



## NEWSLETTER NO.6 – SPRING HAS SPRUNG MARCH 2025



### Spring is here

Here come the lighter evenings 😊

Lighter evenings really suit our outdoor lifestyle don't they. We can arrive at a rally on a Friday, in the light of day, and be able to set the van up while it's still light and have time to enjoy a drink or 10 outside, with only a few evening layers on.

Have you got your caravan/motorhome spring ready? Ready for the busier season (we have 3 rallies in April).

How is it that I always manage to forget something, like pjs, or bed covers, or tea towels after emptying the van. Shaun says it's the caravan gremlins! I think I just need to be more organized. Does anyone have a packing list? I don't, but I probably should do. We ran out of blue (for the loo) at the weekend, so we had to go scrounging. Luckily we have amazing friends who gave us some, and funnily enough they did not want to lend us the blue, it was a gift!

It's such a nice feeling, knowing when we are on a rally, if there is anything we have forgotten, someone will have it. There is always someone there to offer a hand, if we run out of sugar or need a tea towel, and share a drink with and give a listening ear....and this is why I love rallying. The extended family/friends feel is a blooming good one isn't it.



# Have you purchased your whistle yet?

## Fire Safety – Have you bought your whistle yet?

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.**

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

The previous 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

## THE YOUTH SECTION YAPPIES



Hi I'm Poppy and I am 13 years old. So far this year I have really enjoyed the discos at the Valentines rally and the Irish rally. I also enjoyed the dog walks at both of these rallies. Outside of rallying I do Karate. My rank is brown with a white stripe (10<sup>th</sup> belt) and I am working towards my black belt, which I am aiming to grade for, before I turn 15. I love gregs sausage rolls, foot long subways and my favourite subject at school is History.



Hi, my name is Evie and I have been on the youth section for 3 years now and have loved it so far! My hobbies include things like singing dancing and acting. My favourite animal is a sloth and my favourite colour is sage green. My favourite part about being on the youth section is being able to raise money for charity and work together with my fellow members.

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### It's riddle time - What am I?

1. I am not alive, but I grow; I don't have lungs, but I need air; I don't have a mouth, but water kills me.
2. I make two people out of one.
3. I am something people love or hate. I change people's appearances and thoughts. If a person takes care of them self I will go up even higher. To some people, I will fool them. To others, I am a mystery. Some people might want to try and hide me but I will show. No matter how hard people try I will Never go down.

## THOUGHTS OF CHAIRMAN MIKE

I don't want to 'speak too soon', but March seems to have been a relatively dry month, and the ground seems to be drier than some years. Not that, that will matter at Little Metlands, for the youth section rally, as this is a good field that stays firm in the Winter (It's the field we used for the West Hant's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rally) and you will definitely not get stuck (or should I say, shouldn't as some people, I won't name today, can get stuck anywhere). I am delighted that the Youth Section Rally is already well supported, but I'm sure they can still accept more bookings, and you'll be very pleased you have booked, if you do!

On a different subject, have you got a whistle yet, as this is now our alarm signal, and we are asking you all to carry one. Please carry Fire buckets and whistles, as it is very important that we strive to keep everybody safe on the West Hants Rally fields.

Finally, "Happy Mother's Day" for Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March and don't forget the clocks go forward 1 hour this weekend so our evenings start to get longer!

We hope we will see many of you on the Rally field this Spring and look forward to hearing what you have all been up-to on your various travels and adventures.

**Happy Rallying – Mike**

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6 years ago - Can you tell Mike (and Pauline) had been in Spain/Portugal for months #WhatATan

The one in the middle with the happy hands is my Sister, Clair, who looks like she has not seen any sun for a while haha

## Make up your own caption.....

A fun addition to the Newsletter.  
Here is a picture and now you can enjoy adding a caption to it.



'don't argue with the campsite marshall'

'does this feel level to you?'

'I knew I should have got a bigger towing car'

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](mailto:emma.elsey@whampshirecc.co.uk)



## COCKTAIL OF THE MONTH

### ***FRENCH 75***

Gin, lemon juice, and simple syrup, topped with Champagne.

