



Wiltshire Centre Newsletter

The Caravan and Motorhome Club

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Welcome to this the 110th edition of the Wiltshire Centre Newsletter.

I hope you all made the most of the hot (sometimes too hot!) sunny weather. We enjoyed some lovely Rallies thanks to our brilliant Rally Officers. If you would like to help run a Rally I'm sure Tracy Mason, our Rally Secretary or any member of the committee. will be glad to hear from you.

If you volunteer to write a report, please send it to me as soon as possible after the Rally. It is a way to thank the Rally Officers for the hard work they put in. Thank you to everyone who have contributed to this edition, without you there would be no rally reports. Please keep them coming.

Ann



Queen's Jubilee, Kington Langley, 1st – 5th June 2022

We arrived in lovely sunshine and were soon sited and ready to go. We sat outside for a while as it was so lovely. Drinks in the van and then bed.

Thursday saw yet another lovely day. When all were seated on the games field, a royal procession took place. The Queen arrived on her royal carriage (Barbara on her scooter!).



Followed by the Trooping of the Colour aka John, Tracy, Phil, Ange, Charlotte and Max with Bailey and Findo, bringing up the rear! It was so good and so funny. Loved it!



We then made the most of it with games outside in the afternoon. Including a game called Knuut.



A bit tricky and long winded but it was good fun, the eventual winners being the men's team. Well done. This was followed by proper lawn skittles and then bean bags in a ladder, scoring plus or minus points as you go on. A great afternoon of fun and laughter. Another lovely evening, sat outside eating our dinner after cooking it on the BBQ. We had a real treat later on in the evening,

once it was dark. Windows had been decorated and homemade beacons had also been made. These were lit in conjunction with the lighting up in London at 9.45. The window prize went to Peter and Marilyn Marsden and the beacon prize went to Derek and Barbara Owen. Congratulations to everyone who entered, the windows were fabulous.

Friday was an extremely busy day, with lots of preparation for the cream tea in the afternoon. Washing up, drying up, cake stand assembly, bread buttering and filling, sandwich slicing including cutting the crusts off! The gazebos were erected and tables and chairs soon filled the space. Everyone was undercover thankfully. After a lot of hard work, everyone sat down for a wonderful cream tea, with proper cups and saucers and plates. REAL CHINA teapots and a glass of bubbly. Absolutely fantastic, thank you to everyone for your sterling efforts! Real team work.

Saturday was a little less manic. We had time to go shopping then all too soon the hall was open and the next stage began. Hall decorating with bunting and balloons, food prepping and cooking, platters assembled with lovely food. Cake stands filled with cakes. What a spread we had, truly delicious. THANK YOU.



We all gathered together at 7.30 and were entertained by a singer called Steve Clemence. He was very good and soon had the dance floor full. We had a great evening, dancing, chatting, eating and drinking. Just how socials used to be.

Flag was held in the interval, with many celebrations mentioned (too many to recall sorry!) Congratulations to you all! A good raffle, prize allocation and rally officer thanks. And on that note, where on earth do you start. So much work had been done behind the scenes, let alone the work ON the rally field.

Thank you Tracy, John, Phil and Ange for your hard work. Yes, I know you had help but it started and ends with you all.

THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH!

Chris Riley



Pentewan Sands, Holiday Rally 3rd – 17th September

Once again what a fabulous Holiday Rally at Pentewan Sands.

The weather for most of the time was beautiful.

Pentewan is a great site, for those who don't know it, it's right on the beach, with large, flat, grass pitches incl. Electric. The shower and toilet facilities are good and cleaned several times a day. Other facilities all open to ralliers are too numerous to mention, but include Pool area (free to use), several Eating and drinking places, including my favourite for a nice drink on a hot day, Hubbox, which is literally on the beach. There's also an excellent water sport centre. While there we hired a two-man kayak and I also tried paddle boarding for the first time, (really good fun) and the hire charges were very reasonable.

The village itself is accessed through the site and has a couple of shops, cafes and two public houses, and is well worth a visit. There is a bus stop just outside the site, and

there are lots of places to visit and things to do in the area.

Our thanks must go to the Rally Officers Chris and Sid, Marilyn and Jeff, Roz and Colin, nothing seems too much trouble for this team, who were always friendly and happy to chat.

