



## NEWSLETTER NO.10 – WATER AUGUST 2025

How excited do you get when the water in a field runs quickly? It genuinely makes me happy, when you don't have to stand at the water tap for 20 minutes. It's a topic that is spoken about more than you might think!

Do any of you empty your pipes at the end of a rally (no pun intended)? I always flip the switch under the seat and drain the water out. What this means is, I need to remember to flip the switch back when we arrive at a rally, before Shaun pumps the water into the van. More often than I would like to admit, I have forgotten to do this.

The best time was when I had finished all my jobs for setting up the van and sat outside our friends caravan with a cider in my hand, all cocky saying 'I've done my jobs, come on Shaun, what's taking you so long?' To then hear my name being shouted 'Emmmmmaaaa'. The whole barrel of water had been pumped in and gone straight back out again. Shaun had to get another barrel. Luckily this was a site (Bamptons) where the water taps run at a good speed!

Water....and children on rallies:

The children really do know how to use the water, at the last few rallies, there have been many water fights and play. They love it when the adults join in too, and they can get us totally soaked – So much water fun was had at Bamptons, Awbridge, Summerlands and Dawlish, with the famous slip and slide for all (kids and adults) to enjoy.



## ETHAN – MALAWI 2025

While I did give a presentation about my trip to Malawi at Awbridge, not everybody was there so I thought I would talk through some of the stuff I did there and attach some pictures for you all to see!

Our main focus while there was to give the orphans a more comfortable upbringing by supplying clothes and toys and other donations. However, we also helped to repair structures by plastering and painting. What I really loved about Malawi was how happy and excited everyone was, everybody was ready and excited for a song and dance at any moment and a lot of them even prepared some for us. On top of it being a great learning experience and really opening my eyes to the wider world I also learnt to cherish and appreciate all I have including the time I have with my loved ones. This is because even though we were only there for a short few days I feel I made strong bonds and connections with people through how open and kind they were and how much they appreciated all they have.

Thanks again to all of you who donated towards the FOMO (Friends of Malawi Orphans) cause, I am truly grateful and couldn't have gotten there without your support.

Thank you



# 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



Hello my name is Joe, I'm 15 years old and I have been a part of the youth section for almost a year now. I play cricket with my local team during the summer, and enjoy playing football with my friends and gaming. I have enjoyed all the rallies I've been on so far, but I particularly enjoyed Awbridge youth section rally as I had loads of fun getting involved with siting vans, setting up, playing table tennis, football and man hunt.



Hi my name is Oscar and I am 14 years old and have been caravanning all my life with the west Hampshire center and have been part of the youth section for the last 3 years and about to do my 4th year this October. Most weekends I go away in our motorhome but in my spare time I attend army cadets twice a week and like to do Dungeons and dragons and build, paint and play Warhammer. I have recently started to paddle board I started this as a lot of west Hampshire members of all ages do it. Thanks for reading about me hope to see you on a rally field soon.



## THE PENULTIMATE THOUGHTS OF CHAIRMAN MIKE

**(August 25)**

Well, it's been a great summer (the hottest on record apparently) and as well as hiding in the shade, we have had a great time, with lots of happy memories made. We personally, went to Dawlish and The Southern Centres Rally at Apps Court by the Thames. We at West Hants also had good turnouts at Chideock and Hayling Island this month, so I trust you have all found what you were looking for and very much enjoyed it as we did.

At Dawlish, Pauline and I looked after the field, while our brave and spectacular team took part in the local Carnival. I believe they were very well supported with their Wild West Wagon train and large formation of country dancers. Yee Hah 5 ,6 ,7, 8 and boy did the male dancers look knackered afterwards, especially Woody, it took several days and much sustenance to recover I believe!

At the Southern Centres Rally (not our division, we are South West Centres, and our Rally is next July!!) the Southern Centres Chairman actually thanked West Hant's for supporting their Rally and filling the Dance Floor (rent-a-mob well done) as we had nearly 40 vans on site.

As you can see, from the adjusted title of this article, it is coming to the end of my time as your Chairman, and although I am a little sad to be giving up the role, I need to step back for some personal R & R and a bit of maintenance. I am delighted, however, that there are enough nominations coming forward (actually there's already enough to keep going, but more are still welcome) and we will have a full complement on both the Senior Committee and the Youth Section Committee so we can all look forward to many more West Hampshire Rallies. (Thank you to all who have put their nominations in. You can still apply - nominations close at 1.30 pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September).

