



The Stag



February 2019 Edition



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Editors Corner

Wow, what a month! There have been some fantastic rallies run recently and we are only in the second month of the year! It is going to be a year full to the brim of exceptional rallies I feel.

It's been a busy month for all and apologies for the delayed publishing of this months Stag. We will however ensure we are back on track for the March Edition. 😊

We have a new section on rallying later on and there are still some great prizes out there so get on board with some of the competitions/games if you want to be in with a chance of winning.

As always if you have anything you would like to have included in the newsletter then please do send it through to me at bcccwebmaster@gmail.com.

I hope you see you on the rally field soon!

Alan

Chairlady's Comments

Hi all!

Well we have started on a high with the taste of Scotland, what a brilliant rally! Well done to the rally officers on that one and then we also had the valentines rally the following week, that was my baby and I had great support from the Young family.

The thing I would like to concentrate on in the next few weeks is finding new venues, so keep your eyes peeled for schools or halls with big carparks or tennis courts.

Do you work in a place that could cater for caravan rallies? Do you know some one with a field with access to water and drainage who wants to hire it out? If you know of any of these types of locations then please contact myself or the rally secretary (Peter Biggs) with your ideas.

Take care and see you on the rally field!
Wendy x



Meet the Committee

We are continuing to introduce to you to the committee members each month giving you a little history on them and for those new to the centre the ability to put a face to a name. If you have anything you feel could be included for future “meet the committee” sections please drop me an email at the previously mentioned address.

So this month we are introducing...



Wendy Goddard, Berkshire Centre Chairlady

Born December 1966, what a great year for football! Unknown to most our Chairlady rarely uses her full name, Wendy-Marie. Wendy lives with her hubby of 23 years (Derrick who we introduced last month), they have two great kids who have grown up on rally fields.

Wendy started her career parking eggs at 16 then moved on to work in a clock factory which is where she met her husband. She then trained as a kitchen designer. She left that role about 8 years ago and became a pharmacy manager and has just taken her dispensers course last year.

We all know that Wendy loves a sing a long. Sadly though (and she admits this herself) she is fairly terrible and totally tone deaf.

Her caravan is her second home, the Berkshire are her second family and it is rare for her not to be on a rally field somewhere scaring away the cats.

Next time you're out feel free to pop over and say hi to her, just remember those ear plugs.





News

Engagement Drive

The majority of rally books that were able to be hand delivered by the committee and co and as much as possible we were trying to say hi to the recipients. This led to some really good conversations about rallies and what to expect and some suggestions about making people a bit more aware of what happens on our rallies and what to expect when on a rally. There is a section later in the newsletter which will focus a bit more on this.

The Facebook group continues to move along, if you aren't in yet feel free to join us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/297030957405265/>



There is no draw in January so nothing to see here! The February results will be in the March Edition out soon!

As before all you have to do to be "in it" is complete a form and return it to Wendy or Leigh together with a cheque or cash payment for £5.00 per entry for the whole years draws. You are able to have as many entries as you like!

The eleven draws take place on a rally at the end of each month and any profit goes towards funding new equipment for the Centre.

Each entry is acknowledged with a number being allocated to you and a list of the draw dates. Entry to the 200 Club is open to all Caravan Club members, families and friends, even your animals!

Whisky Tag

The "Whisky Tag" competition is going strong however are yet to have a winner. There are two bottles to have a go for, each with their own tags that were kindly donated by John and Christine Ward and Terry and Bettine Bly. Thank you.

For those unsure how it works there are a number of tags stuck to a bottle and one is secretly marked under the tape holding them to the bottle. A tag will cost you £1 and the winning tag will be unveiled on each bottle as the tags are sold out.



£50 Voucher Draw!

At the Beat the Winter rally at the end of February we had the draw for the £50 voucher and the lucky winner was Ian Grover!

Congratulations! We hope you get something nice with it! 😊

Announcements

Unfortunately we were not made aware of any celebrations in March however if you are celebrating an anniversary or birthday we wish you a fantastic day.

Items For Sale

SALEABLE EQUIPMENT PRICE LIST

AQUAKEM BLUE (2 Ltr) £10.50

AQUAKEM SACHETS (tub of 15) £11.50

AQUAKEM RINSE (1.5 Ltr) £9.00

COMING SOON

ELSAN ORGANIC (2 Ltr) £10.00

BIODEGRADABLE & ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY
(SAFE FOR USE IN SEPTIC TANKS)

The above saleable equipment is available from a committee member on a rally near you!



Table top gas heater very good condition
£40



Brand new isabella leg rest in dark blue
£10



Please contact Wendy or Derek Goddard regarding either of the above items.



