



## The Stag

### Editors Corner

Hi Rallier's,

How has the last month been for you? I hope you have all been keeping well and busy booking your rallies for this year... as always don't forget if you have a favourite place you like to visit and think we will like it too, please let our Rally or Assistant Rally Officers, Gary and Mark know, as they are always on the scout for somewhere new!! Their sparkly email addresses are below.

Having purchased our motorhome in December, the webmaster and I have had 2 amazing weekends staying in the motorhome getting used to him and how he works - our great adventure started on Mum and Dad's drive getting ready for our first rally being Valentines!! So, without further-a-do, let's move on to the rest of the stag...before I ramble on anymore x

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### Chairman's Comments

Hi All,

Thank you to everyone who came and joined in on the Valentines Rally, a massive thank you to all the Rally Officers.

We had a few visitors from the Upper Thames, which was really nice.

We have a couple of mentions in this month's edition of the Stag, I would like to take this opportunity in encouraging you all to participate in the contents of this magazine too, if you have a book, a hobby, or DIY knowledge, or feedback on a rally and or you think others would find useful the please share!!

Thank you to Pam Handy and her Hubby for their lovely review of the Valentines Rally on our Facebook page, take a look, but if you're not a member, click to join at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/297030957405265>

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

*Marie x*

## Committee News...News...News!!!

So, let me start by introducing our very own "decision hat" from March's stag I will be telling you all about the committee team, one by one over the coming months, did I hear you say... secrets included?? Yes, yes and yes!! I promise to tell all xx

**Watch-out** I may ask you to help the decision hat, by pulling out a name...

Don't forget the sparkly new email addresses for the committee, should you wish to chat to us at any time!!

- ✚ Marie Woodward: [chair@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:chair@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Ian Grover: [treasurer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Carol Gallagher: [secretary@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Stuart Bradley: [safetyofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:safetyofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Chris Bevan: [regionalrep@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:regionalrep@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Gary Williams: [rallysec@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:rallysec@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Mark Parker: [asstrallysec@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:asstrallysec@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Tracie Williams: [competitionofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:competitionofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Vinnie Vincent: [webmaster@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Jennifer Taylor-Woodley: [communicationsofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:communicationsofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ Colin Moore: [200club@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:200club@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)
- ✚ John Woodward: [equiptmentofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:equiptmentofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)

## Recent Rally Pictures



**Valentines!!** Did you know it originated as a Christian feast day honouring one or two early Christian martyrs named Saint Valentine and, through later folk traditions, has become a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world.... Thanks Google!!

## An interview

How many of us love, watches and clocks? Well...you will never guess who's a horologist, and I had the pleasure and honour to chat with the brilliant Derrick Goddard.

1. **Where did your love of clocks and time pieces in general come from?**

I used to go to junk shops and buy clocks, I started an apprenticeship on day release at the National College of Horology, Mare Street, Hackney in London, sadly, it no longer exists. I started working at Weiss clocks in 1982 and passed my apprenticeship and became a fully qualified horologist in 1984, I've been fixing clocks ever since and the occasional watch but not so much now a days!

2. **What was the first clock you bought and what is the history surrounding it?**

It was a Westminster chime clock I paid £20 for it not working, of course back then I didn't really know what I was doing, but lovingly took it apart, cleaned, reassembled, and oiled it, it's still going strong today. It was made in the early 1940's and survived the Second World War bombings - how cool is that!!

3. **Have you built a grandfather clock?**

I have not built a grandfather clock yet, but I've serviced and rebuilt many of them. I bought my grandfather clock on a tip-off from someone I repaired a Strike Repeat French carriage clock for. I paid £1200 for it and once again it was not working, so with my tools in hand I repaired her and now she doesn't miss a chime. She was built in the 1700's. If only clocks could speak and tell us their history!!

4. **What advice would you give to someone looking to buy their first grandfather clock?**

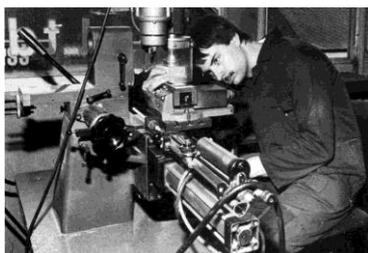
Most important thing when buying a grandfather clock is the height, if they are too high it looks very cramped and squashed towards the ceiling, too low looks funny as well...!!