I hope we see many of you soon on the rally field with West Hant's.

**Happy Rallying – Mike**

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

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**Make up your own caption.....**

Here is a picture and now you can enjoy adding a caption to it.



**'Spider man Ranger Gary'**

**'Jesus Gary there's a split in your shorts, and this is not a good angle for me'**

If you have any funny pictures like this, I would love to receive them and share them in the newsletter for this fun 'make up your own caption' section. Please email me:-  
[emma.elsey@whampshirecc.co.uk](mailto:emma.elsey@whampshirecc.co.uk)

# Upcoming

EVENTS

## WHAT'S COMING UP IN SEPTEMBER

- 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 September:  
Fun at Pyesmead – Pyesmead Farm  
Flying High – Museum of Army Flying  
South West Division AGM – Six Penny Handley  
Surrey Gateway – The Kiln

## STUNNING VIEWS

Where were these pictures taken - guess the venue?

1.



2.



3.



4.

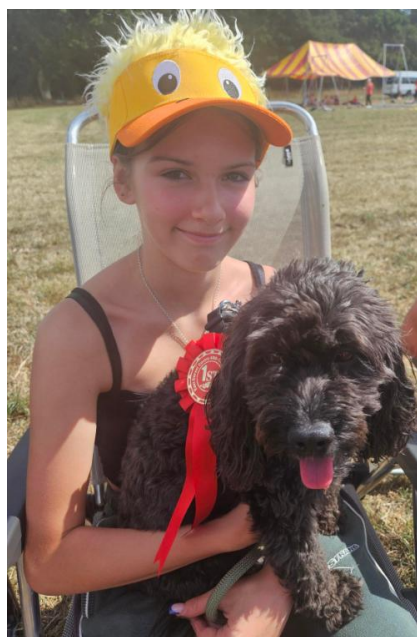


## IT'S A DOGS LIFE

Our lovely pets, our family, have an amazing life. Visiting wonderful places and going on lots of new adventures.



Amazing Nala came 1<sup>st</sup> with Helen for the most obedient dog at the Southern Centres Rally  
Amazing Nala came 1<sup>st</sup> with Clara for the best child handler at the Southern Centres Rally



Amazing Cooper (aka the dickhead) came 1<sup>st</sup> with Poppy for the best junior handler at the East Dorset celebration rally.



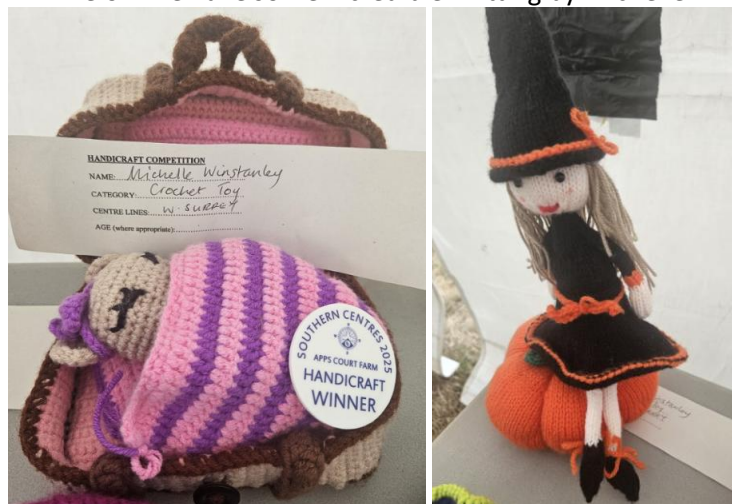
## OUR TALENTED RALLIERS

We have many talented people in our centre, and some of them were able to show case their talents at the Southern Centres rally.

To the left, is Caroline with her 25<sup>th</sup> celebration poster, and to the right, is Annabelle with her highly commended cake (I can vouch it was lovely-yum yum)



Below we have some incredible knitting by Michelle



Below we have some impressive needle work by Jan



## CALENDER PERSON OF THE MONTH

*Mrs August*



### **Leanne Rogers**

I have rallied for 9 years with West Hants but rallied with East Hants from 6 weeks old to age 16.