Isabella SunShine Canopy and front panel. Modified by Isabella to have curtain runners on all windows and easier fitting of the front panel. Carbon Fibre poles. 1050 cm track.

£500 ONO

Please contact Stuart Bradley on 07813254260

For advertising in future editions please send us a picture, description and price of any caravan related articles you may wish to sell and it will be included here!



Funny Corner





What is a Rally?

It is a gathering of Caravan and Motorhome Club Members who enjoy weekends away with fun and fellowship thrown in for good measure. Use your caravan or motor home all year round in lovely surroundings at reasonable prices. You can enjoy a natter, have a laugh and perhaps a drink or two - a real opportunity to make new friends and visit new places.

What happens on a rally?

Lots! Generally, the day time is available to spend at your leisure although sometimes optional activities are arranged (such as fishing, walks, tenpin bowling, coach or boat trips). Take part in as much or as little as you wish - there is no pressure to join in anything or everything. A competition or quiz is often provided for you to work on over the weekend.

On the Saturday evening a social event, sometimes with food provided, is often arranged. Again, attendance is entirely optional but the social can be the highlight of the weekend. You never quite know what to expect - but you can guarantee an enjoyable (if sometimes unusual) evening.

Flagpole, normally on Sunday morning, is the formal part of the rally at which forthcoming rallies are advertised, rally officers (the people who run the rally) thanked, raffle drawn and competition winners announced.

How much does it cost?

This is the great thing about rallying. Prices obviously vary depending on the venue, but can be as low as £5.00 per night (plus VAT) plus a small rally fee and administration fee.

The optional social is charged for separately to cover any costs involved. Even rallying on a commercial site is at a reduced rate.

On average a two night/three day rally with a Saturday evening social costs around £35 for two people in one caravan.

What a bargain!



What to expect going off "hook up"

Scary thought I know, but there are many tips that may help

1. If you have kids take games the whole family can play and use it as family time.
2. Forget your TV sit and talk.
3. If needed for the kids get them portable DVD players they charge on 12v or if. You can then charge in car while your running about.
4. Most rallies have some sort of get together/social so chances are most evenings you'll not be in van.
5. Don't leave lights on when not needed.
6. Maybe get a pretty bowl or bottle with some solar or battery fairy lights cheap but effective.
7. Make sure battery fully charged and in good condition.
8. Maybe look on eBay for a solar panel even a low wattage panel will put some life in to your battery you don't have to spend £100s.
9. Always remember when on a rally you're never alone there is always someone to help.
10. When on school or village hall sites rally officers will most often have a socket to charge your battery if needed, just remember to take a battery charger.
11. On the same note ladies, we do like our hair dryers and straighteners, once again ask rally officer if you can borrow a socket.
12. Or get a gas or 12v version I've been known to be doing my hair with 12v straighter plugged into cigarette socket in the car whilst on the way to food shopping.

There are many more tips to help, these are just a few. I highly recommend to Just use the time away from the iPads laptops and Xbox's to enjoy each others company



A ralliers review...

In this section we hope to get reviews from our ralliers and their views on rallies that have happened in the previous month. This month we have a review of the recent Valentines rally by Bettine Bly.

Valentine Rally 8-10 February 2019

We were warmly welcomed by Leigh, Emma and Jim at Padworth Village Hall in cold, windy

and wet weather conditions on Friday afternoon. Having a motor home which always sinks in wet conditions in a field, much to our relief, we were sited in the car park. After walking the dogs and getting soaked in the process, it was great to pull down the blinds on the van and warm up cooking and eating our evening meal.

Dogs fed and another quick walk, washing up done, it was time to wander over to the hall where a friendly welcome was waiting for us from our rally officers, Derrick & Wendy and

Vivienne & Jim. There were nibbles on the tables and once we had paid our dues and bought our raffle tickets, it was great to catch up with friends we had not seen for a while and our regular fellow ralliers.

The night was windy and wet followed by an early windy and wet morning walk with the dogs. Fortunately, it brightened up and we were able to later partake of our usual pleasant walk along the canal and a lunch time visit to 'The Butt' with our friends Les & Steve.

On our return to the site, Terry and I had time for a quick 'power nap' before meeting up with all the Grovers' to discuss plans for our rally at the Kiln later this month.

Yet another dog walk and time to dress up for the evening festivities. The hall had been transformed by our hard working rally officers into a truly romantic setting with soft lighting, heart shaped fairy lights and roses for all the ladies. The mood for the evening was set!



We were treated to an imaginative and substantial three course meal. It was scrumptious.

We started with stuffed jacket potatoes and salad, followed by gammon, cauliflower cheese

and vegetables and finished with a luxurious banana trifle (Derrick's contribution I believe).

It was delicious.

The evening's entertainment started with a Mr & Mrs Quiz hosted by Peter Biggs. Three

couples battled it out in the competition which was eventually won by Donna & Gary Fish.

This was followed by couples dancing to pre requested love songs and moving on to more lively dancing as Wendy took to the dance floor!

A wonderful rally and huge thanks to rally officers and their helpers.

Bettine Bly

If you would like to submit a "ralliers review" for future editions please drop me an email to the usual address.





Upcoming Rallies – to book onto any of our rallies please visit

<http://www.berkshirecentrecaravanclub.co.uk>



HARD-STANDING

Locality: Overton is a village in Hampshire located west of the town of Basingstoke, and east of Andover and Whitchurch. Overton Mill has for many years produced banknote paper used by the Bank of England and other banknote printers around the world.

What is On? This rally will have an Italian themed social on Saturday evening. An American(?) Supper is planned so you can try some different foods Italian foods. Hopefully followed by some fun and games.

Rally Officers: Jim and Vivienne Young & Alan and Una Manley

GRASS FIELD

Locality: Olivers Battery is situated on a prominent hilltop just over two miles south west of Winchester City centre. Its name alludes to the English Civil War when, according to legend, Oliver Cromwell shelled the city from a battery of cannon within an earthwork on this hill during the siege of 1645. Within walking distance of local shops and Sainsburys Supermarket. Winchester and Marwell Zoo are not far away. Alresford with the steam railway, Southampton, Portsmouth and Southsea are an easy drive. Plenty of walking from the rally field.

What is On? Make the most of your time to explore the local area. Winchester's pedestrianised shopping street is just a couple of miles away. Depending on numbers and weather, we'll decide nearer the time what the Saturday evening social will be.

Rally Officers: Dave and Jane Tuthill & John and Christine Ward





GRASS FIELD

Locality: The rally field is adjacent to the Swiss Farm caravan site and is at the foot of the Chiltern Hills. Henley is a few minutes' walk away with its riverside walks, shopping and restaurants.

What is On? A walk around March Hare in Henley, this was written for last year's March Hare but due to poor weather conditions it was cancelled, so we are using it for this year's, so all the time and planning doesn't go to waste !!! So that's why The March Hare for this year is in April!!! There will also be a special April Rabbit for the children and their own prize too. Saturday evening is at your leisure.

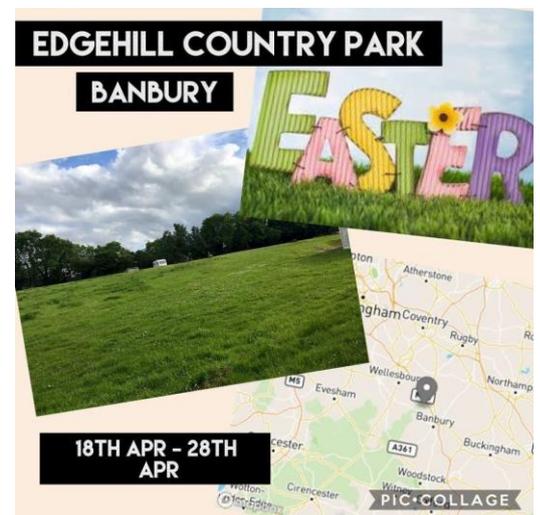
Rally Officers: Jim and Vivienne Young & Alan and Una Manley



Locality: Set in the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, near to the Edgehill battle field, Edgehill Country Park extends to some 16 acres of mixed grass and woodland with extensive views over the rural South Warwickshire countryside. There is an array of footpaths nearby and many picturesque towns and villages within a short drive; Shakespeare's birthplace of Stratford-Upon-Avon (16 miles), the market town of Banbury (6 miles) and medieval Warwick (14 miles).

What is On? Easter fun Country & Western style and & 70's Game shows. Light up your wagons and get cheesy. Hot cross buns on Friday, decorate your hats ready for the Sunday Parade, egg hunt and games. Saturday relive the TV Game Shows with Play Your Cards Right, let your dollys do the dealing and get all the cards right to win the pot. Name That Tune. How good are you at guessing the intro. Game shows will be hosted by your compare for the evening Peter Perfect and beautiful Dollys. Your chance to win some money. We will be serving a meal of sausage and beans, then cowboy games during the week and following weekend.

Rally Officers: Carol and Shaun Gallagher & Sue and Peter Biggs



The next edition of **The Stag** will be out towards the end of March, as mentioned before if you have anything you would like to have included in the next edition drop me a mail!