There was each week a quiz and game of bingo (we even managed to win a line on the second week Thank You Very Much). Also organised during our stay was a couple of Flag/Coffee mornings. A wine and cheese night, very nice. An American supper night also very nice. All this made it an enjoyable holiday rally.

I do have one suggestion for improvement however

PLEASE CAN IT RUN LONGER?
THANKS AGAIN FOR A GREAT TIME.

Dave and Gwen Sanderson, North Yorkshire Centre



Hoedown, Norton St Phillip
17th – 19th June 2022

We returned to this lovely quiet site, courtesy of Nicky and Steve Jefferson. We were met by Steve and shown to our pitch which was quite close to the rally office. Walking can be a problem for me sometimes so thank you for being so thoughtful. The sun was shining, the sky

was blue what else to do but sit outside and enjoy it. Our very thoughtful rally officers, Sandra and Steve, went down to the local shop and bought everyone an ice cream, thank you both, much appreciated.

We were all invited to join our rally officers in the paddock for a barbeque which turned out to be a huge success. We had a visit from our very own "weather man" who treated us all to a showdown with the rocket launcher. Jill was great at encouraging Elliott to try and catch it and he very nearly did! Everyone attended and most sat out till it got colder or bedtime beckoned. Thanks for a lovely evening.

Well Elliott, you could have predicted better weather for Saturday ☺ It rained most of the day so we decided rather than be cooped up in our vans, we took a trip out to the Bay Leaf Nursery in Trowbridge, where we spent quite a lot of money (John and Tracy certainly did!) We also had a very nice lunch there in the café. Highly recommend this little place, the food was delicious and very reasonably priced too. We headed back to the vans to get ourselves ready for the evenings' social. Suitably attired in all manner of cowboy themed dress, we headed to the "ranch".



Ezra – Ready for the party

The variety of cowboy styles was impressive. The marquee was set out with lovely tables and chairs, the tables being dressed with gingham tablecloths. It looked lovely. Lights were hung around the room giving a lovely glow.

We were served tortillas with salsa, sour cream dressing and melted cheese sauce. It was yummy! This was followed by a spiced stew with veg and creamy mashed potatoes, that too was delicious. Our dessert was made by Bethany (Nicky and Steve's daughter). Well, it was very yummy, layers of chocolate ganache, oozy

marshmallow and more chocolate, completed by a layer of crunchy biscuit topping.

At this point I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to our rally officers and Bethany for putting on such a fantastic spread, it was very much appreciated by us all. The rally officers had intended for us all to go outside to dance and yee ha but it was so wet and miserable that no one wanted to venture outside! Such a shame as a lot of hard work went into this weekend. The village was hosting a charity event with several bands playing on two stages. We still managed to have a good singalong to some of the country and western oldies that most of us knew, me included!

Some people even managed to have a dance and Emily Honnor stole the show! She did a wide range of moves across the grass, some featuring a velociraptor (you really had to be there!) She kept us entertained for most of the evening. Thank you Emily, you were a star!

At 11pm, most folk departed and went to bed. The bands were still playing loud and proud but we managed to get some sleep. Hope they managed to raise a lot of money for their chosen charities.

Up on Sunday to a lovely morning typical! Flag was held in the marquee with John Holdway taking flag. The envelope competition winners were Nicky and Dave Bullock and the fancy dress winners were Ade and Jo Berridge.

A write up is the least any of us can do by way of thanks for such a fantastic weekend. It's not enough but THANK YOU ALL again for all your hard work.

Bridget Jones (aka Chris Riley)



Bibury, Boules 8th – 10th July



Competition Officer John Mason presenting the Rose Bowl to the ladies winner Liz Tolman.



John Holdway (Vice Chairman) presenting the men's winner John Mason with the trophy.



Sales Equipment



Did you know that your Sales Equipment Officer, Pete Wiltshire, has many useful items for sale? These items are carefully chosen as they may be useful to fellow Ralliers. They are available on the Rally Field most weekends. The small profit they make goes back into Centre funds. At present items include, Toilet fluid (blue and pink) Polo and Sweat Shirts, year plaques, visitor's plaques, etc.....