Favourite BBQ meal has to be steak.

Favourite social is either a quiz or a disco.

Favourite tipple is prosecco or vodka and lemonade.

The main story that sticks with me is having a few too many drinks before holding flag at Netley Police Station! Or recently at the Basingstoke rally doing the filth quiz and then eating pate. But Sssshhhh! We don't talk about pate and filth night!



## COCKTAILS

Isn't it funny what people will drink if you stick all the ingredients in a jug and walk round with said jug, offering it into people's glasses.....

Offer me a whisky and I will say no. But if it's in a jug with something...oh go on then I'll give it a try!

**What's your winning cocktail combo? I would love to hear about it, and/or try it!**

Whisky / ginger / lemonade

Rum / pineapple juice / orange juice / lemonade



## West Hampshire Caravan and Motorhome Club - A G M

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2025 - Awbridge Village Hall – SO51 0GQ

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Nominations for CENTRE OFFICERS and COMMITTEE to be received by the Centre Secretary by:

**1.30pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

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Nominations for YOUTH SECTION OFFICERS and COMMITTEE to be received by the Centre Secretary by:

**12.30pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

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



## RALLYING FUN IN JULY

### Canal Life (this was in June but I missed it out of the July newsletter!)

Lovely woodland walks on one side of the site and the canal on the other side. Stunning walk and cycle ride to the pub along the canal (paddle boards and kayaks were well used). We had fun on the field as well, with the axe throwing and giant connect four. The evening quiz topped it all off, with some cheeky questions (you had to be there to really appreciate them and some passers by were very intrigued with what they were hearing). The night ended with crusty bread and pate for all.



## By the canal – 3 magpies

Lovely location by the canal, and right next to a great pub, that does very good roast dinners.



## Chill out at Sopley – Sopley Farm

Delightful site near a lake with fruit and vegetables growing close by for a relaxing weekend at this hidden gem on a pick your own farm. The site has a farm shop and coffee shop which sells delicious cakes.



**JULY IS LIKE THE SUNNIEST  
HOUR OF THE DAY.**



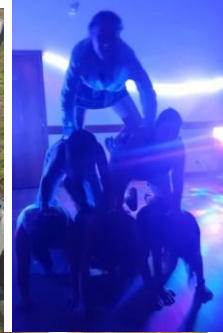
## Explore Lymington – Bampton's Farm

Location of this site is excellent, opposite a pick your own fruit venue, and crazy golf. Just a short walk to Lymington, and/or train ferry ride. The pods were up (mainly for some shade as the sun was beaming down all weekend. There were water fights galore, a fun quiz by Jim and Kim and bacon rolls for all, to help raise money for the children's chosen charities.

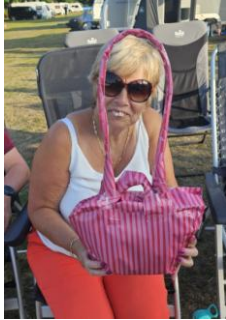


## Summer fun with the Youth Section – Awbridge Village Hall

The children put on another awesome weekend, filled with fun and laughter. They set up the venue, put on events and raised hundreds for their chosen charities. Horse racing night, water fight, treasure hunt, cocktails, bacon rolls, disco, and many games of table tennis.



## Summer fun with the Youth Section – Awbridge Village Hall (continued)



Summer fun with the Youth Section – Awbridge Village Hall (continued)



## Youth Section Parents – Thank you

Thank you to the Youth Section Parents, for attending the YS rally, so your child(ren) can volunteer and learn skills, work as a team and raise money for charity. The skills they learn on these rallies are very hard to teach, and it's something they all pick up and practice, by running their two rallies a year for the West Hants centre.

The parents support their children (nag them to get up), pay for the rallies and then provide things for the rallies on top of the payment (like alcohol for the cocktails – as just one example). So this is a thank you to you for everything you do.



### **Feedback is a gift....**

What would you like to read about?

Do you enjoy the amount of photos I put into the Newsletters or is it too many?

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**

#### **Stunning views :-**

1. Summerlands 2. Summerlands 3. Summerlands 4. Summerlands

*Thank You, from your editor Emma Elsey*



**THANK YOU TO THE SNEAKY PHOTOGRAPHER, FOR THE PIC OF ME AND MY  
SISTER – YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE**