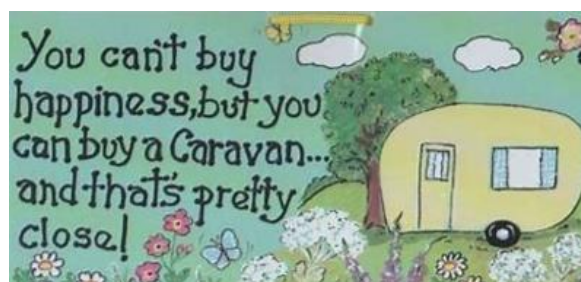
'Surely a bit of wood would have been an easier way to level the van up'

'When you realise caravanning isn't for you'

'I'm off to Winchester Caravans to get a new one'

If you have any funny pictures like this, I would love to receive them and share them in the newsletter for this new fun 'make up your own caption' section. Please email me:-

emma.elsey@whampshirecc.co.uk



West Hampshire centre



*Merry
Christmas*



AND HAPPY
NEW YEAR



From all the committee

Looking forward to 2025



COCKTAIL OF THE MONTH

Christmassy **Mulled Wine**. Keep reading and you will be able to smell and taste it, just from the description and picture below.

Cointreau, Brandy and Red wine - add in a cinnamon stick, star anise and some brown sugar. Add a lemon/mandarin/orange slice to make it look Christmassy.

You can actually have this drink cold in the summer too.



WHAT'S COMING UP IN JANUARY



January 2025

- Please see our website - www.whampshirecc.co.uk - to book your rallies and keep updated with the latest news (Posts, Newsletter and Focus)
- Rallies coming up in January:
Coffee and Cake - Open Forum at Awbridge Village Hall
January in the Dale - Sunnydale Farm

GUESS THE SITE

What rally were these photos taken at?

Answers are on the last page of the newsletter



A.



B.



C.



D.



12 DAYS OF XMAS - CARAVAN STYLE...SING IT WITH ME.....

ON THE FIRST DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE SECOND DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE THIRD DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE FOURTH DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **4 MOTOR-MOVERS, 3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE FIFTH DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **5 LEVELING BLOCKS, 4 MOTOR-MOVERS, 3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE SIXTH DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **6 WIND BREAKS, 5 LEVELING BLOCKS, 4 MOTOR-MOVERS, 3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE SEVENTH DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **7 BARBEQUES, 6 WIND BREAKS, 5 LEVELING BLOCKS, 4 MOTOR-MOVERS, 3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE EIGHTH DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **8 GIN AND TONICS, 7 BARBEQUES, 6 WIND BREAKS, 5 LEVELING BLOCKS, 4 MOTOR-MOVERS, 3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE NINTH DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **9 EVENING QUIZZES, 8 GIN AND TONICS, 7 BARBEQUES, 6 WIND BREAKS, 5 LEVELING BLOCKS, 4 MOTOR-MOVERS, 3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE TENTH DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **10 BACON ROLLS, 9 EVENING QUIZZES, 8 GIN AND TONICS, 7 BARBEQUES, 6 WIND BREAKS, 5 LEVELING BLOCKS, 4 MOTOR-MOVERS, 3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE ELEVENTH DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **11 PUB WALKS, 10 BACON ROLLS, 9 EVENING QUIZZES, 8 GIN AND TONICS, 7 BARBEQUES, 6 WIND BREAKS, 5 LEVELING BLOCKS, 4 MOTOR-MOVERS, 3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

ON THE TWELFTH DAY OF XMAS MY TRUE LOVE GAVE TO ME: **12 RALLY PLAQUES, 11 PUB WALKS, 10 BACON ROLLS, 9 EVENING QUIZZES, 8 GIN AND TONICS, 7 BARBEQUES, 6 WIND BREAKS, 5 LEVELING BLOCKS, 4 MOTOR-MOVERS, 3 WATER BARRELS, 2 ELSAN PITS, AND A CARAVAN FIRE BUCKET**

Who will you be kissing under the mistletoe?



THANK YOU

TONY (SANTA) AND HIS ELVES, ETHAN AND GARY

Thank you so much for getting into the Xmas spirit, dressing up and fully getting into character, at the childrens Xmas party. I loved seeing the childrens faces when you came into the room ringing your bell. Thank you elves for dancing every time you called a child's name out.

Huge thank you to the committee for all your hard work at the party, making it run smoothly.



THANK YOU

TOM MADDERN AKA FIREMAN TOM

Thank you for fitting a smoke alarm in our caravan. Safety first.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

36 Children attended the Xmas party where they enjoyed being entertained by Froggles and you cannot beat their faces when Santa arrives (with his elves and sleigh full of presents). Fantastic party, and a huge thank you to the committee for the team effort.



CALENDER PERSON OF THE MONTH



Mr December



Name: Gary Walton

How long have you rallied for: Almost 26 years

Favourite BBQ meal: Chicken and chorizo paella

Favourite type of social: Anything, just likes socialising

Favourite tippie: Ale - Hobgoblin

Sharing a story..... Being Burt in Mary Poppins at the Wessex. It was fantastic being part of that team. Each played their part especially Mike and Pauline. Unlike Pauline I didn't have to sleep with the Director to get the part! 😊



RALLYING FUN IN NOVEMBER

November at the lawn – Lytton Lawn

Lovely site in a great location. And what better place to be than with friends, eating bacon rolls and just enjoying life. Huge thank you to Tony and Pauline for stepping in last minute to run the rally with Graham and Linda.



Xmas at Salisbury – Salisbury Rugby Club



Xmas at Salisbury – Salisbury Rugby Club (continued)



CHRISTMAS
PARTY

Xmas at Salisbury – Salisbury Rugby Club (continued)



Feedback is a gift....

What would you like to read about?

Do you have a memory you would like to share, or your favourite cocktail recipe, or maybe you would like to share your pictures from rallies you have been on?

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

Answers

Guess the site - A. Summerlands B. Awbridge C. Dawlish D. Blue Anchor

Thank You, from your editor Emma Elsey



This is me (below) with my Tina Turner mask on, and my gift from my Sister #SoTrue