In the sunshine at Bibury, Nigel Riley (secretary) presenting John and Ann Holdway their commemerative plaque for attending 700 Rallies.



Upper Thames 60 +2 Celebration Rally 20th – 25th July

This Rally was attended by a number of Wiltshire ralliers who were made very welcome indeed. We were treated to excellent entertainment during the weekend and a tasty Pig Roast on the Saturday evening.



Grenvil Chamberlain (Chairman of CAMC) addressing the assembled Ralliers.



The Rally was attended by many Centre Chairmen and women both past and present. You will spot past

Chairmen Phil Sambrook and John Holdway on the left.
Steve Berridge our current Chairman nearer the centre of
the photo.]



Langley Burrell, Curling

12th - 14th August

We arrived at Langley Burrell early afternoon. After setting up on a very, very hot day we were glad to meet friends under the event shelter that Stewart had brought. Thank goodness for that! Everyone had to find shelter from the sun. That makes a change. As the evening went by and the sun went down, we were joined by many others. We all sat around chatting and drinking.



As the evening went by, we were all looking up at the clear sky. The moon was bright and the stars were out. We were looking for the satellites and shooting stars.

There were many planes about and Alan was telling us where they were going and coming from on his app. Next morning another hot day. Free and easy day. Too hot to do a lot. The curling was put off until about 6.30 so that it would be a little cooler. Nigel and John were scrubbing as usual and Helen and Ann scoring.

Lynda was showing her acrobatic stone throwing skills, but still doing very well by being second. After Curling we had flag so we didn't have to wait till Sunday for the winners to be announced.

Basil won the men's and I (Janet) won the ladies. After flag some people went back to their caravans but a lot stayed and we did some more stargazing etc.



Sunday you could do what you wanted as rally closed at 2pm. There was a dog show by the village hall and they had an ice cream van so a lot of rallies purchased. Of course, Reece. Lovely and enjoyable weekend.

Thank You Helen and Nigel, John and Ann

Janet and Paul Allen



Pentewen Sands 3rd -17th September

We had the pleasure of attending the Pentewan September rally. We are a family group.

We arrived on the Wednesday before the Saturday rally start. The marshals team also arrived early so they could get set up ready for the Saturday arrivals, and they had the foresight and forward planning to bring and erect a large gazebo to use as a rally office to give the arriving units a comfortable and welcoming place to sign in, good plan as the weather on Saturday was to say the least challenging. On Saturday the weather was wet and windy, but the team were not deterred, and although they were soaked to the skin they ensured that every unit was shown safely to their allocated pitch. During the first week the weather was continually wet and windy, but the team continued to ensure that every unit was safe and still managed to arrange several events ranging from opening flag giving us the necessary information walking quizzes to paper quizzes to bingo to walks to games. On the second Saturday the weather was somewhat better, but

again the team were well prepared and ready to spring into action to see the leaving units out and the arriving units safely to their allocated pitches. With the now improved weather the activities of the second week were able to proceed more conveniently and were even more well received by all the rally members because of the better weather.

The closing flag took place with the necessary announcements and quiz answers an winning teams. our team quiz result is better not mentioned I think we got our team name correct but very little else compared to the winning team. It also incorporated a cream tea this like all the events was well anticipated by the team and the execution by the team was excellent and it resulted in there being seconds, again very well received especially by me. All too soon the final Saturday arrived and yet again the team were well prepared to ensure all units could depart safely. Shame but all good things come to an end and this rally was an extremely good thing .

In conclusion we as a family group of visitors think your Centre should be very proud of the way this team of marshals preorganized and then ran the rally. They had obviously given a large amount of thought and consideration to the planning and running of the rally. The marshal team should also be extremely proud of the way they preorganized and ran the rally especially taking into account the inclement weather, an extremely, extremely, extremely well done to each and every one of them, They gave us all an outstanding holiday. Thank you seems so little to say but a massive thank you to them all.

Our family group fully intend to apply to join the rally next year.

Congratulations. Simon Arnold family group.



Frome |Cheese Show

9th – 11th September

After the sadness of the news in the last 24 hours of Queen Elizabeth II death I was looking forward to seeing my friends on the rally field. I left home in sunshine then on my journey rain. When I arrived in Frome the sun came out again. John Holdway and Steve Jefferson greeted me at the gate of Frome Cheese show ground. Steve Berridge and Mark Tolman greeted me on the field and showed me to my pitch.

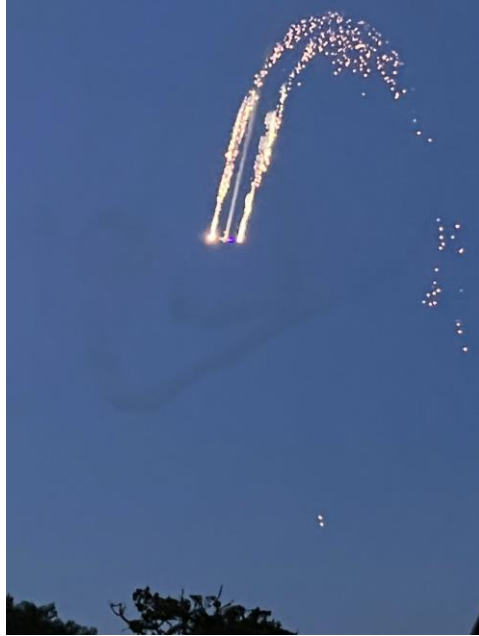
Got myself sorted then typical Friday drinks and nibbles with friends and chats of what we have all be doing since our last meeting.

Saturday arrived and sun shining so over to the show. The ground was a bit muddy in parts but most had come prepared with walking boots or some with wellingtons. First trip to the cheese shed. Well, it had to be done. Lots of tastings. Then to the handicraft tent. Lots of really nice entries. Continue round watching the ponies and pony club in the ring. Collecting purchased items and tasting of different drinks. Example Milk Gin and Milk Vodka made

from the whey of one of the cheese producers. Not milky coloured at all. Smelt of milk but you could not taste the milk in either.

After walking the whole of the Cheese show site back to the rally field to taste some of the goodies from the show. Then time to relax before the evening. In the distance we see a hot air balloon then someone says it is Longleat Balloon festival. Well, the excitement grew as more balloons took to the sky. 40 balloons later everyone was sure there was more but some had disappeared over the horizon. Then over to the rally office for a plate of goodies which the rally officers had prepared. Ham or cheese, tiger bread, grapes, blue cheese, crisps, pickled onions. And a choice of cider lager or wine. All delicious and greatly appreciated.

Food finished all sitting outside chatting waiting for 21.00 (9.00pm) and the judging of the illuminated window for senior and juniors and two little aircraft appeared in the sky. We were not sure exactly what they were as they looked like drones flying gently side by side in the sky. Well then, the two planes separated in the sky and performed a light show. Fireworks being set off from the wings and the rear of the planes. Rockets, star shapes. It was really good and of course all part of the Longleat Balloon festival celebrations. Perhaps Cheese show committee and Longleat could get together and arrange the same dates next year. Even though Steve Berridge tried to tell us he had arranged it all.



Then we all went to look at the illuminated windows. Two junior windows, but this was going to be competition between Emily Honnor and Joshua brother and sister. Emily won last year but said she did not want to win this year. Well Done Emily she did it again. Then the adults. Mum and Dad Honner's van was very busy with 3 windows illuminated and Chris Riley front window illuminated.

Flag on Sunday was when the results were announced. Chris won. (The window was planned before Thursday's sad news of the Queen's passing.) It was the Queen and Paddington. Well done all of you. They were all very good indeed.



First: Emily Honor



Second: Josh Honor



First: Chris Riley



Second: Richard and Caroline Honnor



John Mason (Competition Officer) presenting the trophies to the winners of the window competition.



We had a raffle and Steve and Sandra were also selling CD's and DVD's. Well not selling but donations were

asked for the Chairmans Charity, Wiltshire Air Ambulance. I am not sure of exact figures but these will be published later. But I heard a figure of £40.00 and also a £60 figure bumbled about which could be raffle profit and CD and DVD donations.



The flag officer, Nicky Jefferson, presented Steve and Sandra Berridge with their 200th rally plaque.