5. **How do people contact you for help, advice, servicing, and repairs?**

Most of my work comes via word of mouth or from friends and relatives, I have talked to people on the phone advising them on how to set up their grandfather clock by adjusting the clutch.

6. **Have you thought of having your own business?**

At one point after I had been made redundant, I seriously thought about going self-employed for clock repairs, but sadly there wasn't enough steady work available. Sadly, some clock repairs are just too expensive and not worth doing unless they're of a good quality. Disappointingly in today's world we are a throwaway society!!



Thank you Derrick for sharing your love of clocks with us x

Something very Special from our exceptionally talented Author, Colin Moore

### Walk the Road

Come my love lets walk the road  
Into the rising sun  
Peace will lead to heartbeats slowed  
No race or endless fun

Hand in hand we'll take the path  
Into the morning mist  
Passion we'll teach as our craft  
No anger or raised fist

Together we'll cross through the zone  
That leads from spring to summer  
Never to spend our life alone  
No fear of any other

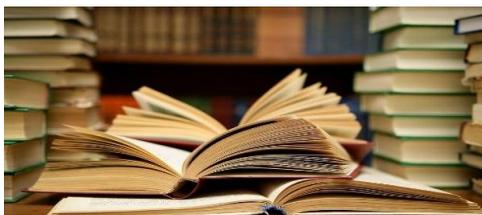
We'll run together from life to death  
From light to darkened days  
And as we take our very last breath  
The words of love we'll say

So come my love, lets walk the road  
Into the rising sun  
Then as we grow together old  
We two can love as one



Thank you, Colin, for sharing such a beautiful poem with us x

### Our Readers Corner



Calling all Fellow bookworms, in my last two stag editions I've asked if you've read any good books and would like to share a review or pass it on to a fellow bookworm, and if you would be interested and would like to have a centre book club, then please let me know, via email at:

[communicationsofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:communicationsofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk) we can do this by zoom or at a rally, or both again let me know your thoughts, it's completely free, all you need to do is pay for the book or pop along to your local library.

I am sure you don't want to always hear about my book choices all the time...

If you would like to participate in our book club the book of discussion in March will be **Lilly, A tale of Revenge by Rose Tremain. Happy Reading x**

A Book zoom meeting will be held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm, if you would like to join, please email me and I'll send you the link!!

Last month's stag I was reading the Empire of the Vampire by Jay Kristoff, a fantasy writer, I have been gripped with watching the vampire empire grow, I felt completely transported into the same room, just sitting there listening to the vampire telling his story. Some parts were sad whilst others were funny. Do you think it would be better to be born a vampire or bitten by one??? The story is nothing like the Bram Stoker tales, but has its own twists and turns...

Yes, you have guessed there has been a second book on the go too...

The betrayal of Anne Frank by Rosemary Sullivan, this book is an investigation as to who and why Anne's family were betrayed when hiding in the annex for some 25 months, the book talks openly about people being paid the equivalent of £47.00 in today's money for reporting jews who were hiding. It refers to her diary as being a saved living testament of the war because we later learn that other diaries were confiscated after the war and scatted worldwide.

I won't spoil the ending, but has it been a mystery or a well-kept secret?

Ohhh wait I have some, **breaking news....** The chair has asked me to include 2 book reviews she has read:

Wow, I get to be the first, I have a love of reading books too, my favourite authors are, Nora Roberts and Barbara Erskine.

I'll start with Nora Roberts, her stories are past, present, and future told, your completely emerged into the history, I'm currently reading the Dragon Heart Legacy it's a trilogy.

1. The Awakening
2. The Becoming
3. The choice (sadly this one is not released until 22/01/2022)

Book one, is about a magical, mystical creature, and a wonderful journey into Ireland where it all begins for Breen, it takes her to a magical place where she learns what her journey and destinies are. I am just about to start the second novel The Becoming.

And now onto Barbara Erskine

A fantastic author who I would love to meet. Over the years she has written many novels, my favourite being The Darkest Hour.

It all starts in 1940 the battle of Brittan has just started for Evie and her dashing pilot called Tony. Evie has a gift of sketching portraits, especially of him.