French themed, because me, my sister and the 3 children are off to Paris next month, for a cheeky 3 night city break.



## WHAT'S COMING UP IN APRIL



### **April 2025**

- Please see our website - [www.whampshirecc.co.uk](http://www.whampshirecc.co.uk) - to book your rallies and keep updated with the latest news (Posts, Newsletter and Focus)
- Rallies coming up in April:
  - Youth Section Fun – Little Metlands
  - Wild West Easter Showdown – Mary Hare School
  - Spring in Dorset – Wilksworth



## GUESS THE SITE

What rally were these photos taken at?

Answers are on the last page of the newsletter



A.



B.



C.



D.

## THANK YOU TO GARY WALTON

This man right here, drove from his house in Andover, to the New Forest, then to Copythorne..... just to drop this off. What a man. What a legend. Thank you Gary for the surprise visit. Gary then drove home again, to pick up the motorhome, to then drive back to the rally to enjoy the weekend with his wife Helen and daughter Sarah.



## CALENDAR PERSON OF THE MONTH

Mr March



Name: Andy Sayner

How long have you rallied for: I started rallying when I was around 8 years old with my parents with the east Hants centre. Stopped going in my late teens till I got married when I was 28 years old . Bought an old sprite caravan with no heating and glass windows , she loved it. Been rallying ever since.

Favourite BBQ meal: Has to be a cheeseburger.

Favourite type of social: Valentine has to be my best social

Favourite tipple: JD and lemonade

Share a story.....So many stories made over the years.

We were on our way back from Cornwall late on the Sunday night after a great weeks holiday and my daughter was sitting on the rear passenger side and she opened her window, I heard a faint knocking noise so we pulled over and one of the tyres had blown but being a twin wheeler I hadn't felt anything. How long it had been like that I had no idea so moral of this story always check your tyres.



## RALLYING FUN IN FEBRUARY

### Valentines at Kingfisher

The first valentines rally at Kingfisher was a huge success. Well done to the rally officers for running a fabulous 3 night weekend. The location of the site was fab, for a country park walk, or walk to the beach, or walk to the tap rooms (micro brewery). There was a disco Saturday night, a quiz Sunday night. The ralliers were able to enjoy games of pool and a lovely roast dinner in the clubhouse.





## Valentines at Kingfisher (continued)



### Two amazing girls

Special shout out to these two gorgeous girls, Esmee and Clara. Whenever I ask them a question, they always answer at the same, and they always give the same answers. Caravan Sisters!

They carried this huge log 4km through the country park, and back to the site. It was extremely heavy but these two are very determined. Two amazingly fierce, strong willed, happy girls. They are the next generation of the Youth Section, and already so eager and willing to help on rallies.



### Shaun no middle name Elsey

Cheeky shout out to the birthday boy aka husband Shaun. March born, on the 13<sup>th</sup> (unlucky for some). Happy birthday handsome. I think your parents enjoyed their summer holiday in June wink wink, along with the rest of your family, as there are 7 birthdays in March!

The guy puts up with a lot from me....I work late a lot, then I work on this newsletter some evenings. He cooks, he sorts the house, and he delivers me tea/gin when I am sat at the laptop for hours on end. He helps me out when I am stuck for ideas "Shaaaauuunnnn, give me some inspiration" and out he pops with random stuff about caravans, routines, fun, friends and all that jazz. Thank you Shaun x



*He probably won't even read this #BlueArmy*

### 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](mailto:emma.elsey@whampshirecc.co.uk)

### Answers

**Youth Section Riddles** – 1. Fire 2. Mirror 3. Age

**Guess the site** – A. Copythorne B. Copythorne C. Copythorne D. Copythorne

Sorry not sorry – I tricked you a little there because all the pictures were taken while at Copythorne. What an absolute little gem of a site.

*Thank You, from your editor Emma Elsey*



*Spring clean or spring break – what kind of 'spring' are you?*