Let me just say Thank you to the Rally officers for the food good weather and air display and running the rally. And also thank you Nicky Jefferson for a lovely flag. She gave the birthday people and anniversary couples a card. Something we used to do but it seems to have slipped by the net. I know this was you first but we are all looking forward to the second. Lovely flag.

Happy rallier

Jenny Newman



Frome Cheese Show and 9th - 11th
September 2022
Illuminated Window Competition

It had been a few years since we had been to the cheese show so with the added incentive of the illuminated window competition, we decided to go.

Friday, we arrived in warm sunshine and sat outside chatting for a while. Tea over with and with the air temperature cooling rapidly, we stayed in our vans.

Saturday dawned and it was a lovely day. The forecast was good but there was a threat of showers! Off we set with bags ready for our purchases (you can't go in and not by anything lol) and we did buy..... from the very first butchery and cheese van close to the entrance. Faggots, three cheeses, a pork pie and 30 sausages. They kept them for us in the chiller.

We visited the rural tent then the handicrafts, cakes, photography, vegetables and everything else inside a tent or marquee. It was a great show. The area was condensed quite a bit but there was plenty to see and do. Loads of food stalls and caterers. We chose the Thai noodles, a little pricey but hey, they were there to make a living. They were very tasty I have to say. We tried some of the rum liqueurs (Phil Sambrook's favourite). A coconut one at 65% proof was very nice but nearly blew my head off! Phil bought some needless to say. After a

very pleasant 4 hours, we decided to have an ice cream and head back to the vans. It was so lovely and warm that we sat outside and had tea and biscuits.

Our rally officers were laying on a ploughman's supper in the evening. Ham or cheese with pickles, coleslaw, crisps and a drink of choice. Wine, (red or white) cider or beer. As it wasn't too cold, we joined them at the rally office which was very nice. One of the last occasions we will have I think, as the evenings are drawing in and it gets cold and damp earlier. Thank you all for the lovely supper. We all enjoyed it.

I have to say that I have never done a window in 30 years of caravanning but decided I would do one this year. The theme was rallying/caravanning and as we had celebrated our Queen's Platinum Jubilee earlier in the year, I chose that one. I had knitted eight Queens for friends and eventually one for myself but I borrowed Barbara Owen's queen as mine was the wrong colour. At one point, when my "window" was almost complete, I nearly withdrew my entry, as the Queen had sadly died on the Thursday before the rally. After chatting with a few friends', I decided to go ahead, as it had been made as a celebration of the queen's life not about her passing.

It got dark quite quickly, so around 8.15 those of us entering, headed back to the vans to get them ready. There were two adult windows and two children's windows. They were all very good and a lot of time had been spent on them. Well done to Josh and Emily and Caroline and Richard Honor for their entries.

By the time the windows had been viewed, it was really cold and damp so we dismantled them and went indoors for a few drinks. A lovely end to a lovely day.

Flag the next morning was held in brilliant sunshine. It was like a summers' day. Tea, coffee and biscuits were available as per usual, with a splendid raffle table. All proceeds going to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Nicky Jefferson was taking flag for us and I have to say she did a great job. She was a little nervous to start with but soon got into her stride. Well done, the first one is always the hardest. Thank you for our cards and Nigel really appreciated his "Happy birthday" song!

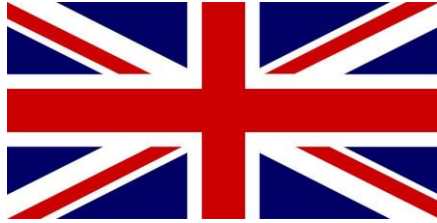
Our competition Officer, John Mason, announced the winners of each of the categories. Emily Honnor won the children's and to my absolute amazement, I won the adult one. I very nearly cried. Thank you to everyone who voted for me, it means a lot.



That leaves me with some more thanks, to our Rally Officers for running the rally, for the lovely supper on Saturday (and all the helpers) and to everyone for attending.
Our rallies need the support.

THANK YOU!!

Chris Riley



It was with great sadness that we learned of the Queen,s passing on Thursday 8th September. She is now at rest with her dear husband HRH Prince Philip who was the Caravan and Motor Home Club's Royal patron until his death in 2021



Wiltshire Centre

Wiltshire Centre Website www.wiltshirecentre.co.uk

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