Seventy years later widowed historian Lucy is trying to put her life together, and discovers a mystery about a painting in her home, suddenly Lucy is in danger from people in the past and present, these people have no intention of letting anyone know the untold truth, but will Lucy find the strength to bring the truth to the surface .....??

Ohhh, this could be added to our reading list, sounds fabulous....

Would you read the book again Chair? Absolutely yes, I would!!

Please step forward, otherwise it's just going to me rambling on about my book choices and I would love to hear about different books, authors, stories etc, if you would like to recommend a book for our book club, please email the details to me and I'll publish it in March's edition for all to read!!

So, until my next chapter I'll leave my book reflections with you.



### The Amazingly Fun Children's Corner

Hello Children,

The deadline for entries has been extended from 14th February 2022 until 31<sup>st</sup> March and the winner will now be announced in April's Stag - Come on Children, let's get drawing & painting xxx

The competition remains that we would like you to draw or paint what you think the covid germ or monster looks like, the best one Tracie receives will **win** a £10.00 book token from Waterstones, how awesome is that...!!!

Please email them to Tracie our competitions officer at:  
[competitionsofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:competitionsofficer@berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk)



### Paw's for thought!!!

Bear tells me that she would like a new harness as her's is looking a little old and worn now! So, I've done a little research and found the ones with the velcro tags at the side, you can have their name or just a number. I've chosen "I'm Nervous" ... it's difficult for dog owners when a stranger approaches and tries to stroke your dog or ask and ignore your answer of no!!

The price ranges from £19.00 - £25.00 depending on size and website of choice, but take a look at: [www.waqqetailsshop.com](http://www.waqqetailsshop.com)

Bear say's Doggies need space and respect too and if you see a dog with a yellow collar/lead or harness it means they are nervous!! You can find more information at:

<https://www.bellascollars.co.uk/>



### Upcoming Events



4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022 March Hare Rally, Swiss Farm, Henley, your Rally Officers are Gary and Tracie Williams, Colin, and Wendy Moore...

AND....



25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022, Holybourne Steam Railway & Golf Rally, Holybourne, your Rally Officers are Alan and Una Manley, Marie and John Woodward...

### Rally Board

Don't forget all the rallies are listed on our website, just click on the link below...!!

<http://www.berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk/DBScripts/RallyDisplayWeb.php>

### Special Mention's Page

Sarah and Adam Irwin (Jane and Dave Tuthill's daughter and son-in-law) welcomed Ben Robert David into the world in the early hours of 10th November weighing 6lb 13oz. A little brother for Joseph. Well done Adam for keeping calm and delivering Ben before the ambulance arrived!

Good luck and speedy recovery for Gary Fish (aka, bad Dobby) who is going into hospital at the beginning of March for a hip procedure.

### Do you have?

Any interesting artifacts, photos, etc from Berkshire rallies (especially the earlier ones)? that Jane Tuthill can have? If so, please can you email them to the communications officer.

Jane is busy working on creating an amazing archive of centre memorabilia so any posters, letters, magazines anything at all, would be greatly appreciated. Whilst working Jane found the following!!

***Jill and Peter Butler's first rally***





### Thought of the month!

Bee Kind...!!!

### Top Tip's Corner

Do you have any handy caravan/motorhome tips to share?

### COVID

As you are aware Covid is still buoyant among us, so to help keep us all safe, we are asking you to do a Lateral Flow Test prior to leaving home to join a rally.

Please remember to follow all the Medical and Government guidance on keeping safe, a handful of rallier's contracted the Nasty Little Monster at the New Year's Rally and have described various things, from a tickly cough to a runny nose... Please stay safe, keep your distances, and wash and sanitise your hands to help keep us all safe!!

The Government is looking to relax all covid restrictions, but we encourage you to do everything you can to stay and keep safe!!

### Fuel Price Hikes

Gosh... this is a difficult and upsetting topic for many, whilst we are mindful of our own cost increases, we need to remember it's the same for everyone, including shops, supermarkets, libraries any venue that is reliant on domesticated fuel etc. Martin Lewis's (money saving expert) often has some good tips, check it out here: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/>

### Stag Edition

Our next publication of the Stag will be out in March.

Looking forward to seeing you all very soon, until then, **Tow Safe, Drive Safe, Keep Safe xx**